

Rr

radio

- x I always listen to the news in the radio.
- ✓ I always listen to the news on the radio.
- x On radio there was a current affairs programme.
- ✓ On the radio there was a current affairs programme.

On the radio, on (the) television (NOT in): 'It's strange to hear your own voice on the radio.' 'What's on television tonight?'

rain 1

- x It was heavy rain yesterday.
- ✓ It rained heavily yesterday.
- ✓ There was some heavy rain yesterday.

When you begin with **it**, use **rain** as a verb: 'It's raining again!' 'This month it's rained nearly every day.'

When you begin with **there**, use **rain** as a noun: 'There's been a lot of rain this month.'

2

- x Two minutes later it started pouring rain.
- ✓ Two minutes later it started pouring with rain.
- x The next day the sky poured heavily.
- ✓ The next day it poured with rain.

it + pour with rain: 'Whenever I forget my umbrella, it pours with rain.' 'We can't go out – it's pouring with rain.'

rainfall

- x There was no rainfall for over three months.
- ✓ There was no rain for over three months.
- ✓ It didn't rain for over three months.

rainfall = the amount of rain that usually falls in an area during a certain period: 'The whole region has a very low rainfall at this time of the year.' Note that **rainfall** is mainly used in technical styles.

rainy

- ? The afternoon was very rainy.
- ✓ The afternoon was very wet.
- ? It's rainy again today.
- ✓ It's wet again today.
- ✓ It's raining again today.

When **rainy** is used it generally comes in front of words like **day, afternoon, Sunday** and **season** (NOT after a verb): 'The baby was born on a rainy Sunday in June.' 'When does the rainy season begin?' The more usual word is **wet**: 'Apart from a couple of wet afternoons, the weather was fine.' 'If it's wet tomorrow, we'll go on Monday instead.'

raise 1

- x When I was a child, I used to raise my own flowers in a corner of the garden.
- ✓ When I was a child, I used to grow my own flowers in a corner of the garden.

raise plants, vegetables, animals etc, especially on a farm to sell as food: 'He grew up in Nebraska where his parents raised chickens.'
grow plants, flowers, vegetables, etc, in a garden for pleasure: 'This year I thought I'd try growing a few tomatoes.'

- 2 ☐ They offered to raise up my salary.

☒ **They offered to raise my salary.**

raise sth (WITHOUT up): 'If you want to ask a question, just raise your hand.' 'The age of retirement should be lowered, not raised.'

- 3 ☐ The cost of living has raised by 20 per cent this year.

☒ **The cost of living has risen by 20 per cent this year.**

☐ Sales raised rapidly.

☒ **Sales rose rapidly.**

☐ The rain had caused the water level to raise.

☒ **The rain had caused the water level to rise.**

Raise (raising, raised, raised) is a transitive verb: 'They wouldn't dare to raise taxes just before an election.'

Rise (rising, rose, risen) is intransitive: 'The divorce rate has risen steadily over the last forty years.' 'Prices rose again last month.'

- 4 ☐ There has been an enormous raise in house prices.

☒ **There has been an enormous rise in house prices.**

a raise = (American English) an increase in wages or salary: 'The State Government simply can't afford to give all teachers a raise.'

a rise = an increase in quantity, cost, price, salary etc: 'For those on low incomes, another rise in the cost of living could be devastating.'

rank

☐ After dealing with customer enquiries for a year I was promoted to a higher rank and given my own office.

☒ **After dealing with customer enquiries for a year I was promoted to a more senior position and given my own office.**

Rank usually refers to someone's position in the army, navy, police force etc, where there are fixed levels of authority such as sergeant or captain 'She joined the police force in 1990 and quickly rose to the rank of sergeant.'

rapid/
rapidly

☐ These new trains are very rapid.

☒ **These new trains are very fast.**

☐ I rapidly took the gun out of my pocket.

☒ **I quickly took the gun out of my pocket.**

When used in connection with movement, **rapid** and **rapidly** usually refer to something that happens at a very fast rate: 'She could hear rapid footsteps approaching.' 'The patient often develops a fever and breathing becomes rapid.'

Note that these words are mainly used to describe the speed with which something changes, develops, spreads etc: 'Investors have profited from the country's rapid economic growth.' 'Unemployment has been increasing rapidly over the past 8 years.'

rare 1

☐ Water is very rare in some parts of the country.

