

## Common Errors in Usage Quiz 11: "T – Z" Entries

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

1. Tim, Tony, and Manu's post-retirement ping pong games, (1) \_\_\_\_\_ they ruthlessly (2) \_\_\_\_\_ humiliate each other, are even more intense (3) \_\_\_\_\_ their games of "HORSE" (4) \_\_\_\_\_.

(1) in which

(1) where

(2) try and

(2) try to

(3) than

(3) then

(4) use to be

(4) used to be

2. (1) \_\_\_\_\_ his retirement from the NBA, Tim had hardly ever played ping pong, and at first he was not (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the speed (3) \_\_\_\_\_ Tony and Manu played.

(1) Until

(1) Up until

(2) use to

(2) used to

(3) at which

(3) in which

3. Timmy had such a (1) \_\_\_\_\_ appetite for victory that he refused to simply (2) \_\_\_\_\_ his skills to develop naturally.

(1) veracious

(1) voracious

(2) wait for

(2) wait on

4. One day as he was (1) \_\_\_\_\_ through the hills outside San Antonio and (2) \_\_\_\_\_ how he could improve his ping pong game, he came across a rarely used trail.

(1) wandering

(1) wondering

(2) wandering

(2) wondering

5. Tim followed the (1) \_\_\_\_\_ trail as it wound up the hill to a hidden monastery, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ he found a wizened hippie (3) \_\_\_\_\_ brandished an ancient Chinese ping pong paddle and challenged him to a duel.

(1) tortuous

(1) torturous

(2) when

(2) where

(3) that

(3) who

6. "(1) \_\_\_\_\_ the better player? If you can defeat me, I will give you this ancient paddle, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ precious wood is from a rare tree that grows only in the mountains of Sichuan."

(1) Who's

(1) Whose

(2) thats

(2) who's

(2) whose

7. After the hippie effortlessly defeated him, Tim began a (1) \_\_\_\_\_ training regimen that involved doing endless ping pong drills while blindfolded, washing the monastery's fleet of luxury cars, and (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the hippie day and night like a servant.

- (1) tortuous
- (1) torturous
- (2) waiting for
- (2) waiting on

9. On that random day in March (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Tim suddenly reappeared with a long beard and a perfectly sculpted ping pong body after a year-long absence, Tony and Manu were gobsmacked (2) \_\_\_\_\_ that they could no longer beat him. He had become the master.

- (1) when
- (1) where
- (2) discovering
- (2) to discover

8. As Tim was losing for the thousandth time, the hippie shouted, "Stop (1) \_\_\_\_\_ that you can't beat me! You don't need this paddle to win!" Inspired by the profound truth of his (2) \_\_\_\_\_ words, Tim finally defeated him and left the monastery with his new ancient Chinese ping pong paddle in his backpack.

- (1) believing
- (1) to believe
- (2) veracious
- (2) voracious

## Answers to Common Errors in Usage Quiz 11

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

1. Tim, Tony, and Manu's post-retirement ping pong games, (1) **in which** they ruthlessly (2) **try to** humiliate each other, are even more intense (3) **than** their games of "HORSE" (4) **used to be**.
2. (1) **Until** his retirement from the NBA, Tim had hardly ever played ping pong, and at first he was not (2) **used to** the speed (3) **at which** Tony and Manu played.
3. Timmy had such a (1) **voracious** appetite for victory that he refused to simply (2) **wait for** his skills to develop naturally.
4. One day as he was (1) **wandering** through the hills outside San Antonio and (2) **wondering** how he could improve his ping pong game, he came across a rarely used trail.
5. Tim followed the (1) **tortuous** trail as it wound up the hill to a hidden monastery, (2) **where** he found a wizened hippie (3) **who** brandished an ancient Chinese ping pong paddle and challenged him to a duel.
6. "(1) **Who's** the better player? If you can defeat me, I will give you this ancient paddle, (2) **whose** precious wood is from a rare tree that grows only in the mountains of Sichuan."
7. After the hippie effortlessly defeated him, Tim began a (1) **torturous** training regimen that involved doing endless ping pong drills while blindfolded, washing the monastery's fleet of luxury cars, and (2) **waiting on** the hippie day and night like a servant.
8. As Tim was losing for the thousandth time, the hippie shouted, "Stop (1) **believing** that you can't beat me! You don't need this paddle to win!" Inspired by the profound truth of his (2) **veracious** words, Tim finally defeated him and left the monastery with his new ancient Chinese ping pong paddle in his backpack.
9. On that random day in March (1) **when** Tim suddenly reappeared with a long beard and a perfectly sculpted ping pong body after a year-long absence, Tony and Manu were gobsmacked (2) **to discover** that they could no longer beat him. He had become the master.