

# AFFECT & EFFECT

**AFFECT** is a **verb**, meaning *to have an impact on / to make a difference to*.

**EFFECT** can be a **verb**, but is most commonly used as a **noun**, meaning *a change which is a result of an action*.

If you are struggling with this, try replacing the word with another verb - if it works, it probably should be 'affect'.



Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

1. We need to study the \_\_\_\_\_ of drug use amongst teens.
2. The children were clearly \_\_\_\_\_ by their parents' divorce.
3. Your credit score will \_\_\_\_\_ your chances of getting a mortgage with us.
4. You must understand that your words have an \_\_\_\_\_ on your younger brother.
5. The poignant movie clearly had an \_\_\_\_\_ on the students.
6. That documentary last night \_\_\_\_\_ me in ways I hadn't anticipated.

# BARE & BEAR

**BARE** as a **verb** means *to uncover and expose to view*.  
as an **adjective** means *to be naked, or exposed / simple / without addition*.

**BEAR** as a **verb** means *to carry / to support / to endure*.  
as a **noun** means *a large mammal with fur which walks on the soles of his feet*.

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

1. I am really not sure I can \_\_\_\_\_ losing to Dan once again.
2. I love winter when the trees are \_\_\_\_\_ and covered in a thin layer of snow.
3. Our teacher dared to \_\_\_\_\_ her soul to the class; we were all shocked.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ trundled through the camp; I was so scared: I couldn't \_\_\_\_\_ it!
5. Last week when we went camping we took only the \_\_\_\_\_ essentials with us.
6. Last night Ben \_\_\_\_\_ his chest to show us his scar from heart surgery.

# WHETHER & WEATHER

**WHETHER** is a **conjunction** which expresses doubt or choice between alternatives.

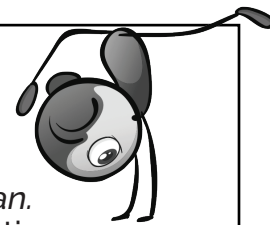
**WEATHER** as a **noun** meaning the state of the atmosphere as it relates to rain, heat, cold, wind etc.  
as a **verb** which means to change appearance due to exposure to the elements / come safely through (a storm).



Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

1. I am not sure \_\_\_\_\_ I will be able to make the game because of the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Luckily, Jenny managed to \_\_\_\_\_ the worst of the controversy.
3. Mr. Trellis could not decide \_\_\_\_\_ he should stay or just leave without her.
4. The old man's skin was \_\_\_\_\_ and rough from years of working outside.
5. The extreme \_\_\_\_\_ did not make her decision any easier.
6. Your ability to see her will depend on \_\_\_\_\_ she is even at home.

## ACCEPT & EXCEPT



**ACCEPT** is a **verb**, meaning *to receive something with consent* / *to come to recognize something as valid*.

**EXCEPT** can be used as a **preposition**, meaning *not including or other than*.  
can be used as a **conjunction** a statement which forms an exception.

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

1. My parents need to \_\_\_\_\_ the fact that I just don't want to study Engineering.
2. Jane said she would \_\_\_\_\_ Tom's invitation to dinner if he apologized.
3. I love all types of chocolate, \_\_\_\_\_ ones with nuts in them.
4. The boys would never \_\_\_\_\_ him as one of their own until he made an effort.
5. Please \_\_\_\_\_ my sincere condolences on the passing of your uncle.
6. All of the board members \_\_\_\_\_ the proposal, \_\_\_\_\_ Jerome.

## DISCRETE & DISCREET

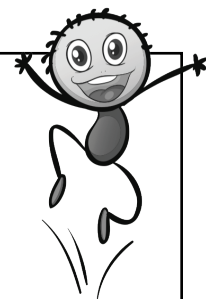
**DISCRETE** is an **adjective** meaning *to be individually separate and distinct*.

**DISCREET** is an **adjective** meaning *to be cautious and careful about one's actions in order to avoid causing offence, or to gain an advantage*.

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

1. You will need to be \_\_\_\_\_ about the situation when you interview him.
2. The wool is made from \_\_\_\_\_ fibers which are woven together.
3. Although he was characterisitcally rude, in that moment he was remarkably \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The proposal contains at least five \_\_\_\_\_ phases and events.
5. You needn't worry, I can be extremely \_\_\_\_\_ when it comes challenging situations.
6. The meetings took place in \_\_\_\_\_ groups across the city.