☒ **Water is very scarce in some parts of the country.**

If certain things are **rare** there are only a few of them in existence: 'Rare coins are usually worth a lot of money.' A **rare** event is one that hardly ever happens: 'I was lucky enough to witness one of her rare public performances.'

To describe something that is usually common but for some reason is difficult to obtain at a particular time or in a particular place, use **scarce**: 'After the war, food and clothing were scarce.'

- 2
- ☒ I think that my name is rare.
 - ☒ **I think that my name is unusual.**
 - ☒ In San Francisco I saw some rare architecture.
 - ☒ **In San Francisco I saw some unusual architecture.**
- If something is different from what is usual, it is **unusual**: 'The bread had an unusual flavour.' 'Kit. That's an unusual name.'
- 3
- ☒ It is not rare that women have a job nowadays.
 - ☒ **It is not unusual for women to have a job nowadays.**
- not unusual (for sb) to do sth (NOT not rare)**: 'It's not unusual to see business people cycling to work these days.'

rarely

See Language Note at NOT

rather 1

- ? The bed was rather comfortable.
 - ☒ **The bed was quite comfortable.**
 - ? The weather is rather good today.
 - ☒ **The weather is quite good today.**
- When **rather** means 'to a small extent' it is usually used with words that express negative qualities: 'The bed was rather uncomfortable.' 'The lesson was rather boring.' 'He's always been rather lazy.'
- When **rather** is used with words that express positive qualities, it makes the quality stronger: 'These cakes are rather nice! Try one!'

- 2
- ☒ They rather violent films to romantic ones.
 - ☒ **They prefer violent films to romantic ones.**
 - ☒ **They'd rather see violent films than romantic ones.**
 - ☒ I rather take him to somewhere less crowded.
 - ☒ **I'd rather take him to somewhere less crowded.**
 - ☒ **I prefer to take him to somewhere less crowded.**

When you mean 'prefer', use **prefer/would rather/would prefer** (NOT **rather** on its own): 'She says she'd rather speak to you herself about it.'

- 3
- ☒ I'd rather prefer just to lie on the beach.
 - ☒ **I'd rather just lie on the beach.**
 - ☒ **I'd prefer just to lie on the beach.**

Do not use **rather** and **prefer** together: 'If the weather's fine, we'd rather play tennis.'

- 4
- ☒ I told her I would rather to go by train than to fly.
 - ☒ **I told her I would rather go by train than fly.**
 - ☒ I would rather going abroad for my holidays.
 - ☒ **I would rather go abroad for my holidays.**

would rather do sth (NOT to do or doing): 'They'd rather wait and see what happens.'

reach

- ✗ When the blue car reached the corner, it stopped.
- ✓ **When the blue car reached the corner, it stopped.**
- reach sth (WITHOUT to/at):** 'Eventually the two sides reached an agreement.' 'We reached London just after 3 o'clock.'

**react/
reaction**

- ✗ It's time the government reacted on the crisis.
- ✓ **It's time the government reacted to the crisis.**
- ✗ Their reaction on the article was predictable.
- ✓ **Their reaction to the article was predictable.**
- react/reaction to sth (NOT on/at):** 'People reacted to the speech in different ways.' 'Reactions to the news of the merger were less positive than expected.'

realize 1

- ✗ The criminal mind is not always easy to realize.
- ✓ **The criminal mind is not always easy to understand.**
- ✗ I didn't realize the meaning of 'junk mail'.
- ✓ **I didn't understand the meaning of 'junk mail'.**
- See Language Note below

2

- ✗ The school year is divided into three terms, as you realize.
- ✓ **The school year is divided into three terms, as you know.**
- ✗ Nobody realized whether he was coming.
- ✓ **Nobody knew whether he was coming.**
- See Language Note below

3

- ✗ Our own mistakes are sometimes difficult to realize.
- ✓ **Our own mistakes are sometimes difficult to recognize.**
- ✗ I'm sure you will realize the song when you hear it.
- ✓ **I'm sure you will recognize the song when you hear it.**
- See Language Note below

KNOW • REALIZE • RECOGNIZE • UNDERSTAND

know	be aware of a fact or particular piece of information: 'Do you know their new telephone number?' 'I know she's fond of you. She told me so herself.'
realize	suddenly become aware of a fact or the true meaning of something, especially because you have thought about it or received new information about it: 'I suddenly realized that the thumping I could hear was the sound of my own heart.' 'It was only when I saw the expression on the doctor's face that I realized the seriousness of her illness.'
recognize	know what something is because you have seen/heard/smelled it before; know who someone is because you have seen them before: 'I'm sorry I didn't recognize you - you've had your hair cut!'
understand	know what something means, what causes something, how something operates, how someone feels, etc: 'I've never really understood physics.' 'Such behaviour is very difficult to understand.'

