

Gg

gain 1

- ✗ For two weeks' work, I gain about 700,000 yen.
- ✓ **For two weeks' work, I earn about 700,000 yen.**
- ✗ Without a job it's impossible to gain any money.
- ✓ **Without a job it's impossible to earn any money.**

earn or (especially in informal styles) **get/make** (a sum of) money by going to work, from investments, etc (**NOT gain**): 'She earns \$4,000 a month.'

2

See PROFIT

gentle

- ? My father was a very gentle man, always helping people.
 - ✓ **My father was a very kind man, always helping people.**
- gentle** = (1) used to describe someone who never shows anger or impatience in what they say or do: 'His brother was always ready for a fight, but Tim was quiet and gentle.'
 (2) not loud, forceful or rough: 'He spoke to the child in a quiet, gentle voice so as not to frighten her.' 'She found the doctor's gentle manner very reassuring.'

gently 1

- ✗ The shop assistant asked me gently what I wanted.
 - ✓ **The shop assistant asked me politely what I wanted.**
- gently** = in a way that will not hurt or damage anything: 'She held the little bird very gently.'
politely = in a way that shows good manners: 'He politely refused her offer, saying that he didn't want to trouble her.'

2

- ✗ I wonder if you would gently lend us a room for one of the monthly meetings.
 - ✓ **I wonder if you would kindly lend us a room for one of the monthly meetings.**
- In polite formal requests, use **if you would/could kindly** (or **if you would be so kind as to**): 'I would be very grateful if you would kindly allow Julian to leave school early on Tuesday.'

get off

- ✗ I got off my car to inspect the damage.
 - ✓ **I got out of my car to inspect the damage.**
- get off** a bus, train, plane, boat, ship, bicycle: 'The bus driver will tell you where to get off.' 'I got off the train at the wrong station.'
get out of a car, taxi, boat, train, lift: 'Getting out of a boat can be quite tricky.'

get up

See BED 1

give

- ✗ She gave to him some cheese sandwiches.
- ✓ **She gave him some cheese sandwiches.**
- ✗ They always give to the new students a warm welcome.
- ✓ **They always give the new students a warm welcome.**

give sth to sb BUT give sb sth (WITHOUT to)

Compare: 'They gave a medal to each member of the team.' 'They gave each member of the team a medal.'

glad 1

- ✗ I would be glad if you could send me an application form.
- ✓ **I would be grateful if you could send me an application form.**

To make a formal request, use **would be grateful if** (NOT **glad**): 'We would be grateful if you could consider this matter at your earliest convenience.'

2

- ✗ She was a very glad person, and very intelligent.
- ✓ **She was a very happy person, and very intelligent.**
- ✗ We hope that you will like this school and be glad here.
- ✓ **We hope that you will like this school and be happy here.**

glad (not used in front of a noun) = pleased and happy about something in particular: 'I'm so glad your wife is feeling better.' 'I'm glad it wasn't my turn to pay.'

happy = enjoying life: 'She's a lot happier now that the examinations are over.'

glass

- ✗ I have to vacuum the floors and clean the glasses of the windows.
- ✓ **I have to vacuum the floors and clean the windows.**
- ✗ The sunlight poured in through the glasses of the bedroom window.
- ✓ **The sunlight poured in through (the panes of) the bedroom window.**

pane (or **window-pane**) = a sheet of glass used in a window: 'The two cracked panes will have to be replaced.'

Note that **pane** and **window-pane** are rarely used. Their meaning is usually expressed by **window**.

glasses 1

- ✗ He wears an old-fashioned glasses which make him look intelligent.
 - ✓ **He wears old-fashioned glasses which make him look intelligent.**
- Glasses** (= spectacles) is a plural noun: 'I wear glasses just for reading.' 'Have you seen my glasses?'

2

See PAIR 2

go 1

- ✗ The next morning she went to see us at the hotel.
- ✓ **The next morning she came to see us at the hotel.**

Come is used for movement towards the speaker/listener: 'Come in and sit down for a few minutes.' 'When can I come and see you?'

Go is used for movement in other directions: 'Could you go upstairs and turn the lights off?'

- 2
- ✗ How do I go to the Holiday Inn?
 - ✓ **How do I get to the Holiday Inn?**
 - ✗ He was lost and didn't know how to go back home.
 - ✓ **He was lost and didn't know how to get back home.**
- When you mean 'arrive', use **get (to)**: 'I got to the classroom five minutes late.' 'When does the train get there?'

