

## Common Writing Errors

### Homophones and Commonly Confused Words

defiantly/definitely  
were/where  
past/passed  
to/two/too  
their/they're/there  
affect/effect  
its/it's  
through/threw  
mite/might  
college/collage  
through/though/thought  
their/they're/there  
whose/who's

### Compound Words

An other=WRONG  
Another= RIGHT

Them selves=WRONG  
Themselves=RIGHT

Mean while=WRONG  
Meanwhile=RIGHT

When ever=WRONG  
Whenever=RIGHT

Man kind=Wrong  
Mankind=RIGHT

### When adding -ed or -ing suffix...

-For words that end in a silent 'e',  
drop the 'e' and add the suffix.

-For words that end in a vowel and  
then a consonant, double the  
consonant before adding the suffix

stare + ing = staring  
star + ing = starring

stripe + ed = striped  
strip + ed = stripped

### Possessive Noun Rules

To make a singular noun  
possessive, add apostrophe + s  
student → student's  
teacher → teacher's  
Katniss → Katniss's

To make a plural noun that DOES  
NOT end in "s" possessive, add  
apostrophe + s  
children → children's  
sheep → sheep's  
women → women's

To make a plural noun that DOES  
end in "s" possessive, add ONLY an  
apostrophe  
boys → boys'  
schools → schools'  
characters → characters'