- 4
- ✗ The headmaster realized his threat and sent the children home.
 - ✓ **The headmaster carried out his threat and sent the children home.**
 - ✗ Many people in developing countries do not realize family planning.
 - ✓ **Many people in developing countries do not practise family planning.**

When **realize** means 'make something actually happen or become real', it is usually used with words such as **ambition, intention, expectation, hope, dream, fear**: 'I feel confident that the high expectations I have of my new job will be realized.'

really 1

- ✗ That's really a good idea.
- ✓ **That's a really good idea.**
- ✓ **That really is a good idea.**
- ✗ It was only a short trip but we had really a good time.
- ✓ **It was only a short trip but we had a really good time.**
- ✓ **It was only a short trip but we really had a good time.**

The position of **really** (= very) is a matter of emphasis. Very often it comes immediately before the adjective or adverb it modifies: 'some really good news', 'a really old car'. Otherwise, it is usually placed immediately in front of the main verb: 'You really fooled me.' 'We're really enjoying ourselves.'

- 2
- ✗ To his great amazement, little Nicola really won the race.
 - ✓ **To his great amazement, little Nicola actually won the race.**
- Really** and **actually** are sometimes interchangeable: 'She sold the piano for a lot more than it was actually/really worth.'
- When you mean 'strange as it may seem', use **actually** (NOT **really**): 'Instead of running away as he normally does, he actually offered to stay and help.'

reason 1

- ✗ What was the reason for the traffic jam?
- ✓ **What was the cause of the traffic jam?**

See note at CAUSE 1

- 2
- ✗ My reason of coming here is to improve my English.
 - ✓ **My reason for coming here is to improve my English.**
 - ✗ There are several good reasons to have children.
 - ✓ **There are several good reasons for having children.**

reason for (doing) sth: 'He wanted to know the reason for your absence.' 'What reasons do you have for thinking that?'

- 3
- ✗ The main reason because I am here is to study for my Master's degree.
 - ✓ **The main reason why I am here is to study for my Master's degree.**
 - ✓ **My main reason for being here is to study for my Master's degree.**
 - ✗ The weather here is always warm and this is the reason because there are so many public swimming pools.
 - ✓ **The weather here is always warm and this is (the reason) why there are so many public swimming pools.**

reason why (NOT because/how): 'Most of you are aware of (the reason) why I've called this meeting.'

reason for doing sth: 'Most of you are aware of my reason for calling this meeting.'

- 4 x My reason for not buying the car was because it was too expensive.

✓ **My reason for not buying the car was that it was too expensive.**

the/sb's reason ... is that (NOT is because): 'Her reason for going all the way to the Bahamas is that she wants some winter sunshine.'

- 5 x I don't agree with them by many reasons.

✓ **I don't agree with them for many reasons.**

x The closing date for applications was last Saturday and by this reason we cannot offer you a place on the course.

✓ **The closing date for applications was last Saturday and for this reason we cannot offer you a place on the course.**

for ... reason/s (NOT by): 'For these reasons next year's rice harvests are likely to be very disappointing.'

- 6 See CAUSE 5

reasonable 1

x I was far too upset and emotional to make a reasonable decision.

✓ **I was far too upset and emotional to make a rational decision.**

reasonable = fair, sensible or acceptable: 'Dividing up the work equally seems like a very reasonable decision.' 'They'll accept any reasonable offer.'
rational = produced by means of careful, logical thinking: 'There must be some rational explanation - things can't just disappear!'

- 2 x She usually gets reasonable good marks.

✓ **She usually gets reasonably good marks.**

When you mean 'fairly/quite', use **reasonably** (adverb): 'The team played reasonably well on Saturday, but something was missing in the attack.'

recall

x May I recall you what happened that day?

