



## **Merit Online Learning Confused Words Fix-Up Series**

Upper Elementary through High School  
High Beginning ESL through Advanced

Complete series: 3 levels

Internet Explorer 6.0+ (Windows)  
Safari 3.0+ (Windows and Mac)  
Firefox 2.0+ (Windows, Linux, and Mac)

### **What Does Confused Words Fix-Up Do?**

Confused Words Fix-Up gives students personal, immediate feedback and provides online tracking for teachers.

The series helps students master commonly confused and misused words. These words are commonly mistaken for others because:

- a. They sound alike but have different spelling and meaning (prey, pray).
- b. They are close in spelling and often have related meanings (effect, affect).
- c. They are related to the same idea. The sentence determines the correct word to use (much, many).

### **Scope of the Program: Skills**

Confused Words Fix-Up covers over 100 confused word pairs (or trios in a few cases). Each Confused Words Fix-Up level is divided into three units. A list of the word pairs in each level, broken down by unit, appears at the end of this document.

### **Implementation**

#### **Suggested allocation of time for using the program**

For best results we recommend that students use the program 20 to 30 minutes a session, two to three times a week, for six to eight weeks in conjunction with other methods of instruction. Program usage should be paced to allow students sufficient time between sessions to absorb the material.

#### **Suggested overview of student sessions**

Students advance through the program at their own pace.

Each Confused Words Fix-Up unit is divided into four sections for students to work through:

- Tryout – A diagnostic pre-test
- Warm-up – Learning and practice for one confused word pair at a time
- Workout – Learning and practice in a mixed skills format
- Finals – A diagnostic post-test

The Warm-up and Workout sections of the program are designed to promote learning and mastery by providing feedback immediately after students select an answer. If students select a wrong answer, the feedback shows the correct answer and teaches the definitions of the words, which help the student to succeed on the questions that follow. The feedback also supports students who get the answer right. In some cases, they may not know the definitions, but might know that a sentence does not sound or look right. So the explanation teaches them the distinction between the words and their correct definitions.

The Warm-up and Workout sections are designed so that students may do as many rounds as necessary to master the material.

### Tracking students' work

Students and teachers are able to track improvement through students' Online Portfolios and Reports. Using these tools to view the Warm-up and Workout rounds informs students and teachers of the skills students are mastering and those skills students are having difficulty mastering.

## Teacher Orientation to Program Structure “Anatomy of the Program”

The Confused Words Fix-Up program appears in the student's Learning Center.

### Student's Learning Center

**Merit Central**

- Merit Methodology
- Merit News
- Contact Us
- Legal
- Privacy Policy

**My Learning Center**

**Courses**

**Book Punch**

- The Giver

**Language Arts**

- Confused Words Fix-Up 1
- Confused Words Fix-Up 2
- Confused Words Fix-Up 3

Course	Program Unit	Last played	Section	% complete	Comments
Confused Words Fix-Up 3	Unit 1				
	Unit 2				
	Unit 3				

**Writing**

- Essay Punch
- Paragraph Punch

**Welcome to Merit Online Learning**

The programs you have been assigned are in the center of the page.

Click the + next to each program name to see the units of the program.

Click the program unit to start the lesson.

Click the course name for details about the course.

You can view your progress by clicking Online Portfolio in the top menu bar.

Student User Guide  
(Adobe Acrobat Reader required)

The student clicks the + next to the Confused Words Fix-Up program level to see the units of the level.

The student clicks the unit name to start a lesson.

Next, the student selects a section. The section menu indicates whether the student has done the Tryout and Finals and the % complete for the Warm-up and Workout.

## Section Menu

MERIT software Welcome Bill Woods

<Back to Learning Center Log out

Confused Words Fix-Up 1 - Unit 1

Choose a Section and click OK.

**Tryout**  
See what you know. ☐

**Warm-up**  
Practice a single skill. ☐ % complete 0%

**Workout**  
Use all your skills. ☐ % complete 0%

**Finals**  
Finally, test your skills. ☐

OK

Students can adjust the text size and choose a different background color at the start of each section. At the start of the Warm-up and Workout they can also choose a graphic reward theme.

## Display Options: Text Size, Rewards, Background Color

MERIT software Welcome Bill Wood

<Back to Learning Center Log out

**Text Size**  
To adjust the text size at any time use the buttons in the upper right corner above Log out.

**Reward Options**  
Do you want reward graphics?  
☒ Yes  
☐ No

Pick a reward theme.

