



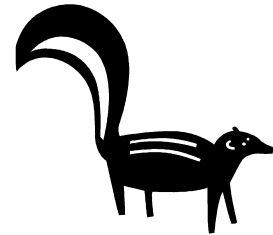
The English-Speaking Union  
English in Action



## *Tongue Twisters*

**A tongue twister is a phrase that is difficult to say. Try saying these tongue-twisters without twisting your tongue!**

One-One was a racehorse.  
Two-Two was one, too.  
When One-One won one race,  
Two-Two won one, too



She sells seashells by the seashore.

A skunk sat on a stump and thunk the stump stunk, but the stump thunk the skunk stunk.

Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers. A peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked. If Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers, Where's the peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked?

The sixth sick sheik's sixth sick sheep

Mares eat oats and does eat oats,  
and little lambs eat ivy.  
A kid will eat ivy too, wouldn't you?

Fuzzy Wuzzy was a bear,  
Fuzzy Wuzzy had no hair,  
Fuzzy Wuzzy wasn't very fuzzy... was he?

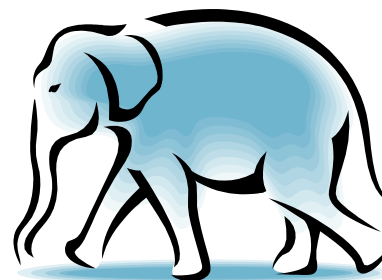
Unique New York

Which wristwatches are Swiss wristwatches?

Eleven benevolent elephants

A Proper Copper Coffee Pot

Toy Boat



## Grammar Exercise

### Homonyms There, Their, They're

Homonyms are words that sound alike, but are spelled differently and have different meanings. Such words can be a source of much confusion, even for native English-speakers. There is a particular set of three homonyms in English that give people a difficult time – **there**, **their** and **they're**.

- **There** indicates a position in space or a particular moment in an action. It is also used in the idiomatic expression *there is/there are*.  
Example: The book is over **there**.  
**There** are many other books.
- **Their** indicates possession  
Example: **Their** books are on the desk.
- **They're** is a contraction of *they are*.  
Example: **They're** going to get the books.

In the following sentences, fill in the blanks with the correct homonym.

1. The twins met \_\_\_\_\_ parents at the ice cream shop.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ is room for one more person in the elevator.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ car was taken to the mechanic for repairs.
4. Because they stayed up all night waiting for \_\_\_\_\_ daughter to come home, \_\_\_\_\_ very sleepy today.
5. If you're bored, \_\_\_\_\_ are many chores to do.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ playing my favorite song on the radio!
7. I am going to meet her \_\_\_\_\_ later this afternoon.
8. Do you remember what \_\_\_\_\_ phone number is?
9. Do you believe that \_\_\_\_\_ going to win the game?
10. In every gray cloud, \_\_\_\_\_ is a silver lining.

#### ANSWERS

1. their
2. There
3. Their
4. their / they're
5. there
6. They're
7. there
8. their
9. they're
10. there

## Culture Corner

### April Is National Poetry Month

Robert Frost is one of America's most famous and beloved poets. He was born in 1874 and spent much of his adult life in New England, which was the setting for many of his poems. He died in Boston in 1963.

Frost was a US Poet Laureate, and he is known for his realistic depictions of rural life and his command of American colloquial speech.



#### A Minor Bird

I have wished a bird would fly  
away,

And not sing by my house all day;

Have clapped my hands at him from the door  
When it seemed as if I could bear no more.

The fault must partly have been in me.  
The bird was not to blame for his key.

And of course there must be something wrong  
In wanting to silence any song.

*Robert Frost*

### **Celebrate** **National Volunteer Week** **April 21st-27th**

**Volunteering is an important American tradition. We are grateful to all of our tutors, unit directors and other volunteers for their service and commitment. Thank you!**

Here/There is a publication of English in Action, a program of the English-Speaking Union of the United States



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