✓ **May I remind you of what happened that day?**

recall (fairly formal) = remember: 'I really can't recall what his wife looks like.'

remind = cause (someone) to remember: 'The painting reminded me of my last holiday in Bali.' 'Remind me to buy a new toothbrush while we're out.'

recent 1

x Over the recent 30 years there has been a great deal of industrial development.

✓ **Over the last 30 years there has been a great deal of industrial development.**

When you mention a number, use **last** (NOT **recent**). Compare: 'In recent months house prices have fallen.' 'Over the last 12 months house prices have fallen.'

- 2
- ✗ Tennis has become popular in Germany in the recent years.
 - ✓ **Tennis has become popular in Germany in recent years.**
 - ✗ Recent years the crime rate has increased.
 - ✓ **In recent years the crime rate has increased.**
- in recent weeks/months/years:** 'Flight cancellations have increased in recent weeks.'

- recognize**
- ✗ On the plane home, I suddenly recognized that I had left my coat at the hotel.
 - ✓ **On the plane home, I suddenly realized that I had left my coat at the hotel.**
- See Language Note at REALIZE

- recommend**
- ✗ I recommend you a walk along the Seine.
 - ✓ **I recommend a walk along the Seine.**
 - ✗ I wouldn't recommend to let your children watch it.
 - ✓ **I wouldn't recommend that you let your children watch it.**
 - ✓ **I wouldn't recommend letting your children watch it.**
- recommend sth:** 'Can you recommend a good hotel?'
- recommend that:** 'My accountant recommends that I should open an offshore account.' 'We recommend you choose your wedding ring about three months in advance.' 'They recommend that 100 be regarded as a minimum number.'
- recommend doing sth:** 'I'd never recommend sending a young child to boarding school.'
- British English also uses **recommend sb to do sth:** 'I wouldn't recommend you to let your children watch it.'

- reference**
- ✗ In reference to your letter of 6th September, I am pleased to confirm that the books have now arrived.
 - ✓ **With reference to your letter of 6th September, I am pleased to confirm that the books have now arrived.**
- with reference to sth (NOT in):** 'With reference to your recent article in *Amateur Gardening*, there are one or two questions that I would like to ask.'
- See also REGARD 1, REGARDING

- refrain**
- ✗ We all refrained telling her what we really thought.
 - ✓ **We all refrained from telling her what we really thought.**
- refrain from (doing) sth (fairly formal):** 'I suggest that you refrain from making similar statements until you are sure of your facts.'

- refuse 1**
- ✗ He refused their lifestyle and decided to seek a simpler alternative.
 - ✓ **He rejected their lifestyle and decided to seek a simpler alternative.**
 - ✗ I refuse the idea that men and women are psychologically different.
 - ✓ **I reject the idea that men and women are psychologically different.**
- refuse = say no (when someone wants you to do or accept something):** 'Some of the staff refuse to attend lunchtime meetings.' 'We can't possibly refuse the invitation.' 'Simon had to refuse the job offer because it would have meant moving house again.'

reject = say that you do not support (an idea, belief, suggestion, plan, proposal, etc): 'Vegetarians reject the theory that you must eat meat to get all the nutrients you need.' 'The belief that a woman's place is in the home has been widely rejected.'

- 2 ✗ He felt refused by the man he admired most.
✓ **He felt rejected by the man he admired most.**

If someone makes you feel that you are no longer loved, needed etc, they **reject** you (and you feel **rejected**): 'It's terrible to feel rejected by someone you care for.'

- regard** 1 ✗ With regards to accommodation, there are several excellent hotels.
✓ **With regard to accommodation, there are several excellent hotels.**
✗ As regard our working environment, the machines make too much noise.
✓ **As regards our working environment, the machines make too much noise.**

with regard to (WITHOUT s): 'With regard to the minutes of our last meeting, may I first draw your attention to Item 3.'

as regards (WITH s): 'As regards transport, I would suggest that we hire a mini-bus for the days in question.'

See also REFERENCE, REGARDING

- 2 ✗ He shows no regard to other people.
✓ **He shows no regard for other people.**

regard for sb/sth (= respect for): 'He always does a good job and I have a high regard for him.'

