Commonly Confused Words

Loss and Lost

Are you at a loss when it comes to using the words loss and lost? Have you ever lost your mind trying to decide which one to use?

**Lost** is the past tense of the verb lose. **Lost** is the opposite of won.

*We lost the game to the rival team.*

**Lost** can also be an adjective meaning missing or absent.

*The lost puppy was found hiding under the neighbors car.*

**Loss** is a noun. It is the fact or process of losing someone or something.

*She felt a great loss when her best friend moved away.*

Write the word **loss** or **lost** in each blank to correctly complete the sentence.

1. Remember to hike in groups so that no one gets ________________ on the trail.
2. Saturday’s game was our first ________________ of the season.
3. “It’s not a complete ____________ because the handlebars still work, “ Darius said, staring at his wrecked bicycle.
4. Put an identification tag on your pet in case it should ever get ____________.
5. [Image]
6. [Image]
7. [Image]
8. “A gain is when you make money. A ________________ is when you lose money,” my dad explained.
9. Grant ____________ his temper when his little sister spilled juice on his report.
10. Ava was upset about her ________________ in the spelling bee.
Are you at a loss when it comes to using the words loss and lost? Have you ever lost your mind trying to decide which one to use?

Lost is the past tense of the verb lose. Lost is the opposite of won.
We lost the game to the rival team.

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Loss is a noun. It is the fact or process of losing someone or something.
She felt a great loss when her best friend moved away.

1. Remember to hike in groups so that no one gets lost on the trail.

2. Saturday’s game was our first loss of the season.

3. “It’s not a complete loss because the handlebars still work, ” Darius said, staring at his wrecked bicycle.

4. Put an identification tag on your pet in case it should ever get lost.


6. “I am sorry for your loss, ” Mikayla said when her best friend’s parakeet died.

7. I lost my homework when I tripped over a big rock and dropped my books into a puddle.

8. “A gain is when you make money. A loss is when you lose money, ” my dad explained.

9. Grant lost his temper when his little sister spilled juice on his report.

10. Ava was upset about her loss in the spelling bee.