

## CONFUSING WORDS WORKSHEET #2

The following words are frequently misused:

**fewer** refers to things or numbers that can be counted.

**less** refers to amount or quantity, items that cannot be counted.

**in** refers to being inside something.

**into** tells of moving from the outside to the inside of something, entering.

**kind of a** and **sort of a** are nonstandard. The *a* is not necessary. The entire expression tends to be weak. Eliminating the expression or using *rather* is preferable.

**like** is a preposition. Using *like* as a conjunction before a clause is not fully accepted. It is better to use *as* or *as if*.

**of** is sometimes incorrectly used in phrases like *could of*, *shouldn't of*, and *must of*. The correct word is *have* or its contraction: *could have*, *could've*, *shouldn't have*, *must have*, *might have*, *might've*.

**ways** does not refer to distance. *Way* is correct.

EXERCISE

Use words correctly. Underline each example of nonstandard usage in the following sentences. Use the correct word or expression in the blank. If a sentence is correct, write *Correct*.

1. Mary stuffed the papers in the book bag. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Jennifer looks like she is going to cry. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Bill must of felt like a star. \_\_\_\_\_
4. She borrowed less things than most neighbors. \_\_\_\_\_
5. This chocolate brand has less calories. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Put less food on the rest of the plates. \_\_\_\_\_
7. You should of seen Sue in her new dress. \_\_\_\_\_
8. She has an odd sort of a feeling about the trip. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Janice lives a long ways away from her mother. \_\_\_\_\_
10. There are less cars on the interstate on weekends. \_\_\_\_\_
11. John pushed his way into the room. \_\_\_\_\_
12. Liz should of sounded more concerned. \_\_\_\_\_
13. I began to feel like we might lose. \_\_\_\_\_

14. Fewer words would make it a better kind of a story. \_\_\_\_\_
15. The mountains smelled like fresh rain. \_\_\_\_\_

