

## **Lose It or Loose It - There's a Difference** **by Elaine Ernst Schneider**

***Lose** ten pounds or **loose** ten pounds? What is it that you really want to do? If you **lose** the ten pounds, then we won't be able to find them. That would be a good thing. But if you **loose** the ten pounds, you set them free to roll about like a tumbleweed. Ten pounds on the **loose** would not be a good thing.*

**LOSE** means to lack the possession of, to come to be without.

**LOOSE** means not tight.

**LOOSEN** means to unfasten something or make it less constraining.

### **Examples:**

The hockey team doesn't want to *lose* the game.

The girl had such a bad sunburn that she could only wear *loose* clothes.

Set the dog *loose*. Don't tie him up again.

I am so frustrated! I always seem to *lose* my keys.

*Loosen* your hold on the bat. You are gripping it much too tightly!

### **Exercise 1**

1. The shoes were so big that they were \_\_\_\_\_ on the little boy's feet.
2. I turned a corner to \_\_\_\_\_ the guy who was tailing me.
3. Our football team hasn't done so well this year. We are sure to \_\_\_\_\_ every game.
4. After the bad weather, the penned up dogs were set \_\_\_\_\_ to run outside again.
5. The pet store manager was told to \_\_\_\_\_ the dog's collar as it was much too tight around his neck.
6. Those rules are much too \_\_\_\_\_! You need to tighten up security around here.
7. Her husband had to work on her necklace for over an hour before he could \_\_\_\_\_ the hung clasp.
8. She wanted her hair fixed in soft \_\_\_\_\_ curls.
9. It is a terrible thing to \_\_\_\_\_ one's self respect.
10. You will \_\_\_\_\_ out if you don't get there before the sale ends.

## How Does the Effect Affect You? - Another Grammatical Riddle by Elaine Ernst Schneider

### AFFECT ... EFFECT ...

*Two very confusing words often misused. Cause and **effect**, sound **effects**, weather that **affects** your health, an **affected** tone of voice ... a spelling nightmare. Let's look at basic definitions and parts of speech.*

**AFFECT** – verb – to act upon, to change or to cause a change

**AFFECTED** – adjective – influenced by an outside force

**EFFECT** – noun – result; consequence

(Note: there are two exceptions to this rule. When **effect** is used to indicate a scientific "cause and effect" instance, then it may be used as a verb. An example is:

Do you know the name of the doctor who effected a cure for rabies?

Also, when **affect** is used in the sense that someone adopted or pretended something, it is a verb. An example is:

Tom **affected** an Irish accent for his role in the play. Or, Stinson **affected** a limp to impress the referees.

But, when **affect** is used to mean **an emotion**, then it is a noun. For example:

The crying of the widow created an **affect** of sorrow in the room.

Although the definitions are certainly beneficial in knowing which spelling of similar-sounding words to use, it is the part of speech that gives us the best clue. Here are examples:

1. She knew the \_\_\_\_\_ of the weather would impact the arthritis in her knee negatively.
2. The weather always \_\_\_\_\_ the arthritis in her knee.
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ knee responded negatively to the damp weather due to its arthritic condition.

### EXERCISE 2

1. The applause showed how deeply the presentation had \_\_\_\_\_ the audience.
2. His attitude was \_\_\_\_\_ by his upbringing.
3. What \_\_\_\_\_ do you think the news will have on her?

4. No matter what he does, it will have no \_\_\_\_\_ on me.
5. No matter what he does, it will not \_\_\_\_\_ me.
6. What do you think the \_\_\_\_\_ of the decision will be?
7. How did her son's departure \_\_\_\_\_ Mrs. Sanago?
8. How was the team \_\_\_\_\_ by the loss of their coach?
9. I was impressed by the \_\_\_\_\_ of Churchill's words on Britain during that time.
10. Do you know what \_\_\_\_\_ that medicine will have on you?

### **Choose, Chose, Choice**

**choose - (verb) to make a choice or selection.**

**chose - past tense of verb choose.**

**choice - (noun) choosing; selection.**

### **Exercise 3**

She also helps them become self-supporting if they \_\_\_\_\_ to leave their husbands.

In the past, delegates sometimes voted many times before they \_\_\_\_\_ a candidate.

Reverend Reed says many couples today \_\_\_\_\_ simple, nontraditional weddings.

Companies can \_\_\_\_\_ to follow the rules, which will not be legally enforced.

But which of the many Washington museums should they see? And what will they \_\_\_\_\_ to see in each one?

Ten Olympic Committee members reportedly accepted gifts and large amounts of money to \_\_\_\_\_ Salt Lake City, Utah, to hold the events.

For example, a couple can go to a store and \_\_\_\_\_ gifts they would like to receive.

Last week, the I-O-C \_\_\_\_\_ Beijing, China, to hold the summer Olympic Games of Two-Thousand-Eight.

They will also \_\_\_\_\_ many state and local officials.

Companies can \_\_\_\_\_ to follow the rules, which will not be legally enforced.

In the past, Mark \_\_\_\_\_ to fly rather than drive.

They say child care is the only \_\_\_\_\_ for some families if they want to avoid being poor.

It will \_\_\_\_\_ candidates who support community or national development.

Yesterday I \_\_\_\_\_ to go by train.

They say advertising also increases public knowledge and \_\_\_\_\_ of treatments.

He says \_\_\_\_\_ friends from other ethnic groups is an individual .

Each state must \_\_\_\_\_ its electors by this Tuesday.

The delegates also will nominate Mr. Gore's \_\_\_\_\_ for vice president.

Last week, they \_\_\_\_\_ her as captain.

The zoo officials \_\_\_\_\_ the animals during a recent trip to the Wolong Reserve.