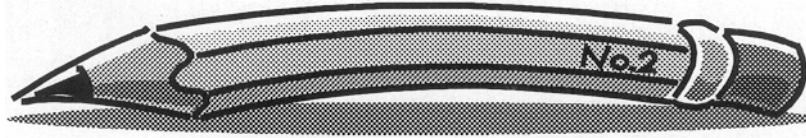


Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## GRAMMAR PRACTICE

### Too, To, and Two

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These three words are called homophones, meaning that they sound alike even though they historically come from different sources and have different meanings.

**To** is the word we use when we talk about going *towards* something. It might help you to remember its spelling, if you think of it as the beginning letters of *towards*. We also use *to* as part of infinitive verbs as when we say such things as *to run*, *to rain*, *to consider*, *to tell*. People who make **TO DO** lists (they write down all the thing that need *to do*) have a head start in remembering this sense.

**Too** is used to mean more than enough, as in, “I am *too* tired to stay for refreshments.” Some people remember this spelling by thinking that the two *o*'s in its spelling are **too** many.

**Two** is the way to spell the name of the number 2. One way to remember that the word with the *w* in it is the number is to think of other words starting with *tw* that mean *two*. *Twins* is one such word, and so it *twice* and *twain*. *Tweezers* have two parts, *twilight* has light from the day and the night, and if you are *betwixt* and *between*, you are caught between *two* choices.

### PRACTICE EXERCISE

In the following sentences that tell the story of an ill-fated shopping trip, write the correct *two*, *too*, or *to* in the blank spaces.

1. The other day I went \_\_\_\_\_ the post office.
2. While I was there I bought a shirt and \_\_\_\_\_ pairs of shoes.
3. I went \_\_\_\_\_ the cash register \_\_\_\_\_ pay and to have the items put in a bag.
4. As I was leaving the store the bag broke open because it was \_\_\_\_\_ thin.

5. \_\_\_\_\_ store employees ran over \_\_\_\_\_ help me but it was \_\_\_\_\_ late.
6. The shoes and shirt fell through the hole in the bottom of the bag and crashed onto the floor. Customers tried \_\_\_\_\_ help, but there was nothing they could do when someone accidentally stepped on the shirt and got it dirty.
7. The manager came over \_\_\_\_\_ talk \_\_\_\_\_ me and explain that their new plastic bags are \_\_\_\_\_ thin \_\_\_\_\_ use for heavy items like shoes.
8. He said it was a good idea \_\_\_\_\_ double-bag bigger packages.
9. Now when I go \_\_\_\_\_ the mall to shop, I am always ready \_\_\_\_\_ make sure that the employees use \_\_\_\_\_ bags instead of one, just \_\_\_\_\_ be safe.

Answers: 1. to, 2. two, 3. to, to, 4. too, 5. two, to, too, 6. to, 7. to, to, too, to, 8. to, 9. to, to, two, to.

*Lesson created by Kristen MacKenzie*