

Commonly Confused words

Allowed, Aloud

Allowed

- Allowed- a verb that means “permitted” or to “let happen”
- Examples
 - We are not **allowed** to chew gum in school.
 - I am **allowed** to voice my opinion under the First Amendment.

Aloud

- Aloud- means in a normal voice or “out loud”
- Examples
 - I read **aloud** to the class.
 - We were not *allowed* to read **aloud** in the library.

Already, All ready

Already

- Already- an adverb that tells when
- Examples
 - I have **already** told you to eat your vegetables.
 - We **already** went to the store.

All ready

- All ready- means “completely ready”
- Examples
 - Are you **all ready** to go?
 - We are **all ready** to take our exam.

Among, Between

Among

- Among is used when speaking of more than two persons or things.
- Examples
 - Putrid socks were scattered **among** the sweaty uniforms.
 - I played hide and go seek **among** the trees.

Between

- Between is used when speaking of only two persons or things.
- Examples
 - A single streamer dangled **between** the goalposts.
 - The hammock hung **between** the trees.

Beside, Besides

Beside

- Beside means “by the side of.”
- Example
 - I left my homework **beside** my computer.
 - I am sitting **beside** Carl.

Besides

- Besides means “in addition to.”
- Examples
 - **Besides** Carl, I am also sitting *beside* Mark.
 - **Besides** getting a C in math, all my other grades are great.

Can, May

Can

- Can means “able to”
- Examples
 - **Can** you tie a cherry stem into a knot with your tongue?
 - **Can** you speak Spanish?

May

- May means “permitted to”
- Examples
 - **May** I use the restroom?
 - **May** we leave early for lunch?