



#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?

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#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.