

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

Their/They're/There

## The Case of the Worried Elf

Santa's head elf is worried. But he doesn't know the difference between *their*, *they're*, and *there*. Can you help him?

**Directions:** The word *their*, *they're*, or *there* belongs on each of the lines below. Choose the correct word and write it in.



Dear Santa,

\_\_\_\_\_ is a problem with some of the elves. \_\_\_\_\_ acting very lazy. I know that Christmas isn't until the end of December, but the elves aren't ready. Many of them don't have \_\_\_\_\_ tools in shipshape. I caught a group of doll-making elves playing with \_\_\_\_\_ Gameboys. I saw some of the candy makers having a sword fight with \_\_\_\_\_ candy canes. I inspected \_\_\_\_\_ sleeping area and I must tell you it's a disgusting mess down \_\_\_\_\_. I found candy wrappers and soda cans everywhere.

Santa, I know that the elves are a good bunch. \_\_\_\_\_ all very sweet and nice. But \_\_\_\_\_ like a bunch of kids. We must ask them to improve \_\_\_\_\_ work habits. We must make sure \_\_\_\_\_ ready for the big day. We need to make them responsible for cleaning all of \_\_\_\_\_ garbage. Most of all, we must make them understand that \_\_\_\_\_ Santa's elves! Let's hope they get the message.

Very sincerely,  
*Rocko, your head-elf*

### Grammar Cop's Clues

Remember these basic laws of *their*, *they're*, and *there*:

- **Their** is the possessive form of **they**. You use it when you want to say that something belongs to a group of people. (Example: They went sledding, but they forgot *their* mittens.)
- **They're** is a contraction of **they are**. (Example: Mindy and Jessica are best friends. *They're* always together.)
- **There** is a place. It is the opposite of **here**. (Example: Australia is far away. I wonder if I'll ever go *there*.) **There** is also a pronoun used to introduce a sentence. (Example: *There* is someone at the door.)