- regarding** ✗ Regarding to your letter of 22 November, I have referred your query to our accounts department.
✓ **Regarding your letter of 22 November, I have referred your query to our accounts department.**
regarding (WITHOUT to): 'If you have any questions regarding any of our services, please feel free to contact me.'
See also REFERENCE, REGARD 1

- regardless** ✗ We have to train every day, regardless the weather.
✓ **We have to train every day, regardless of the weather.**
regardless of sth: 'The school accepts all students, regardless of educational level and background.'

- regret** ✗ In any case I didn't regret to stay at home.
✓ **In any case I didn't regret staying at home.**
✗ I now regret not to have worked harder at school.
✓ **I now regret not having worked harder at school.**

Regret is followed by a to-infinitive in formal letters to introduce a piece of bad news: 'I regret to inform you that your application for a scholarship has been unsuccessful.'

When you are talking about the past, use **regret doing sth** or **regret that**: 'I have often regretted leaving the police force.' 'I wonder if they ever regret not having gone to live abroad?' 'Now that it was too late, he regretted that he hadn't worked harder at school.'

- related** 1 ☒ Many of these illnesses are related with smoking.
☒ **Many of these illnesses are related to smoking.**
One thing is **related to** another thing (NOT **with**): 'Poverty is often directly related to unemployment.'
- 2 ☒ The size of a family is deeply related to parental income.
☒ **The size of a family is closely related to parental income.**
closely related (NOT **deeply**): 'His thesis is that drugs, boredom and juvenile crime are closely related.'
- relation** 1 ☒ I thought that offering to help him might improve our relation.
☒ **I thought that offering to help him might improve our relationship.**
☒ The relation between teachers and students is very friendly.
☒ **The relationship between teachers and students is very friendly.**
See Language Note below
- 2 ☒ The new government is trying to improve its relation with America.
☒ **The new government is trying to improve relations with America.**
See Language Note below

RELATION • RELATIONSHIP • RELATIONS	
relation	(1) the way in which one person or thing is connected with another: 'We've been studying the relation between gender and income.' 'This latest murder bears no relation to the earlier killings.' (2) someone who belongs to your family; relative: 'She took me back home to meet all her friends and relations.'
relationship	the way that two people, groups or countries feel about each other and behave towards each other: 'What kind of relationship did you have with your father?' 'Successful companies know the importance of establishing good relationships with their customers.' 'This decision will not affect the relationship between France and its European partners.'
relations (plural noun)	the way that two groups, countries or regions publicly or officially feel about and behave towards each other: 'Relations between the two countries have steadily deteriorated in recent years.' 'The police are making great efforts to improve relations with the public.'

- relax** ☒ I usually relax myself by taking a hot bath.
☒ **I usually relax by taking a hot bath.**
See Language Note at MYSELF

- rely**
- ✗ I think it all relies on whether you like being on your own.
 - ✓ **I think it all depends on whether you like being on your own.**
 - ✗ A country's strength relies on unity.
 - ✓ **A country's strength depends on unity.**
- When you mean that one thing is decided or shaped by another thing, use **depend on** (NOT **rely on**): 'The cost of the trip depends on how long you go for and where you stay.'
Compare: 'Since his wife died, he has had nobody that he could really depend/ rely on.'
- remark**
- ✗ As soon as I came in I remarked your note on the table.
 - ✓ **As soon as I came in I noticed your note on the table.**
- remark** = say what you think or have noticed about someone or something: '“There's a strange smell in here,” she remarked.' 'Sarah remarked that the fire was going out, but nobody seemed to care.' 'I couldn't help remarking on his new hair style.'
notice = become aware of someone or something: 'If we keep very quiet, they may not notice us.' 'Have you noticed that she has stopped wearing her wedding ring?'
- remember**
- ✗ 'He went to the doctor's yesterday.' - 'Yes, I can remember. He looked very ill.'
 - ✓ **'He went to the doctor's yesterday.' - 'Yes, I remember. He looked very ill.'**
 - ✗ Can you remember me? I used to sit at the back of your class.
 - ✓ **Do you remember me? I used to sit at the back of your class.**
- When **remember** means 'bring the memory of a person or thing into your mind (i.e. **recall**)' then **can/could** is usually optional: 'I (can) still remember the sad look on her face.' Use **can/could** to suggest effort: 'I just can't remember how the film ended.' 'I wish I could remember their address.'
When **remember** means 'have or keep the memory of a person or thing in your mind', it is usually used **WITHOUT can/could**: 'I hope you still remember me.' 'I'll always remember the night we first met.'
- remind 1**
- ✗ I remind the happy days we spent together at college.
 - ✓ **I remember the happy days we spent together at college.**
- remind** = cause (someone) to remember something: 'The smell of fresh coffee always reminds me of Salvo's.'
Compare: 'Whenever I look at the photograph, I am reminded of the happy days we spent together at college.'
- 2**
- ✗ The flowers reminded him his garden.
 - ✓ **The flowers reminded him of his garden.**
- remind sb of sth** = cause someone to think about something: 'She reminds me of a girl I knew when I was at school.' 'As the horse came closer, I was suddenly reminded of my first riding lesson and a little pony called Duke.'
- rent**
- ✗ If you like riding, there are horses you can rent.
 - ✓ **If you like riding, there are horses you can hire.**
 - ✗ How much will it cost to rent some skis?
 - ✓ **How much will it cost to hire some skis?**
- See note at **HIRE 1**