## PROSCRIBE & PRESCRIBE



**PROSCRIBE** is a **verb** which means *to forbid, especially by law*.

**PRESCRIBE** is a **verb** which means *to recommend, or advise the use of (medicine or treatment) for someone*.

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

1. Gambling was strictly \_\_\_\_\_ by the department of tourism.
2. The psychiatrist wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ rest, but she knew he wouldn't be happy about it.
3. Yesterday the doctor \_\_\_\_\_ an extremely expensive remedy for my condition.
4. The headmistress officially \_\_\_\_\_ the practice of hazing amongst the seniors.
5. Marriage is often \_\_\_\_\_ as a remedy for unhappiness, and a cure for loneliness.
6. The government's mandate will \_\_\_\_\_ and even criminalize hate speech.

## COMPLEMENT & COMPLIMENT

**COMPLEMENT** can be a **noun**, meaning *a thing that completes or brings to perfection*.  
can be a **verb**, meaning *to add to something in a way that improves it*.

**COMPLIMENT** can be a **noun**, meaning *a polite expression of praise*.  
can be a **verb**, meaning *to politely congratulate or praise*.

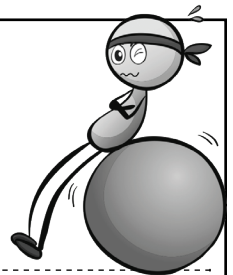
Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

1. I like to \_\_\_\_\_ my students when they produce good work.
2. They both decided to wear blue to the dance, in order to \_\_\_\_\_ each other.
3. I had a full \_\_\_\_\_ of spades in my hand of cards.
4. Flattering \_\_\_\_\_ can be used to persuade people to do what you want.
5. Ken's father stopped by his room to \_\_\_\_\_ him on his performance in the ballet.
6. His artistic skill was a perfect \_\_\_\_\_ to my talent with words.

## ALLOWED & ALOUD

**ALLOWED** is a **verb (past tense)** meaning *admitted as legal or acceptable / to be given permission for something*.

**ALOUD** is an **adverb** meaning *spoken audibly, not silently or in a whisper*.



Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

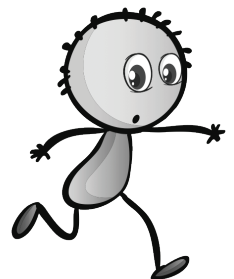
1. My father wept \_\_\_\_\_ as he read the letter from my mother.
2. As children we were never \_\_\_\_\_ to speak \_\_\_\_\_ at the dinner table.
3. Smoking was definitely not \_\_\_\_\_ on the premises.
4. I absolutely detest having to sing \_\_\_\_\_ in front of large crowds.
5. As Gina was grounded, she was not \_\_\_\_\_ to attend the dance that night.
6. Speaking \_\_\_\_\_ was strictly not \_\_\_\_\_ during the examination.

## ASSURE, INSURE & ENSURE

**ASSURE** is a **verb** meaning *to tell someone something positively or confidently to dispel any doubts they may have*.

**INSURE** is a **verb** meaning *to arrange for compensation in the even of damage, death or loss*.

**ENSURE** is a **verb** meaning *to make certain that something will occur or be the case*.



Fill in the correct word.

1. The new school policies will \_\_\_\_\_ that all students are treated equally.
2. I tried to \_\_\_\_\_ her I was sorry; I'd do anything to \_\_\_\_\_ it wouldn't happen again.
3. I wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ the painting but my father said it was worthless.
4. My brother was always trying to \_\_\_\_\_ me that our parents wouldn't get divorced.
5. Businesses can rarely \_\_\_\_\_ against financial fluctuations in the market.

## EMINENT & IMMINENT

**EMINENT** is an **adjective**, meaning *famous and respected within a certain profession or sphere / used to emphasize the presence of a positive quality.*

**IMMINENT** is an **adjective**, meaning *about to happen.*

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

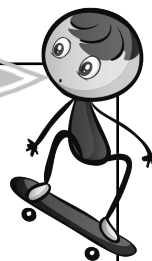
1. The children frolicked in the wave, blissfully unaware of the \_\_\_\_\_ danger.
2. The school is busy preparing for the \_\_\_\_\_ professor's \_\_\_\_\_ arrival.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ domain laws were a controversial topic in the elections.
4. The CEO refused to accept the fact that bankruptcy was \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Matilda's father's \_\_\_\_\_ arrival was foremost on her mind.
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ writer spent countless hours anticipating her upcoming book launch.

