CONFUSING WORDS WORKSHEET #3

The following words often create confusion:

**lead** means to go first and is a verb.
**led** is the past tense of lead.
**lead** is a heavy, silvery-blue metal and is a noun.

**lose** means to misplace or experience the loss of something.
**loose** means baggy, free, or not fastened.

**past** is a preposition or adjective that refers to that which has ended or gone by.
**passed** is a verb which is the past tense of pass.

**piece** refers to a section or a part of something.
**peace** means calm or quiet, the opposite of war and/or discord.

**plane** is a flat, level surface or a carpenter’s tool. It is also the short form for airplane.
**plain** means clearly understood, simple, or ordinary. It can also refer to an expanse of land.

**principal** as an adjective describes something of a chief or central importance. As a noun it refers to the head of a school or the face value of a financial investment.
**principle** is a basic truth, standard, or rule of behavior.

**EXERCISE**
Use the words correctly. Underline the correct word from the words in parentheses.

1. She rapidly walked (past, passed) the other people on the boardwalk.
2. Use the (plain, plane) to balance the washer.
3. Pencils have (lead, led) in them.
4. If you (lose, loose) your book, you’ll have to buy a new one.
5. May I have another (piece, peace) of cake?
6. The (principal, principle) of the high school supported the teacher’s decision.
7. Six minus two is (plane, plain) subtraction.
8. Who will (lead, led) the tour?
9. In the (past, passed), we often worked until midnight or after.
10. Integrity is a greater (principal, principle) to live by than honesty.
11. The community said the dance hall disturbed the (piece, peace).

13. Billy (lead, led) the children through the maze.

14. The wheel on my bike is (lose, loose).

15. She spoke in (plane, plain) English.

16. The college built a parking terrace on a small (peace, piece) of land.

17. The teacher (passed, past) out the corrected tests.

18. I always (loose, lose) my pen or pencil.

19. The (principal, principle) debate issue was the funding of education.

20. At the meeting the children (lead, led) the adults in donating to the cause.