Artsy ☒

Meritkins ☐

Seacritters ☐

Goomakers ☐

**Background Color Options**  
Pick a background color.

Light Blue (default) ☒

Golden ☐

Olive Green ☐

Rosy Brown ☐

In all sections the student asked to select the highlighted word in a sentence if the word is used correctly and to select Fix-up if the word is misused.

## Sample Question

The screenshot shows the MERIT software interface. At the top, it says "Welcome Bill Woods". Below that, there are navigation links: "<Back to Learning Center" and "Info". On the right, there is a "Log out" link. The main heading is "Confused Words Fix-Up 1 - Unit 1: Tryout". Below this, a progress bar shows "14 of 20". The question area has a yellow background and contains the text: "Select the word if it is used correctly. Select Fix-up if the word is misused." Below this, the sentence is "There are **one** hundred cents to the dollar." There are two radio button options: "one" (which is selected) and "Fix-up". At the bottom of the question area is an "OK" button.

Feedback and help messages are shown in the Warm-up and Workout sections.

## Sample Question with Feedback

The screenshot shows the MERIT software interface. At the top, it says "Welcome Bill Woods". Below that, there are navigation links: "<Back to Learning Center" and "Info". On the right, there is a "Log out" link. The main heading is "Confused Words Fix-Up 1 - Unit 1: Warm-up". Below this, a progress bar shows "2 of 7". The question area has a yellow background and contains the text: "Select the word if it is used correctly. Select Fix-up if the word is misused." Below this, the sentence is "The President **one** the election last November." There are two radio button options: "Fix-up" (which is selected) and "one". Below the question area, there is a feedback message: "★ Yes, that's right. The correct answer is: Fix-up". Below this, the text says: "''Won'' means to have brought about or caused victory. ''One'' is a single unit or thing." Below this, it says: "The correct sentence is: The President won the election last November." At the bottom of the feedback area is a "Continue" button.

Following each round, the student sees a summary screen showing his/her progress and achievement in that round.

## Sample Summary Screen

Confused Words Fix-Up 1 - Unit 1: Tryout

Tryout score: 75%

Skill	Score details
Won, one	★ ★ ✓
Ate, eight	★
Sun, son	★ ★ ✓
See, sea	★ ★ ✓
Are, hour, our	
Hole, whole	★
Blew, blue	★
Made, maid	★ ★ ✓
Buy, by	★ ★ ✓
Knew, new	★ ★ ✓

Section Menu

## Section Details

**TRYOUT:** The student will be given two questions for each word pair in the unit. To pass a word pair skill in the Tryout, the student must make correct choices for both questions. The status bar at the top of the screen shows how far along the student is in the Tryout. When the student has finished all the questions, a summary screen will show how the student did. The student gets a star for each correct answer and a check for skills the student has passed. The skills that the student passes in this section will also be shown as passed in the Warm-up.

Confused Words Fix-Up 1 - Unit 1: Tryout

1 of 20

Select the word if it is used correctly. Select Fix-up if the word is misused.

Olga walked by her school on the way to the post office.

☐ by  
☐ Fix-up

OK

**Info**

**TRYOUT**

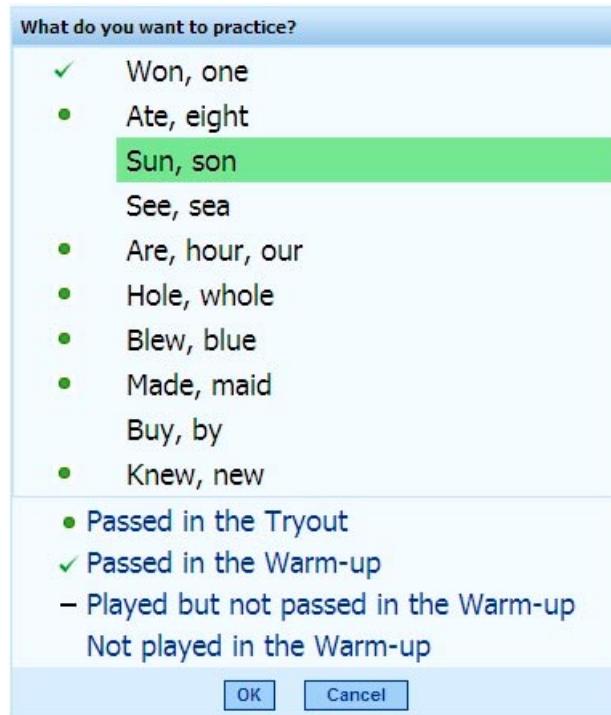
Show what you already know. This will help you find out what to practice later on.

The summary screen at the end will show you how well you did.