- repeat**
- x I asked her to repeat again what she had said.
 - ✓ **I asked her to repeat what she had said.**
- repeat sth (WITHOUT again):** 'Would you mind repeating the question?' '“I just can't believe it,” he repeated.'
- If you **repeat** something **again**, you repeat it a second time.
- replace**
- x He offered to replace the old battery by a new one.
 - ✓ **He offered to replace the old battery with a new one.**
- replace sb/sth with sb/sth (NOT by):** 'The firm has been dismissing experienced staff and replacing them with school leavers.'
- reply 1**
- x It's about time they replied my letter.
 - ✓ **It's about time they replied to my letter.**
- reply to** a letter/invitation/advertisement etc: 'Since Margaret hasn't replied to the invitation, we're assuming she isn't coming.'
- Compare: 'It's about time they answered my letter.'
- 2**
- x He replied to me that he had grown up in a family of footballers.
 - ✓ **He replied that he had grown up in a family of footballers.**
 - x 'There's going to be a storm,' the captain replied me.
 - ✓ **'There's going to be a storm,' the captain replied.**
- When **reply** is used as a reporting verb, the 'listener' is not mentioned: '“I'm sure you're right,” George replied.' 'She replied that she was too busy.'
- request**
- x We had to request for more help.
 - ✓ **We had to request more help.**
- request sth (WITHOUT for):** 'The pilot requested permission to land, but this was refused.'
- Compare: 'Our request for more help was turned down.' (noun + **for**)
- research 1**
- x I'm doing a research into the causes of child abuse.
 - ✓ **I'm doing research into the causes of child abuse.**
 - x The government invests a lot of money in scientific researches.
 - ✓ **The government invests a lot of money in scientific research.**
- Research** is usually an uncountable noun: 'A team of American scientists is carrying out research into the effects of acid rain.'
- Researches** (plural) is also used, especially in formal styles of British English and usually refers to a series of related studies by a particular person or team: 'His researches go back to the 1950s.' 'Their more recent researches point to a decline in the mortality rate.' The more usual word for this meaning, especially in American English, is **studies**.
- 2**
- x The project involves research of major lung diseases.
 - ✓ **The project involves research into major lung diseases.**
- research into/on sth:** 'We need more research into public attitudes to nuclear power.' 'To date, there has been very little research done on the subject.'
- research on sb:** 'It's a review of recent research on East Anglian fishermen.' 'She wishes to pursue her research on Edward VI.'
- 3**
- x Where is he making his research?
 - ✓ **Where is he doing his research?**

do/carry out/conduct/be engaged in research: 'We have received a small grant to conduct research into housing design for older women.'
See Language Note at do

reserve

- ✗ We've reserved the school hall for the evening.
- ✓ **We've booked the school hall for the evening.**
- ✗ I've finally managed to reserve a two-room house on the beach.
- ✓ **I've finally managed to book a two-room house on the beach.**

reserve (or **book**) = arrange for a seat on a train, a seat in a theatre, a table in a restaurant etc, to be kept for you to use at a certain time: 'I'd like to reserve two seats in the front row for tomorrow night's performance.'

book = (British English) arrange for a hotel room, holiday accommodation etc, to be kept for you to use at a certain time: 'We've booked a holiday cottage in the Lake District for the first two weeks in June.' Note that in American English the usual word for this meaning is **reserve**.

resist 1

- ✗ She couldn't resist his rudeness any longer and walked out of the room.
- ✓ **She couldn't stand his rudeness any longer and walked out of the room.**

resist = fight against; oppose: 'We shall resist any changes that threaten our personal freedom.'

can't stand/bear (= be unable to tolerate): 'I'd like to live in Africa but I don't think I could bear the heat.'