- 3
- ✗ We go to swim every day on holiday.
 - ✓ **We go swimming every day on holiday.**
 - ✗ They've gone for camping on Lantau Island.
 - ✓ **They've gone camping on Lantau Island.**
- go swimming/sightseeing/shopping** etc: 'They've probably gone fishing.'

- 4
- ✗ That evening my boyfriend and I went out to walk.
 - ✓ **That evening my boyfriend and I went for a walk.**
- go for a walk/swim/jog** etc: 'Would anyone like to go for a drive?'

5 See TO 2

6 See CAR

7 See FIRE 1, 3

- go ahead**
- ✗ Without additional qualifications, it will be impossible for me to go ahead in my career.
 - ✓ **Without additional qualifications, it will be impossible for me to get ahead in my career.**
- If you are successful in your career, studies etc, you **get ahead** (NOT **go ahead**): 'The old education system favoured boys, and girls found it difficult to get ahead.'

- go down**
- ✗ Culture shock begins as soon as you go down from the plane.
 - ✓ **Culture shock begins as soon as you get off the plane.**
- See note at GET OFF

- go out**
- ✗ As soon as the bus stopped, he went out.
 - ✓ **As soon as the bus stopped, he got off.**
 - ✗ I went out of the car and waited for someone to stop and help me.
 - ✓ **I got out of the car and waited for someone to stop and help me.**
- See note at GET OFF

- goal**
- ✗ We reached our goal just after three o'clock.
 - ✓ **We reached our destination just after three o'clock.**
- goal** = something that you hope to achieve: 'The company's goal is to double its share of the personal computer market.'
destination = the place that you are travelling to: 'The immigration officer wanted to know my destination and how long I was planning to stay.'

- golden**
- ✗ It's a navy blue coat with golden buttons.
 - ✓ **It's a navy blue coat with gold buttons.**
 - ✗ The purse contained six golden coins.
 - ✓ **The purse contained six gold coins.**

Golden is used in idiomatic expressions such as 'a golden opportunity', 'a golden handshake', 'a golden wedding anniversary', and in the phrase 'golden hair' (used mainly in literary styles).

To describe something that is made of gold or is the colour of gold, use **gold**: 'a gold bracelet', 'a black dress with red and gold stripes down the front'.

gone

- ✗ 'Have you ever gone to France?' she asked.
- ✓ **'Have you ever been to France?' she asked.**

In British English, **been** is used when someone has visited a place and returned. **Gone** is used when the person is still in the place they are visiting. Compare: 'Peter has gone to Paris.' (= he has not yet returned) 'Peter has been to Paris.' (= he has visited Paris and returned)
In American English **gone** can be used instead of **been**.

gonna

- ✗ Do you know when the plane is gonna land?
- ✓ **Do you know when the plane is going to land?**
- ✗ The principal is gonna give a talk in the morning.
- ✓ **The principal is going to give a talk in the morning.**

Do not use **gonna** (= **going to**) or **wanna** (= **want to**) unless you are trying to represent informal conversation.

good 1

- ✗ I don't speak English very good.
 - ✓ **I don't speak English very well.**
- Good** is an adjective: 'She is a very good singer.'
Well is an adverb: 'She sings very well.'

2

- ✗ I hope I'll do good in tomorrow's test.
- ✓ **I hope I'll do well in tomorrow's test.**

If you are successful (in a test, interview etc), you **do well** (in it): 'I did quite well in maths and chemistry but my physics result was very disappointing.'

3

- ✗ My sister is very good in squash.
- ✓ **My sister is very good at squash.**
- ✗ I'm not very good in writing essays.
- ✓ **I'm not very good at writing essays.**

be good at (doing) sth: 'He's good at all science subjects.' 'Are you any good at chess?'

4

- ✗ There's no good putting a very young child in a kindergarten.
- ✓ **It's no good putting a very young child in a kindergarten.**
- ✗ It's no good to want to help the poor if you don't do anything about it.
- ✓ **It's no good wanting to help the poor if you don't do anything about it.**

it is no good/use (doing sth) = it is pointless: 'It's no good having a car if you can't drive.'

