

Its, Fewer, and Affect: Native Speaker Mistakes

Medium

B1 | Intermediate

B2 | Upper Intermediate

Apostrophe

Comparative and superlative

Countable and uncountable

Determiner

Future tense

Noun

Possessive

Pronoun

Punctuation

Verb

Collocations

1. Complete the grammar-obsessed supervillain's monologue at the grocery store.

"You fool! You have ten items in the express lane! You should have brought ____ items, which would have caused me ____ stress!"

Select one.

- A) less / fewer
- B) less / less
- C) fewer / less
- D) fewer / fewer

2. Help the eccentric biologist finish her field notes on a highly dramatic chameleon by choosing the correct word for each gap.

"The chameleon is truly fascinating; ____ ability to change color is unparalleled in the animal kingdom. However, ____ quite obvious that this particular lizard has completely forgotten ____ own camouflage mechanism, as ____ currently glowing bright pink while sitting on a dark green leaf."

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) its
- B) it's
- C) its'

Blank 2

- A) it's
- B) its
- C) its'

Blank 3

- A) its
- B) it's
- C) its'

Blank 4

- A) it's
- B) its
- C) its'

3. Help the frustrated owner complete their online appliance review.

"My new smart fridge is completely broken; ____ convinced that ____ only purpose in life is to freeze my lettuce."

Select one.

- A) its / it's
- B) it's / it's
- C) its / its
- D) it's / its

4. Help the tech reviewer complete their dramatic verdict on the new AI toaster.

The smart toaster seems to have a mind of ____ own, and ____ becoming quite clear that the machine absolutely despises my choice of bagels.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) it's
- B) its
- C) its'

Blank 2

- A) its
- B) it's
- C) its'

5. Help the mad scientist finalize his evil laboratory report.

"The new potion will ____ the town's water supply, creating a disastrous ____ on everyone's hair color."

Select one.

- A) effect / affect
- B) affect / affect
- C) effect / effect
- D) affect / effect

6. Help the grammar-obsessed supermarket manager fix the express lane signs.

If you want to survive the express checkout lane, you must have _____ than ten items in your cart and significantly _____ patience for people who try to pay with pennies.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) less
- B) fewer
- C) few

Blank 2

- A) fewer
- B) less
- C) little

7. Help the mad scientist document the results of his anti-gravity potion by choosing the correct word for each gap.

"The potion didn't _____ the gravity in the laboratory as I had hoped. Instead, the only noticeable _____ was that my poor assistant began to float toward the ceiling. I must study how this formula will _____ my future funding, because the side _____ of these experiments are getting terribly expensive!"

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) affect
- B) effect
- C) affectate

Blank 2

- A) effect
- B) affect
- C) affection

Blank 3

- A) affect
- B) effect
- C) effective

Blank 4

- A) effects
- B) affects
- C) effectives

8. Help the frantic engineer review the incident report about a malfunctioning robot dog. Select ALL the sentences that correctly use "its" and "it's".

Select all that apply.

- A) It's obvious that the robot dog lost its favorite titanium bone.
- B) The company announced that it's recalling the model because of its faulty tail.
- C) Its a shame that the mechanical dog chewed on it's own charging cable.
- D) The cat laughed as its robotic rival chased it's tail in endless circles.

9. Complete the mad scientist's lab notes regarding the latest experimental potion.

I hoped the radioactive broccoli would _____ the intern's super-strength, but the only noticeable side _____ was his sudden desire to sing opera.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) effect
- B) affect
- C) infect

Blank 2

- A) affect
- B) effect
- C) defect

10. Complete the alien commander's report on Earth's internet.

"The internet has a strange ____ on humans; ____ constantly distracting them from building spaceships."

Select one.

- A) affect / its
- B) effect / its
- C) effect / it's
- D) affect / it's

11. Peek into the mad scientist's laboratory diary. Select ALL the sentences that correctly use "affect" and "effect".

Select all that apply.

- A) The neon green potion had a bizarre effect on my assistant's hair.
- B) Will adding a handful of glitter affect the explosion's radius?
- C) I didn't expect the bubbling mixture to effect his eyebrows so drastically.
- D) The side affects include glowing in the dark and sudden urges to tap dance.