## PRINCIPLE & PRINCIPAL

**PRINCIPLE** is a **noun** meaning *a fundamental truth or idea for a belief system or chain of reasoning.*

**PRINCIPAL** can be used as an **adjective** meaning *most important.*  
can be used as a **noun** meaning *the person with the most authority in an organization.*

You know how I remember this? A 'PAL' is a person!



Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ reason for changing schools was the lack of art at her previous school.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ called her into his office to discuss her religious \_\_\_\_\_.
3. In \_\_\_\_\_, it is a good idea; I just don't think that the client will go for it.
4. Justin Bieber will tour all of the \_\_\_\_\_ cities in Asia this year.
5. She built her life on the \_\_\_\_\_ that all people were inherently good.
6. He was the \_\_\_\_\_ member of the insurance policy.

## ELICIT & ILLICIT

**ELICIT** is a **verb** meaning *to evoke or draw out (a response, answer) from someone in response to one's own actions or questions.*

**ILLICIT** is an **adjective** which means *forbidden by law, rules or customs.*

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

1. The new state laws aim to clamp down on the \_\_\_\_\_ trafficking of drugs.
2. She deliberately said unkind things in an attempt to \_\_\_\_\_ a response from him.
3. The teacher tried to use slang in order to \_\_\_\_\_ some laughter from her students.
4. The evidence was obtained during an \_\_\_\_\_ search of the premises.
5. While interviewing, I desperately tried to \_\_\_\_\_ specific details from the politician.
6. Financial incentives and rewards can \_\_\_\_\_ better results from students.

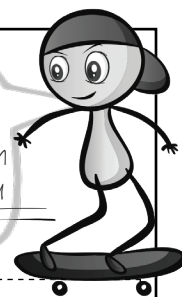


# STATIONARY & STATIONERY

**STATIONARY** is an **adjective**, meaning *not moving, or not intended to be moved.*

**STATIONERY** is a **noun**, meaning *writing materials such as writing paper and envelopes.*

I remember this by remembering that 'envelopes' starts with an 'e', and so that's how you spell stationery.



Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

1. Traffic was backed up because of a \_\_\_\_\_ car in the middle of the highway.
2. Teacher have a strange and overwhelming love of new \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Not many countries have a \_\_\_\_\_ population: most have a growing population.
4. I hate using \_\_\_\_\_ bikes in the gym; I would much rather be on the road.
5. When she arrived home she was greeted by a mysterious pile \_\_\_\_\_ of on her porch.
6. The bird remained \_\_\_\_\_ in the air for a surprising amount of time.

# IMPLY & INFER

**IMPLY** is a **verb** meaning *to strongly suggest the truth or existence of something not expressly stated.*

**INFER** is a **verb** meaning *to deduce or conclude (information) from evidence and reasoning rather than from explicit statements.*

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

1. My father went on to \_\_\_\_\_ that my poor grade were because I hadn't worked very hard.
2. From the way Jane was speaking, Tom could \_\_\_\_\_ that she was angry.
3. Yesterday, Mrs. Jones' stern words \_\_\_\_\_ that we were all pushing her over the edge.
4. James \_\_\_\_\_ that he needed help when he looked at me with that expression.
5. I was deeply offended by the way she \_\_\_\_\_ that I was manipulative.
6. From their fancy clothes and cars, we could \_\_\_\_\_ that they were clearly wealthy.

# ADVERSE & AVERSE

**ADVERSE** is an **adjective** meaning *preventing success or development; harmful; unfavorable.*

**AVERSE** is an **adjective** meaning *having a strong dislike of or opposition to something.*

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

1. I am not a risk-taker; I am deeply \_\_\_\_\_ to uncertainty and change.
2. The baseball game was canceled due to \_\_\_\_\_ weather conditions.
3. All of the \_\_\_\_\_ press had an effect on his popularity, and he lost the election.
4. I would not be \_\_\_\_\_ to going on a date with him if he asked.
5. The protesters presented \_\_\_\_\_ opinions on the matter, and limited progress.
6. I am \_\_\_\_\_ to vegetables, even though they have no \_\_\_\_\_ effects on me.