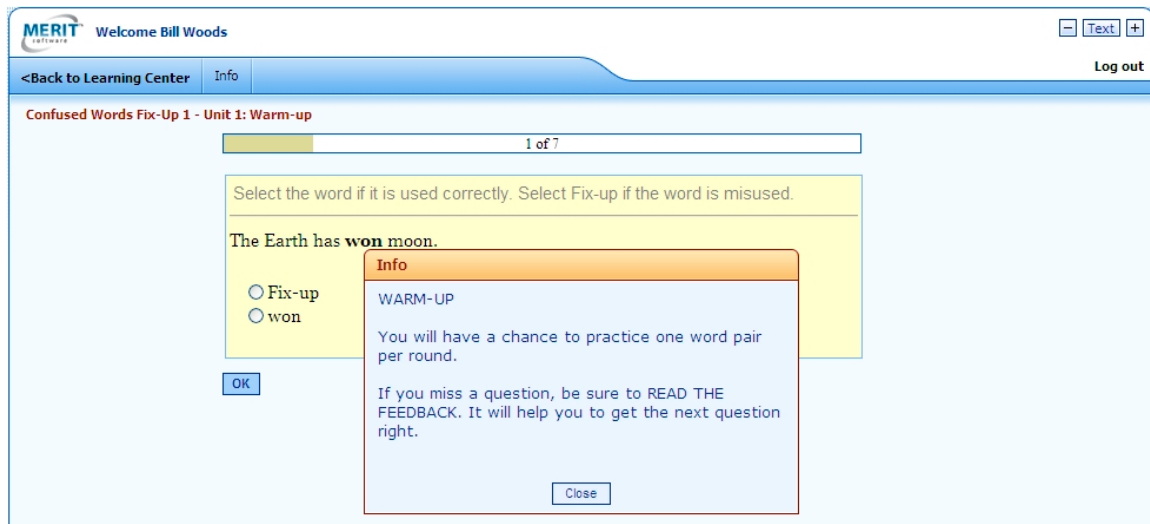
Close

**WARM-UP:** The student selects one word pair to practice per round. To pass a word pair skill in the Warm-up, the student must make six correct choices out of seven questions in a round.

Word pairs that the student passed in the Tryout are shown with bullets on the Warm-up menu. Checks on the Warm-up menu show word pairs that the student has passed in the Warm-up.



The status bar at the top of the Warm-up screen shows the question count for the round.



When the student has finished the seven questions for a word pair skill, a summary screen will show how the student did. The student gets a star for each correct answer. Red stars show correct answers for the current round. Gray stars show correct answers for preceding rounds. The summary screen shows checks for the word pair skills the student has passed in the Tryout and in the Warm-up. The bar at the top of the summary screen indicates how far along the student is in the Warm-up.

**WORKOUT:** The student will be challenged to use all word pair skills presented in random order. To complete the Workout, the student needs to answer correctly 50 or 60 questions, five for each word pair. The student plays at least ten rounds, each containing six randomly selected questions from several word pairs. The status bar at the top of the screen shows which question of the six presented in the round the student is working on.

Following the six Workout questions in a round the student is presented with a **Wrap-up** question for each Workout question answered correctly. The status bar recalibrates to show the number of Wrap-up questions the student will get. The Wrap-up gives the student a different way to see what he or she has learned. In the Wrap-up the student picks the correct sentence from two sentences presented, one of which contains a misused word. See the sample **Wrap-up** question below.

Welcome Bill Woods

<Back to Learning Center Info Log out

Confused Words Fix-Up 1 - Unit 1: Wrap-up

5 of 6

Pick the correct sentence.

☒ Donuts and bagels are foods with a hole in the center.

☐ Donuts and bagels are foods with a whole in the center.

★ Yes, that's right.

The correct choice is:

**Donuts and bagels are foods with a hole in the center.**

Continue

At the end of each Workout round a summary screen will show how the student did. The student gets a star for each correct answer. Red stars show correct answers for the current round. Gray stars show correct answers for preceding rounds. When the student has collected five stars in a word pair skill area, the student gets a check indicating the word pair has been passed. When the student has gotten checks in all word pair skill areas, the Workout has been completed.

The summary screen also shows a + for Wrap-up questions answered correctly in the round, and a – for Wrap-up questions answered incorrectly in the round. The bar at the top of the screen indicates how far along the student is in the Workout.

