

WORD CHOICE – EXERCISE 3: LOSE AND LOOSE

Directions: Fill in the blanks with the appropriate choice—*lose* or *loose*. Check your answers with the [interactive version](#) of the exercise.

1. Pizza for lunch was such a treat that Clifford refused to _____ his place in the cafeteria line—even though all of his money was in the car.
2. Clarissa ducked into a doorway, for the strong wind was blowing her long, _____ hair onto her double scoops of rocky road ice cream.
3. Flying _____ in the house, Jacques visited every mirror where he chirped to the handsome green parakeet who met him on the other side of the glass.
4. Gabrielle doesn't want to _____ her locker key, so she wears it on her charm bracelet, where it jingles with a diamond-eyed poodle, a gold skate, and an emerald-studded four-leaf clover.
5. If you _____ a sock in a washing machine, Mrs. Chen, the Laundromat owner, will make a puppet with it to amuse the children who visit.
6. Everyone snickered as Bruce walked by, for _____ dog hair clung to the back of his black pants.
7. Michael purchased a two-liter bottle of soda and a one-pound bag of chocolate-covered peanuts so that he would not _____ momentum finishing his critical analysis of Melville's *Moby-Dick*.
8. A _____ board on the back staircase squeals like a dying mouse whenever someone climbs to the second floor.

9. If you have a fascination with ancient Egypt, don't take a class with Dr. McConnell, whose boring lectures make anyone quickly _____ interest.
10. Franklin fought to keep his eyes open, but the _____ structure of the plot and poor characterization of the main characters made him fall asleep in the middle of the play.
11. Peggy smelled the faint odor of last summer's barbecue as she lifted the _____ cover draping the gas grill.
12. Aida hates to _____ her place in a book, so she not only turns down the corner of a page but also adds "Start here" in pen, even to library books!
13. As Jane leaned over the potato salad, her _____ hair fell over her shoulders and dragged through the mayonnaise.
14. So that Mrs. Hoff doesn't _____ a single minute of class time, she watches the second hand sweep across the twelve, indicating the hour has started, and then launches into her lecture.
15. _____ the dogs from their leashes, Rachel watched as her whippets streaked in circles in the dog park field.
16. Pulling a cantaloupe from the bottom of the pyramidal display will cause the rest of the melons to crash to the floor, rolling _____ without organization imposed by the produce managers.
17. Because Gisela always borrows pens and then quickly _____ them, her friends no longer volunteer their extras.
18. Grandma believes that clothing color indicates a person's character. Wearing pinks, reds, or oranges—whether male or female, whether shirts, socks, or ties—indicates _____ morals in Grandma's book.

19. Jessie found enough _____ change in her book bag to buy either a root beer or a bag of chips; she contemplated the difficult decision between sweet or salty.
20. Reggie will not _____ the 100-meter race because Bianca, the girl of his dreams, is watching from the bleachers.

