



Homophones. They're a confusing bunch, or are they?

They're vs. their vs. there

- "They're" is a contraction for "they are". *They're your shoes.*
- "Their" is a possessive adjective. *I love their puppy.*
- "There" is the opposite of here. *There is my school bag.*

Your vs. you're

- "Your" is a pronoun. *I like your haircut.*
- "You're" is a contraction for "you are". *You're my friend.*

To vs. too vs. two

- "To" indicates direction. *I am going to school.*
- "Too" means as well. *My brother is coming along too.*
- "Two" is the number 2. *I have two teachers this year.*



Me, myself and I.

- Use the pronoun "me" when you are the direct object of the sentence. *"If you need help, please contact me or Natalie."*
- Use the pronoun "I" only when you are the subject of your own sentence. i.e. when the sentence is about you or you are taking action. *"I did my homework."*
- Use the pronoun "myself" when you are the direct object of your own action or you've referred to yourself earlier in the sentence. It's called a reflexive pronoun. For example: *"I made myself breakfast"* not *"My friend and myself made breakfast."*

HINT: In "someone else and me/I" situations, think about how you would write the sentence if you were the only one in it.

"My co-worker and I went to lunch." Is *"I went to lunch"* correct?
Indeed! Then you know you have the correct pronoun!



Double Trouble!

Don't know nothing about double negatives? All the more reason to learn!

Avoid using two negatives in one sentence, or you will end up saying the opposite of what you mean. A double negative is usually produced by combining the negative form of a verb with a pronoun, adverb or conjunction.

Example: *I didn't do nothing to nobody.* The correct way is: *I didn't do anything to anybody* or *I did nothing to nobody.*



The Importance of Editing

Editing your work makes a big difference. It is important that you always check your spelling, punctuation and word usage. Here are a few reminders:

- Check for full stops at the end of sentences.
- Only use capital letters for the start of sentences or proper nouns.
- Consider your audience. Don't be too formal or casual.

Some common errors:

- "Alot" is not a word. Correct use is "a lot", two separate words.
- Don't confuse then with than.

Example: *Eat your dinner and then you can play outside. Angus is taller than Jaiden.*

- Check brought and bought.

Example: *I brought my racquet for the game. I bought lunch at the shops.*

- Check affect and effect. Affect is a verb, effect is a noun.
- Check commonly misspelt words such as weird, lose, until, friends, because, definitely, tomorrow, embarrass, which, were, who, already, off, of.