5

See Language Note at do

goods

- ✗ He had very little money and very few goods.
- ✓ **He had very little money and very few possessions.**

goods = things that are made to be sold: 'The supermarket has a wide variety of frozen goods.' 'The average family's weekly expenditure on goods and services has risen by 20%.'

possessions = all the things that a person owns: 'After his mother died, Andrew had the unpleasant task of sorting through her possessions.'

gossip

- x She told me **gossips** about all her relations.
 - ✓ **She told me a lot of gossip about all her relations.**
- See Language Note at SCENERY

got

- x I got several friends who don't want children.
 - ✓ **I have (got) several friends who don't want children.**
- Got** is not used to replace **have**: 'I have two sisters.' 'I've got two sisters.' (NOT 'I got two sisters.')

grade

- x By the end of the war he had been promoted to the grade of captain.
- ✓ **By the end of the war he had been promoted to the rank of captain.**

Soldiers, sailors, police officers etc have different **ranks** (NOT **grades**): 'She joined the police force in 1990 and quickly rose to the rank of sergeant.'

graduate

- x I graduated at Seoul National University with a degree in politics.
- ✓ **I graduated from Seoul National University with a degree in politics.**

You graduate from a university. 'She graduated from Hull University in 1994 with a first class honours degree in chemistry.'

granted

- x We cannot take for granted that a computer system will never fail.
- ✓ **We cannot take it for granted that a computer system will never fail.**

take it for granted (that ...) WITH **it** = assume that something is true or will happen: 'She didn't ask me if I wanted to go. She just took it for granted.'

See also APPRECIATE 2

grave 1

- x I don't have any grave problems.
- ✓ **I don't have any serious problems.**
- x Blackmail is a grave crime.
- ✓ **Blackmail is a serious crime.**

grave = extremely serious and worrying, especially because someone's life or happiness is in danger: 'The situation has become increasingly grave and war now seems inevitable.' 'The shortage of food and medical supplies is giving rise to grave concern.'

2

- x We went to see the 'Valley of the Kings', where the grave of Tut-mah-Amun was found.
- ✓ **We went to see the 'Valley of the Kings', where the tomb of Tut-mah-Amun was found.**

grave = a place in the ground where a dead person is put: 'The coffin was slowly lowered into the grave.'

tomb (pronounced /tu:m/) = a place where a dead person is put. A tomb

is usually made of stone and is above the ground: 'Our first stop was the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.'

greatly

- ✗ Living standards have improved greatly.
- ✓ **Living standards have greatly improved.**
- ✓ **Living standards have improved enormously.**
- ✗ The children greatly cheered me up.
- ✓ **The children cheered me up a lot.**

Greatly is usually placed in front of a main verb, especially in passive structures: 'Your kind offer is greatly appreciated.' 'Stories of panic on Wall Street have been greatly exaggerated.'

To emphasize the meaning of an active verb, use **enormously**, **tremendously** or (in informal styles) **a lot** at the end of the clause: 'In the last forty years education in China has changed enormously.'

group

- ✗ The people of each group have to guess the word.
 - ✓ **The people in each group have to guess the word.**
- the + noun + in a group:** 'The girls in my group all come from Italy.'
 Note however **member + of a group:** 'The members of my group took it in turns to take notes.'

ground 1

- ✗ Turkey occupies about 40 per cent of our ground.
 - ✓ **Turkey occupies about 40 per cent of our land/territory.**
- See Language Note on next page

2

- ✗ They do not have enough food or ground to grow it on.
 - ✓ **They do not have enough food or land to grow it on.**
- See Language Note on next page

3

- ✗ Gradually the ground loses the ability to hold water.
 - ✓ **Gradually the soil loses the ability to hold water.**
 - ✗ My job is to analyse samples of ground.
 - ✓ **My job is to analyse samples of soil.**
- See Language Note on next page

4

- ✗ People who suffer from backache often sleep on the ground.
 - ✓ **People who suffer from backache often sleep on the floor.**
- See Language Note on next page

5

- ✗ The school building is very old and the ground is very small.
 - ✓ **The school building is very old and the grounds are very small.**
- See Language Note on next page

6

- ✗ A shot rang out and one of the men fell on the ground.
- ✓ **A shot rang out and one of the men fell to the ground.**
- ✗ I fell on the ground, hoping that nobody had seen me.
- ✓ **I fell to the ground, hoping that nobody had seen me.**

Use **on the ground** when you are thinking about position: 'Someone had dropped one of their gloves on the ground.' 'We sat down on the ground just outside the cage.'

When you are thinking about downward movement or (violent) movement from a standing position, use **to the ground**: 'The parachute failed to open and he plummeted to the ground.' 'The impact knocked

him spinning to the ground.' 'They pushed him to the ground and grabbed his wallet.'