Welcome Bill Wood

<Back to Learning Center Info Print

Confused Words Fix-Up 1 - Unit 1: Workout

Workout Progress

Workout performance to date: 93%

Wrap-up performance to date: 92%

Skill	Workout Score details	Wrap-up score details
Won, one	★ ★	+ +
Ate, eight	★	+
Sun, son	★ ★ ★ ★	+ + + +
See, sea	★ ★ ★ ★	- + + +
Are, hour, our	★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ✓	+ - + + +
Hole, whole	★ ★ ★ ★	+ + + +
Blew, blue	★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ✓	+ - + + +
Made, maid	★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ✓	+ + + + +
Buy, by	★ ★ ★	+ + +
Knew, new	★ ★ ★	+ + +

Section Menu Continue Workout

**FINALS:** The student will be given three questions for each word pair in the unit. To pass a word pair skill in the Finals, the student must make correct choices for all three questions. The status bar at the top of the screen shows how far along the student is in the Finals.

When the student has finished all the questions, a summary screen will show how the student did. The student gets a star for each correct answer and a check for word pair skills the student has passed.

MERIT SOFTWARE Welcome Bill Wood

<Back to Learning Center Info Print Log out

**Confused Words Fix-Up 1 - Unit 1: Finals**

Finals score: 97%

Skill	Score details
Won, one	★★★★✓
Ate, eight	★★★★✓
Sun, son	★★★★✓
See, sea	★★★★✓
Are, hour, our	★★★★✓
Hole, whole	★★★★✓
Blew, blue	★★★★✓
Made, maid	★★★★✓
Buy, by	★★★★✓
Knew, new	★★★X

Section Menu

X Show Questions Missed Report

The student may view the Questions Missed Report to see any questions the student missed on the Finals.

The report includes what the student answered, the correct answer, and the correct sentence.

The Questions Missed Report is also available in the Online Portfolio.

Confused Words Fix-Up 1 - Unit 1 Page 1 of 1

Work of: Wood, Bill  
Program: Confused Words Fix-Up 1 - Unit 1  
Section: Finals  
Date: 7/5/2010

**Questions Missed Report**

**Knew, new**  
Rachel new she would have lots of fun with her puppy.  
The correct answer is: Fix-up  
You selected: new  
The correct sentence is: Rachel knew she would have lots of fun with her puppy.



## Monitoring Student Work in the Online Portfolio

The Online Portfolio shows the student's summary screen for the most recently played section in the unit. To see the student's progress click the other sections' radio buttons to view their summary screens. The Fitness Performance Detail also includes overview information about the unit such as the % complete, time, and performance score for each section.

**Unit Overview**

Date Started	6/30/2010
Date last played	7/5/2010
Total time	00:45:15
<b>Tryout score</b>	<b>90%</b>
Tryout % complete	Done
Tryout skills passed	7
<b>Warm-up performance</b>	<b>100%</b>
Warm-up % complete	100%
Warm-up time	00:04:32
<b>Workout performance</b>	<b>95%</b>
Workout % complete	100%
Workout rounds	9
Workout time	00:22:02
<b>Finals score</b>	<b>97%</b>
Finals % complete	Done

**View Student's Work**

☐ Tryout ☐ Warm-up ☐ Workout ☒ Finals

Print

Finals score: 97%

Skill	Score details
Won, one	★★★★★
Ate, eight	★★★★★
Sun, son	★★★★★
See, sea	★★★★★
Are, hour, our	★★★★★
Hole, whole	★★★★★
Blew, blue	★★★★★
Made, maid	★★★★★
Buy, by	★★★★★
Knew, new	★★★ X

X Show Questions Missed Report

## Monitoring Student Work With Reports

Reports show student progress and performance through the sections of the program.

Reports are useful for viewing and exporting information about a whole class or information about one student over several classes.

Confused Words Fix-Up student work can be tracked with the following reports:

