

## Common Errors in Usage Quiz 1: "A" Entries

Choose the appropriate word or expression to fill in each blank in the sentences below.

1. The damage (1) \_\_\_\_\_ by the attack was so severe that we had no options left (2) \_\_\_\_\_ surrender.

- (1) afflicted
- (1) inflicted
- (2) accept
- (2) except

2. His noisy entrance into the building gave us (1) \_\_\_\_\_ notice of his arrival, so we were able to (2) \_\_\_\_\_ him.

- (1) advance
- (1) advanced
- (2) allude
- (2) elude

3. Tim Duncan's performance was not just (1) \_\_\_\_\_; it was the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ game of basketball I've ever seen someone play.

- (1) alright
- (1) all right
- (2) best
- (2) most perfect

4. The school she (1) \_\_\_\_\_ was UC Davis, where she earned an (2) \_\_\_\_\_ degree.

- (1) attended
- (1) attended to
- (2) advance
- (2) advanced

5. The first chapter alone contains (1) \_\_\_\_\_ a dozen (2) \_\_\_\_\_ to The Odyssey.

- (1) about
- (1) around
- (2) allusions
- (2) illusions

6. This essay needs (1) \_\_\_\_\_ of revision; in fact, you should probably rewrite it (2) \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) a lot
- (1) alot
- (2) all together
- (2) altogether

7. The CEO decided to (1) \_\_\_\_\_ changes in the company's policies and (2) \_\_\_\_\_ a completely new strategy.

- (1) affect
- (1) effect
- (2) adapt
- (2) adopt

8. I became deeply (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the book; even though I didn't (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the author's claims, I appreciated her (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the rules of logic.

- (1) absorbed by
- (1) absorbed in
- (2) agree to
- (2) agree with
- (3) adherence to
- (3) adherence with

9. I became (1) \_\_\_\_\_ a severe case of depression after (2) \_\_\_\_\_ my favorite team's chances of winning the championship.

- (1) inflicted with
- (1) afflicted with
- (2) appraising
- (2) apprising

10. I hesitated to (1) \_\_\_\_\_ her of the bad news because I knew it would have a profound (2) \_\_\_\_\_ on her mood.

- (1) appraise
- (1) apprise
- (2) affect
- (2) effect

11. He (1) \_\_\_\_\_ her demands because he hated (2) \_\_\_\_\_ her, a feeling that was (3) \_\_\_\_\_ his long experience with the futility of such arguments.

- (1) agreed on
- (1) agreed to
- (1) agreed with
- (2) arguing against
- (2) arguing with
- (3) attributable on
- (3) attributable to

12. We quickly (1) \_\_\_\_\_ a plan to get petty revenge on the coworker who was always so (2) \_\_\_\_\_ to everyone.

- (1) agreed on
- (1) agreed to
- (1) agreed with
- (2) aggravating
- (2) annoying

## Answers to Common Errors in Usage Quiz 1

Explanations and examples of these usage errors can be found on the [Common Errors in English Usage](#) page.

1. The damage (1) **inflicted** by the attack was so severe that we had no options left (2) **except** surrender.
2. His noisy entrance into the building gave us (1) **advance** notice of his arrival, so we were able to (2) **elude** him.
3. Tim Duncan's performance was not just (1) **all right**; it was the (2) **best** game of basketball I've ever seen someone play. (Since *perfect* is an absolute adjective, it should not be modified by *most*.)
4. The school she (1) **attended** was UC Davis, where she earned an (2) **advanced** degree.
5. The first chapter alone contains (1) **about** a dozen (2) **allusions** to The Odyssey.
6. This essay needs (1) **a lot** of revision; in fact, you should probably rewrite it (2) **altogether**.
7. The CEO decided to (1) **effect** changes in the company's policies and (2) **adopt** a completely new strategy.
8. I became deeply (1) **absorbed in** the book; even though I didn't (2) **agree with** the author's claims, I appreciated her (3) **adherence to** the rules of logic.
9. I became (1) **afflicted with** a severe case of depression after (2) **appraising** my favorite team's chances of winning the championship.
10. I hesitated to (1) **advise** her of the bad news because I knew it would have a profound (2) **effect** on her mood.
11. He (1) **agreed to** her demands because he hated (2) **arguing with** her, a feeling that was (3) **attributable to** his long experience with the futility of such arguments.
12. We quickly (1) **agreed on** a plan to get petty revenge on the coworker who was always so (2) **annoying** to everyone.