FLOOR • GROUND • GROUNDS • LAND • TERRITORY • SOIL

floor	The floor is the surface that you walk on when you are <u>indoors</u> : 'Our cat likes to sit on the floor under my desk.' 'It's about time someone cleaned the kitchen floor.'
ground	The ground is the surface that you walk on when you are <u>outdoors</u> : 'The ground was covered with snow.' 'In the middle of the forest was a bare patch of marshy ground.'
grounds	Grounds refers to the area surrounding and belonging to a school, hospital, hotel, stately home, etc, usually enclosed by a wall or fence: 'Parking within the hospital grounds is strictly prohibited.'
land	Land refers to (1) an area of ground that is owned or used by someone, or that is controlled by a particular country: 'All the land from here to the stream belongs to the Pattersons.' 'Disagreements about land have led to many wars.' (2) (also the land) the part of the Earth's surface that is not covered by water: 'After three days at sea, I was looking forward to being on land again.'
territory	Territory is the area that is controlled by a particular country, army or power: 'One of the results of losing the war was that the country had to give up almost half its territory.' 'They had wandered by mistake into enemy territory.'
soil	Soil is the material in which plants and trees grow: 'This plant needs rich soil to grow well.'

grow 1

- ✗ Many of these children grow in an atmosphere of violence.
 ✓ **Many of these children grow up in an atmosphere of violence.**

grow = (1) (of children, animals, plants etc) develop or get bigger as part of a natural process: 'Mary's little boy grew four centimetres last year.' 'Orchids don't grow in cold climates.' (2) cause plants, vegetables etc to do this by taking care of them: 'In the back garden we grow onions, potatoes and carrots.'

grow up = (of children) pass from childhood into maturity: 'Of course I know him - we grew up together in New York.' 'Tom wants to be a scientist when he grows up.'

2

- ✗ Some parents need to be taught how to grow their children.
 ✓ **Some parents need to be taught how to bring up their children.**

bring up (or raise) = look after children until they are old enough to leave home, teaching them how to behave and what to think about the world: 'He was brought up to believe that men and women are equal.'

- grow up 1** x The country's GNP is growing up very quickly.
 ✓ **The country's GNP is growing very quickly.**
grow = increase (in number, volume, cost etc): 'The population is expected to grow by 20% over the next ten years.'
- 2** x Calcium helps your bones to grow up.
 ✓ **Calcium helps your bones to grow.**
 x With a garden you can grow up your own vegetables.
 ✓ **With a garden you can grow your own vegetables.**
 See note at GROW 1
- grown-up** x These films are too violent not only for children but also for grown-up people.
 ✓ **These films are too violent not only for children but also for grown-ups.**
 Instead of using **grown-up person/people**, use **grown-up** as a noun: 'Grown-ups are so boring! All they want to do is talk!' Note that **grown-up** is used mainly by children. The more common word is **adult**.
- guarantee** x May I remind you that the cassette recorder is still in guarantee.
 ✓ **May I remind you that the cassette recorder is still under guarantee.**
under guarantee (NOT in): 'The watch was still under guarantee so they repaired it free of charge.'
- guidance** x I greatly appreciate all your help and guidances.
 ✓ **I greatly appreciate all your help and guidance.**
Guidance is an uncountable noun: 'The council provides guidance and support for students wishing to study abroad.'
- guilty 1** x The jury charged the defendant guilty.
 ✓ **The jury found the defendant guilty.**
 x He was tried and judged guilty of murder.
 ✓ **He was tried and found guilty of murder.**
find sb guilty/innocent: 'Despite the flimsy evidence, the jury found her guilty.' 'The accused was found guilty and sentenced to five years' imprisonment.'
- 2** x They feel guilty of neglecting their duty.
 ✓ **They feel guilty about neglecting their duty.**
 x A lot of women feel guilty to leave their children alone or with another person.
 ✓ **A lot of women feel guilty about leaving their children alone or with another person.**
(be) guilty of a crime or doing something wrong: 'The jury found the defendant guilty of murder.' 'He was guilty of driving without a licence or insurance.'
(feel) guilty about (doing) sth = ashamed: 'I still feel guilty about not visiting her while she was in hospital.'
- guitar 1** See PLAY 3
- 2** See CLASSIC 2

gun

See SHOOT 2

gymnastic

x

I took up gymnastic when I was at school.

✓

I took up gymnastics when I was at school.**Gymnastic** (WITHOUT -s) is an adjective: 'Her gymnastic ability was recognized at a very early age.'The noun is **gymnastics** (WITH -s): 'Her career in international gymnastics began at the age of twelve.'

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