

Name _____ Date _____

Word Choice – Exercise 2: *Their, There, and They're*

This handout accompanies Exercise 2 of *Grammar Bytes!* Get the answers by doing the interactive version of the exercise at this address: <http://chompchomp.com/exercises.htm>

Directions: Fill in the blanks with the appropriate choice—*their, there,* or *they're*.

1. Because Tamara and Casey are always smooching in their car, _____ friends expect them to arrive at least fifteen minutes late to dinners and movies.
2. "Don't touch those cookies!" warned Mrs. Patterson. " _____ made with termites and honey for Freddie, my pet anteater."
3. Mom was furious when she arrived home from work. _____ were muddy paw prints on the new white sofa, a huge grape juice stain on the carpeting, and a message from the high school wanting to know why my little brother George wasn't in class.
4. The Mitchells cut _____ grass so infrequently that early in the morning, you can find wild rabbits feasting on the long green shoots.
5. Dusty and Chris came to the essay exam without _____ dictionaries. The disapproving look of Mrs. Mauzy, their teacher, haunted them for the entire test.
6. My dog Oreo loves to chase things, especially the lizards sunning themselves on the sidewalk; _____ not as dangerous as the two family cats who will stand their ground and swipe her with sharp claws.
7. Despite the complaints from his girlfriend Gloria, Frank continues to wear his old, dirty, smelly sneakers because _____ the most comfortable shoes that he owns.
8. Dallas and Kelly crammed until 4 a.m. for their final exam in accounting; _____ hoping for As on the test to bump their wretched averages up to Cs.
9. I'm starving! Are _____ any more leftover honey-roasted grasshoppers in the fridge?
10. Paulette and Judi tried to eat the cafeteria hamburgers, but the brown lettuce, cold meat, and stale buns were making _____ stomachs queasy.
11. Because my careless roommate Jennifer is always dripping grape juice, you will find purple spots here and _____ on the carpeting.
12. Julia has put her house up for sale because the neighbors are driving her crazy. They play loud music until 2 a.m., after which _____ German shepherd barks for another three hours.
13. Both of Clark's grandfathers wear toupees because they don't want to blind any beautiful women with _____ shiny bald heads.
14. Derrick's coworkers at Bernie's Burger Emporium never get hungry because _____ always popping onion rings into their mouths when the managers aren't looking.

15. The students put _____ heads on the desks and groaned, for Professor Tighe had just assigned another four chapters of *Moby-Dick*, a novel that they all found tedious to read.
16. Is _____ a possibility that we can abandon our plans to rake the yard and spend the day at the mall instead?
17. "Look over _____!" shouted Lenny. In the direction he was pointing, we saw a funnel cloud descending from the sky and roaring in our direction.
18. Kay has a huge collection of DVDs, everything from "How To" titles to Mae West movies. _____ all lined up in alphabetical order, filling five bookcases in the living room.
19. Michael blasts hip hop music from his car stereo, annoying the drivers trapped beside him at traffic lights. _____ looks of disapproval don't register, however, as he grooves with the heavy bass that pounds through his open windows.
20. Sheba and Cindy Sue, the family cats, keep Jeanne from sleeping past 6 a.m. _____ meows of hunger can wake her from the deepest sleep.



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