

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# WORD CHOICE – EXERCISE 14:

## ITS AND IT'S

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

1. The puppy was unsure if shredding a roll of toilet paper was worthy of praise or a squirt from the water bottle, so it wagged \_\_\_\_\_ tail with hesitation.
2. “\_\_\_\_\_ been quite a challenge,” Eric admitted as he shook hands with Dr. O’Sullivan on the last day of class.
3. The cup of hot tea sat on \_\_\_\_\_ saucer, tendrils of steam rising into the air.
4. When Yolanda opened the garden shed door, \_\_\_\_\_ rusty hinges screamed for oil.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ kind of you to compliment the landscaping, but Grandpa really needs to sell that rusty old car sitting on cinderblocks.
6. Clarissa sprinkled hot pepper flakes on the arm rests. \_\_\_\_\_ important that the puppy learns not to chew on the sofa.
7. Every time Sophie’s thumb hit the space bar, she winced. \_\_\_\_\_ a real disadvantage to slice open a finger while chopping celery if a major research essay is due the next day!
8. The blow dryer whined beside Carla’s ear, \_\_\_\_\_ hot breath burning her scalp.

9. "Get out of the house!" Mom ordered. " \_\_\_\_\_ too beautiful outside to sit here playing video games!"
10. \_\_\_\_\_ a shame that Theo won't try the squid eyeball stew since Marilyn has made a really excellent batch this time.
11. The abandoned textbook lay on the coffee shop table, \_\_\_\_\_ pages ruffled by the breeze.
12. Tell Charlie that he has 15 minutes to finish. \_\_\_\_\_ imperative that he turn in his essay on time since Professor Parker refuses to accept late work.
13. Tony marked his answer sheet with a sharp pencil, \_\_\_\_\_ point nearly piercing the thick paper.
14. The cat crouched underneath the oak tree; \_\_\_\_\_ tail twitched as the feline watched the squirrel in the branches above.
15. Sylvia sprayed furniture polish on the ancient table. \_\_\_\_\_ surface gleamed until the cleaner evaporated, leaving the same old, scarred wood.
16. Sandra sat in the saddle, yelling "Giddyup!" The horse, however, lowered \_\_\_\_\_ head to graze, ignoring her command.
17. " \_\_\_\_\_ already two weeks overdue!" exclaimed Professor Zuromski as Byron begged for another extension on his research essay.
18. " \_\_\_\_\_ been forever since you baked chocolate-broccoli muffins," squealed Sienna as she took her first bite.
19. The stray dog wagged \_\_\_\_\_ tail, hoping that Nate would share his ham and cheese sandwich.

20. Beethoven played on the old stereo with \_\_\_\_\_ one bad speaker popping and crackling like bacon frying in a pan.