2

- ✗ The old couple resisted to all the pressure that was put on them to move.
- ✓ **The old couple resisted all the pressure that was put on them to move.**
- ✗ Without weapons there was no way of resisting against the attack.
- ✓ **Without weapons there was no way of resisting the attack.**

resist sb/sth (WITHOUT to/against): 'By resisting the Mafia's attempts to control the region, Dolci was putting his own life in danger.'

Compare: 'Much of the resistance to social and political change comes from people who oppose the government.' (noun + to)

resource

- ✗ Tourism is the main resource of money for these people.
- ✓ **Tourism is the main source of money for these people.**
- ✗ Teachers are often regarded as a resource of knowledge.
- ✓ **Teachers are often regarded as a source of knowledge.**

resource = (1) something that can be used to make a particular task or activity easier: 'All the teaching resources - books, cassettes and so on - are kept in a special room.' (2) something that a country has and uses to create wealth, such as oil or natural gas: 'Brunei is rich in natural resources.'

source = the place where something comes from or the thing from which we can get it: 'We collect the information from various sources.' 'Beans and lentils are a very good source of protein.'

respect

- ✗ They should respect to each other's opinions.
- ✓ **They should respect each other's opinions.**

respect sb/sth (WITHOUT to): 'He's not the most popular teacher, but all the students respect him.' 'She always told us exactly what she thought, and we respected her for that.'

respectful

- ✗ Some former prisoners are now respectful citizens.
- ✓ **Some former prisoners are now respectable citizens.**
- ✗ If you wish to make a good impression, you'll have to look a bit more respectful.
- ✓ **If you wish to make a good impression, you'll have to look a bit more respectable.**



respectful = having or showing respect for someone, especially someone older than you or senior to you: 'The principal has warned him that unless he shows a more respectful attitude towards his teachers, he will have to leave.'

respectable = displaying socially acceptable standards in appearance or behaviour: 'Surprisingly, many of these young offenders come from respectable families.' 'Nobody is going to give you a job unless you make yourself look a bit more respectable.'

**respond/
response**

- ✗ I don't care what they say, as long as I get a respond.
- ✓ **I don't care what they say, as long as I get a response.**
- ✗ We're still waiting for them to response.
- ✓ **We're still waiting for them to respond.**

Respond is a verb: 'I'm surprised they responded so quickly.'

Response is a noun: 'I'm surprised we got such a quick response.' 'In response to your last comment, I'm afraid I don't agree.'

responsible

- ✗ Drugs are responsible of a large number of deaths.
- ✓ **Drugs are responsible for a large number of deaths.**
- ✗ I'm also responsible to decide on the best way to manufacture a product.
- ✓ **I'm also responsible for deciding on the best way to manufacture a product.**

responsible for (doing) sth: 'Who's responsible for roof repairs - you or the landlord?' 'The person responsible for leaking the story to the press has been forced to resign.'

result

- ✗ Nowadays we hear a lot about pollution and its results on our health.
- ✓ **Nowadays we hear a lot about pollution and its effects on our health.**

result = the situation or action that develops from a previous situation or action: 'The result of the crisis was that in 1649 the king was beheaded.' 'The anti-smoking campaign has produced excellent results.'

effect (on sb/sth) = a change in condition that is caused by something: 'The drug had no effect on him.' (= there was no change in his condition) 'Wine always has an effect on me - it makes me want to sing.'

retire

- ✗ After just two months he retired and went to work for a smaller company.
- ✓ **After just two months he resigned and went to work for a smaller company.**

retire = leave your job at the end of your working life, usually because you have reached a particular age: 'In the UK, men usually retire at the

age of 65 and women at 60.' 'If you retire early, you won't get your full pension.'

resign = leave your job because you do not like it, because you have found a better one, etc: 'If she doesn't get a salary increase, she's going to resign.'

return

- X She returned back after half an hour.
- ✓ **She returned after half an hour.**
- X When is he going to return back the money he owes you?
- ✓ **When is he going to return the money he owes you?**

Return contains the meaning 'back': 'He had to return to India to look after his mother.' 'He's left a note asking you to return the book he lent you.'

revenge 1

- X One day these innocent victims must be revenged.
- ✓ **One day these innocent victims must be avenged.**
- X The damage done to his honour would have to be revenged.
- ✓ **The damage done to his honour would have to be avenged.**

Revenge is usually used as a noun: 'Once they know who planted the bomb, they are likely to seek revenge.' 'She did it in revenge for all the lies he had told her.'

