GENERAL

they re their there worksheet

Published: September 3, 2026 | Index ID: #-

Mastering the Homophones: They''re, Their, and There – A Complete Worksheet Guide

English learners and teachers alike often encounter the trio of homophones that can trip up even the most confident writers: **they''re**, **their**, and **there**. While they sound identical, each word serves a distinct grammatical purpose. A well structured worksheet can turn this tricky concept into a clear, memorable skill. In this comprehensive guide, we'll explore the differences between these words, explain why mastering them matters, and walk you through a versatile "they're their there worksheet" that you can use in the classroom or at home.

Understanding Homophones: They're, Their, There

Homophones are words that sound the same but have different meanings and spellings. The trio of **they''re**, **their**, and **there** is one of the most common sets in English. Each word falls into a specific part of speech:

- They're – contraction of "they are." Example: They're going to the park.
- Their – possessive determiner, indicating ownership. Example: That is their dog.
- There – adverb of place or pronoun meaning "in that place." Example: There is a book on the table.

Because they sound identical when spoken, the challenge lies in recognizing the correct form in writing. Misplacing one of these words can change the meaning of a sentence entirely.

Why It Matters: The Impact on Writing Quality

Using the wrong homophone can lead to confusion, reduce clarity, and even undermine the writer's credibility. Consider the difference between:

1. They're excited about the trip.
2. Their excitement about the trip.
3. There excitement about the trip.

The first sentence correctly states that the subjects are excited. The second indicates possession, which may be acceptable if you're referring to their feelings as a shared property. The third sentence, however, is nonsensical because "there" does not function as a possessive determiner. Small errors like these can distract readers and diminish the overall effectiveness of written communication.

Common Mistakes and How to Spot Them

Below are frequent errors students make, along with quick checks to help you avoid them:

- Confusing "their" with "there." Check if the word should show ownership. If you can replace it with "his" or "her," it's likely "their."
- Forgetting to contract "they're." Remember that "they're" is always a contraction of "they are." If you can expand the word to "they are," you're using the correct form.
- Using "there" as a possessive. If you need a possessive, "their" is the right choice.
- Misplacing "they're" in a sentence that needs a noun. "They're" cannot function as a noun; it's always a verb

phrase.

By applying these checks, you'll reduce the likelihood of homophone errors in your writing.

Grammar Rules Recap

To solidify your understanding, here's a quick rule book style recap:

1. They're = they + are. Use when you need a verb phrase.
2. Their = possessive determiner. Use when indicating ownership.
3. There = adverb of place or pronoun. Use when referring to a location or existence.

When in doubt, try substituting the word with a synonym that fits the same grammatical role. If the sentence still makes sense, you've chosen the correct form.

Example Sentences: A Closer Look

Below are illustrative sentences that highlight each homophone's role. Pay attention to how the meaning shifts with each choice.

They're

- They're planning to visit the museum tomorrow.
- They're the ones who will finish the project.
- They're not ready to leave yet.

Their

- Their homework was due last week.
- Their enthusiasm was contagious.
- She bought their favorite books.

There

- There is a new café on Main Street.
- Can you see there in the distance?
- There were several options to choose from.

Notice how each sentence's meaning hinges on the correct homophone.

Introducing the "They're Their There Worksheet"

To help students practice distinguishing these homophones, we've designed a multi section worksheet. Each section targets a different skill: identification, application, transformation, and creative use. Below is a detailed breakdown of the worksheet's structure, along with sample questions and answer keys.

Section 1: Identify the Correct Word

Students read short sentences and choose the correct homophone from a drop down list. This section builds recognition skills.

1. _____ is going to the store. (they're / their / there)
2. _____ books are on the shelf. (they're / their / there)
3. _____ is a beautiful garden. (they're / their / there)

Answer Key: 1) They're, 2) Their, 3) There.

Section 2: Fill in the Blanks

Students fill in missing words using the correct homophone. This exercise encourages active recall.

1. I can’t believe _____ are already finished with the assignment.
2. Have you seen _____ new car?
3. We should go over there and check it out.

Answer Key: 1) They’re, 2) Their, 3) There.

Section 3: Sentence Transformation

Students rewrite sentences, swapping one homophone for another while preserving meaning. This section deepens understanding of context.

1. They’re going to the park. (Change to use “their” or “there” where appropriate.)
2. There is a cat on the roof. (Change to use “they’re” or “their.”)
3. Their homework is due tomorrow. (Change to use “they’re” or “there.”)

Sample Answers:

- They’re going to the park. !’ There is a park they’re going to.
- There is a cat on the roof. !’ They’re the owners of the cat on the roof.
- Their homework is due tomorrow. !’ There is homework that is due tomorrow.

Section 4: Create Your Own Sentences

Students compose original sentences using each homophone. This encourages creativity and reinforces learning.

- Write a sentence using “they’re.”
- Write a sentence using “their.”
- Write a sentence using “there.”

Teachers can collect and review these sentences for accuracy and context.

Using the Worksheet Effectively in the Classroom

Here are some proven strategies for maximizing the impact of the worksheet:

- Pre teach the rules: Spend 5–10 minutes reviewing the grammar rules before distributing the worksheet.
- Model the process: Complete a few sample questions aloud, explaining your reasoning.
- Peer review after completion: Have students swap worksheets and check each other’s answers.
- Use formative assessment to gauge understanding: Tally the number of correct responses to identify common misconceptions.
- Provide instant feedback during the activity to correct errors in real time.

Tips for Parents and Home Schoolers

Even outside the classroom, parents can support their children’s learning:

1. Read together and highlight homophones in books.
2. Play homophone games such as “Homophone Bingo” or “Spot the Difference.”
3. Encourage writing practice by having children keep a daily journal, focusing on the correct use of they’re, their, and there.
4. Use online resources like grammar quizzes and interactive games to reinforce concepts.

Additional Resources for Mastery

If you'd like to dive deeper, consider these supplemental materials:

- Grammar Guides: "English Grammar in Use" by Raymond Murphy provides clear explanations.
- Online Quizzes: Websites such as Grammar Bytes and English Grammar 101 offer interactive practice.
- Apps: "Grammarly" and "Duolingo" incorporate homophone practice in their lessons.
- Teacher Communities: Join forums like Teachers Pay Teachers to share and download worksheets.

Conclusion

Mastering the use of **they're**, **their**, and **there**is essential for clear, confident writing. By understanding their distinct grammatical roles and practicing through a structured worksheet, students can eliminate common errors and improve overall writing quality. Whether you're a teacher, parent, or learner, the "they're their there worksheet" serves as a practical tool that can transform confusion into mastery.

Start practicing today, and watch as your writing becomes more precise, engaging, and error free.

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