Performance Summary Report  
Work-to-Date Report  
Performance Detail Report

**Performance Summary Report**

Course: Confused Words Fix-Up 1  
Program: Confused Words Fix-Up 1  
Teacher: Brown, Brad  
Select the rows you wish to view, print or export.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Student	Program Unit	Section	Performance	% Complete	Date Started	Date Last Played	Time
<input type="checkbox"/>	Block, Karen	Unit 1	Tryout	66%	Done	10/22/2009	10/22/2009	00:09:48
<input type="checkbox"/>			Warm-up	94%	70%	10/22/2009	10/26/2009	00:09:12
<input type="checkbox"/>			Workout	80%	100%	10/26/2009	10/26/2009	00:20:04
<input type="checkbox"/>	Besold, Bobbie	Unit 1	Tryout	46%	Done	10/23/2009	10/23/2009	00:13:13
<input type="checkbox"/>			Warm-up	85%	10%	10/23/2009	10/23/2009	00:00:51
<input type="checkbox"/>	Golde, Howard	Unit 1	Tryout	66%	Done	10/23/2009	10/23/2009	00:03:09
<input type="checkbox"/>			Warm-up	74%	10%	10/23/2009	10/28/2009	00:04:38
<input type="checkbox"/>			Workout	63%	35%	10/22/2009	10/23/2009	00:05:54
<input type="checkbox"/>			Finals	6%	Incomplete	10/28/2009	10/28/2009	00:01:15
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lippe, Susan	Unit 1	Tryout	76%	Done	10/22/2009	10/22/2009	00:14:11
<input type="checkbox"/>			Warm-up	90%	60%	10/22/2009	10/26/2009	00:16:42
<input type="checkbox"/>			Workout	100%	10%	10/26/2009	10/26/2009	00:16:29
<input type="checkbox"/>	Merker, Mark	Unit 1	Tryout	60%	Done	10/22/2009	10/22/2009	00:07:13
<input type="checkbox"/>			Warm-up	93%	70%	10/22/2009	10/23/2009	00:08:29
<input type="checkbox"/>			Workout	86%	100%	10/23/2009	10/27/2009	00:28:22

## CONTENT OF CONFUSED WORDS FIX-UP SERIES

Level 1: Skill levels 3 - 4, High Beginning English Language Learners

Level 2: Skill levels 5 - 7, Intermediate English Language Learners

Level 3: Skill levels 7 - 10, Advanced English Language Learners

Note skill levels correspond to U.S. equivalent grade levels.

### CONFUSED WORDS FIX-UP, Level 1

#### Confused Words Fix-Up, Level 1 - Unit 1

1. Won, one
2. Ate, eight
3. Sun, son
4. See, sea
5. Are, hour, our
6. Hole, whole
7. Blew, blue
8. Made, maid
9. Buy, by
10. Knew, new

#### Confused Words Fix-Up, Level 1 - Unit 2

1. Hear, here
2. Tale, tail
3. For, four
4. Beat, beet
5. Bear, bare
6. Knight, night
7. Roll, role
8. Know, no
9. Right, write
10. Flour, flower

#### Confused Words Fix-Up, Level 1 - Unit 3

1. Chews, choose
2. Hair, hare
3. Meet, meat
4. Quiet, quit
5. Knot, not
6. Minor, miner
7. Wear, where
8. Breath, breadth
9. Flee, flea
10. Weak, week

**CONFUSED WORDS FIX-UP, Level 2**

## Confused Words Fix-Up, Level 2 - Unit 1

1. There, they're
2. Prey, pray
3. In, into
4. Lend, borrow
5. Its, it's
6. Cease, seize
7. Later, latter
8. Teach, learn
9. Cent, scent, sent
10. Let, leave
11. Altar, alter
12. Many, much

## Confused Words Fix-Up, Level 2 - Unit 2

1. With, width
2. Accept, except
3. Allowed, aloud
4. Shown, shone
5. Bored, board
6. Principal, principle
7. Advise, advice
8. Preceded, proceeded
9. Already, all ready
10. Dual, duel
11. Really, real
12. Presents, presence

## Confused Words Fix-Up, Level 2 - Unit 3

1. Capital, capitol
2. Conscious, conscience
3. Troop, troupe
4. Guerrilla, gorilla
5. Forth, fourth
6. Among, between
7. Human, humane
8. Access, excess
9. Stationary, stationery
10. Course, coarse
11. Who's, whose
12. Less, fewer

**CONFUSED WORDS FIX-UP, Level 3**

## Confused Words Fix-Up, Level 3 - Unit 1

1. Desert, dessert
2. Anxious, eager
3. Patience, patients
4. Compliment, complement
5. Pour, pore
6. Amount, number
7. Each other, one another
8. Prosecute, persecute
9. Affect, effect
10. Elicit, illicit
11. Adopt, adapt
12. Sit, set

## Confused Words Fix-Up, Level 3 - Unit 2

1. Prescribe, proscribe
2. Cite, sight, site
3. Canvas, canvass
4. Imply, infer
5. Sculpture, sculptor
6. Lie, lay
7. Discreet, discrete
8. Altogether, all together
9. Loath, loathe
10. Dissent, descent
11. Flair, flare
12. Emigrate, immigrate

## Confused Words Fix-Up, Level 3 - Unit 3

1. Ingenious, ingenuous
2. Continual, continuous
3. Counsel, council, consul
4. Rise, raise
5. Differ, defer
6. Formerly, formally
7. Wrapped, rapped, rapt
8. Allusion, illusion
9. Disinterested, uninterested
10. Hanged, hung
11. Carrot, caret, carat
12. Incredible, incredulous

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