

#common mistakes



Never: Today I have many **works** to do.

Say: Today I have **a lot of work** to do.

Note: Work is an uncountable noun.

Ex: It may be hard for older people to find work.

Note: The plural form **works** means a factory or the writings of an author:

Ex: The **works** of Shakespeare are many.

Ex: I visited the steel **works**. (factory)

#common mistakes



Never: She has no difficulty **to do** it.

Say: She has no difficulty **(in)** **doing** it.

Ex: I had great difficulty **(in)** finding a job.

Never: I look forward **to see** him soon.

Say: I look forward **to seeing** him soon.

Ex: My mother says she's looking forward
to meeting you.

#common mistakes



Never: A sandstorm **dusted** our clothes.

Say: A sandstorm **covered** our clothes with **dust**.

To dust doesn't mean to cover with dust; it means to remove dust from.

Ex: After sweeping, she **dusted** the furniture.

#common mistakes



Never : I enjoyed **from** the party.

Say : I enjoyed the party.

Ex: Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves at the party.

Ex: I truly enjoy working with children.

#common mistakes



Never: She behaves friendly.

Say: She behaves in a friendly way.

Note: The adverbial form is **in a friendly way**.

Friendly is an adjective: A friendly game, smile, etc.

#common mistakes



Never: The river has **flown** over its banks.

Say: The river has **flowed** over its banks.

Flown is the past participle of **fly**.

The past participle of **flow** is **flowed**.

fly , flew , flown.

flow , flowed , flowed.

#common mistakes



Never: I've now **left football.**

Say: I've now **given up football.**

Or: I've now **stopped playing football.**

Never use **leave in the meaning of **give up**,
or **stop** sth.**

EX: She **gave up her job and started
writing poetry.**

EX: Why don't you **give up smoking?**

EX: Where have you **left your pen?**

#common mistakes



Never: Tom as well as mark **are** coming.

Say: Tom **as well as** mark **is** coming.

Two singular nouns joined by **as well as** require the verb to be singular.

#common mistakes



Never: Her luggages are at the station.

Say: Her luggage is at the station.

-They searched his luggage for illegal drugs.

Note: Baggage, another word for luggage, can't be used in the plural either.

-What happens if my baggage is lost ?

#common mistakes



Never: My English book **is with** my brother.

Say: My brother **has** my English book.

- Avoid using **be with** in the sense of **have**.
- **Be with** means to be together or in company of.
- Does anybody **have** my pen?
- My parents are **with** me on my vacation.



#common mistakes

Never: She is **busy to study** her exams.

Say: She is **busy studying** her exams.

Ex: I'm busy completing housework.

Never: Is today's film **worth to see?**

Say: Is today's film **worth seeing?**

Ex: The trip is well worth taking.

#common mistakes



Never: What's the **reason for** a standstorm?

Say: What's the **cause of** a standstorm?

Never: You have a good **cause of** coming.

Say: You have a good **reason for** coming.

-A **cause** is that which produces a result.

-A **reason** is that which explains or justifies a result.

-It's our job to establish the **cause of** the fire.

-People give different **reasons for** wanting to change jobs.

#common mistakes



Never: You are such a **coward boy**.
Say: You are such a **coward**.

Coward : (one without courage) is the noun
The adjective is cowardly

- He was too **cowardly** to say what he meant.
- It was a **cowardly** attack on a defenceless man.

#common mistakes



Never : The fire caused **many damages**.

Say : The fire caused **much damage**.

Note : The plural form **damages** means money paid to s.one as a punishment for harming them or their property.

Ex : The insurance company paid the man **damages**.

Ex : The court awarded him \$15,000 in **damages**.

#common mistakes



Never: A bookseller **deals with** books.

Say: A bookseller **deals in** books.

To deal in means to buy and sell.

- He then began **dealing in** stolen goods.

To deal with means to take action on a matter.

- They have failed to **deal with** the problem of homelessness.