704 **fewer, less** *Fewer* refers to the number of separate units; *less* refers to bulk quantity.

Because of spell checkers, students can produce papers containing fewer errors in less time.

705 **figuratively, literally** *Figuratively* means "in a metaphorical or analogous way—describing something by comparing it to something else"; *literally* means "actually or virtually."

The lab was literally filled with sulfurous gases—figuratively speaking, dragon's breath.

706 **fiscal, physical** *Fiscal* means "related to financial matters"; *physical* means "related to material things."

The school's fiscal work is handled by its accounting staff.
The physical work is handled by its maintenance staff.

707 **for, fore, four** *For* is a conjunction meaning "because," or a preposition used to indicate the object or recipient of something; *fore* means "earlier" or "the front"; *four* is the number 4.

708 **good, well** *Good* is an adjective; *well* is nearly always an adverb. (When used to indicate state of health, *well* is an adjective.)

A good job offers opportunities for advancement, especially for those who do their jobs well.

709 **healthful, healthy** *Healthful* means "causing or improving health"; *healthy* means "possessing health."

Healthful foods and regular exercise build healthy bodies.

710 **hear, here** You *hear* with your ears. *Here* means "the area close by."

711 **immigrate, emigrate** *Immigrate* means "to come into a new country or environment." *Emigrate* means "to go out of one country to live in another."

Immigrating to a new country is a challenging experience.
People emigrating from their homelands need to consider this.

712 **imply, infer** *Imply* means "to suggest or express indirectly"; *infer* means "to draw a conclusion from facts." (A writer or speaker *implies;* a reader or listener *infers.*)

Dad implied I should study more and drive around less; I inferred he meant my grades had to improve, or my car would disappear.

713 **ingenious, ingenuous** *Ingenious* means "intelligent, discerning, clever"; *ingenuous* means "unassuming, natural, showing childlike innocence and candidness."

Many thought it an ingenious plan to put the boy-king in charge of diplomatic affairs; his ingenuous comments could sooth the sorest egos.

714 **interstate, intrastate** *Interstate* means "existing between two or more states"; *intrastate* means "existing within a state."

715 **it's, its** *It's* is the contraction of "it is." *Its* is the possessive form of "it."

It's not hard to see why my roommate feeds that alley cat; its pitiful limp and mournful mewing would melt any heart.

716 **later, latter** *Later* means "after a period of time." *Latter* refers to the second of two things mentioned.

717 **lay, lie** *Lay* means "to place." *Lay* is a transitive verb. (See 785.)

If you lay another book on my table, I won't have room for anything else. Yesterday, you laid two books on the table. Over the last few days, you must have laid at least 20 books there.

Lie means "to recline." *Lie* is an intransitive verb. (See 788.)

The cat likes to lie down anywhere.
It lay down yesterday on my homework.
It has lain down many times on the kitchen table.

718 **learn, teach** *Learn* means "to acquire information"; *teach* means "to give information."

Sometimes it's easier to teach someone else a lesson than it is to learn one yourself.

719 **leave, let** *Leave* means "to allow something to remain behind." *Let* means "to permit."

Please let me help you carry that chair; otherwise, leave it for the movers to pick up.

720 **lend, borrow** *Lend* means "to give for temporary use"; *borrow* means "to receive for temporary use."

I told Mom I needed to borrow $15 for a CD, but she said her lending service was for school supplies only.

721 **liable, libel** *Liable* is an adjective meaning "responsible" or "exposed to an adverse action"; *libel* (noun) is a written defamatory statement about someone, and the verb *libel* means "to publish or make such a statement."

Supermarket tabloids, liable for ruining many a reputation, make a practice of libelling the rich and the famous.

722 **liable, likely** *Liable* means "responsible according to the law" or "exposed to an adverse action"; *likely* means "in all probability."

The "flat tire on the freeway in rush-hour traffic" seems a likely story; but I still think you're liable to be in deep trouble for missing your final exam.

723 **like, as** *Like* is a preposition meaning "similar to"; *as* is a conjunction with several meanings. *Like* usually introduces a phrase; *as* usually introduces a clause.

Like the others in my study group, I do my work as any serious student would—carefully and thoroughly.