The verb is **avenge**: 'They swore to avenge this humiliating defeat.' 'He considers it his duty to avenge his brother's death.'

2

- X I'm your twin brother and I'm here to revenge.
- ✓ **I'm your twin brother and I'm here to get my revenge.**

X He swore to revenge on the doctor.

✓ **He swore to take revenge on the doctor.**

get/take (your) revenge (on sb): 'He decided that the easiest way to get his revenge was to disinherit her.' 'She has vowed to take revenge on each and every one of them.'

reward

- X Two of the German films were given rewards.
- ✓ **Two of the German films were given awards.**

See AWARD

richness

- X They go to Hollywood in search of richness and fame.
- ✓ **They go to Hollywood in search of wealth and fame.**

If someone has a large amount of money, property etc, they are very **wealthy** or have considerable **wealth** (NOT **richness**): 'The country's wealth is in the hands of a small minority.'

right

- X Every child has a right of free education.
 - ✓ **Every child has a right to free education.**
 - X Until recently, women did not have the right of voting.
 - ✓ **Until recently, women did not have the right to vote.**
- right to (do) sth** (NOT **of**): 'The law gives you the right to remain silent.' 'Each partner has a right to a company car.'

ring

- X I rang to the college to explain my absence.
- ✓ **I rang the college to explain my absence.**

See PHONE 1

rise

- X Many firms try to survive by rising productivity.
- ✓ **Many firms try to survive by raising productivity.**

See RAISE 3

risk

- x Not one of us would risk to go out on our own.
 - ✓ **Not one of us would risk going out on our own.**
- risk doing sth** (NOT to do): 'I couldn't risk taking a photograph - there were too many soldiers around.'

rob

- x The wicked old man robbed all my money.
 - ✓ **The wicked old man stole all my money.**
 - x They robbed \$6000 from the office safe.
 - ✓ **They stole \$6000 from the office safe.**
 - x While he was asleep, she robbed him his watch.
 - ✓ **While he was asleep, she stole his watch.**
- steal sth**: 'Someone has stolen her car.' 'My watch has been stolen.'
 'The girl has obviously stolen his heart.'
- rob sb (of sth)**: 'The two youths had tried to rob him, but he managed to fight them off.' 'The old couple were robbed of their life's savings.'

roof

- x In the bedroom, the roof looked very damp.
- ✓ **In the bedroom, the ceiling looked very damp.**
- x The bedroom roof was one huge mirror.
- ✓ **The bedroom ceiling was one huge mirror.**

roof = the covering on top of a building that protects it from the weather: 'If the rain is coming in, there must be a hole in the roof.' 'All the rooves were covered in snow.'

ceiling = the part of a room that is above your head: 'When he stands on tip-toe, he can almost touch the ceiling.'

row

- x There was already a long row of passengers waiting to be checked in.
- ✓ **There was already a long queue of passengers waiting to be checked in.**

row = a line of people or things: 'Along one side of the river there was a row of cottages.' 'When our coach arrived at the hotel, the staff were standing in a row waiting to greet us.' 'At school I always used to sit in the front row.'

queue = (British English) a line of people standing one behind the other, waiting for a bus, to buy a ticket, etc: 'I never go to the bank at lunchtime because of the long queues.'



rude

- x The shop assistant was very rude with me.
 - ✓ **The shop assistant was very rude to me.**
- rude to sb** (NOT with): 'Why is he so rude to people?'

run

- x The car was running too fast for me to see the number plate.
 - ✓ **The car was moving too fast for me to see the number plate.**
- Vehicles **travel, move or go** at a certain speed in a certain direction (NOT run): 'We're travelling at just under 70 miles an hour.' 'How fast was the train going when the accident occurred?'