

Nobody knows we are here except her. (*Don't say: Nobody knows we are here ~~except for~~ her*).

Everyone arrived on time except Tom. (*Don't say: Everyone arrived on time ~~except for~~ Tom*).

We say **finish something by Friday**, (NOT finish something ~~until~~ Friday).

I have to finish the essay by Friday. (*Don't say: I have to finish the essay ~~until~~ Friday*).

I have to finish the homework by 7 pm. (*Don't say: I have to finish the homework ~~until~~ 7 pm*).

We say **a fast car, fast food**, (NOT a ~~quick~~ car, ~~quick~~ food).

My brother has a fast car. (*Don't say: My brother has a ~~quick~~ car*).

My son likes to eat fast food such as hamburgers, fried chicken, and pizza. (*Don't say: My son likes to eat ~~quick~~ food...*).

We say **a quick meal**, (NOT a ~~fast~~ meal).

We had a quick meal in the restaurant. (*Don't say: We had a ~~fast~~ meal in the restaurant*).

We had a quick meal before a movie. (*Don't say: We had a ~~fast~~ meal before a movie*).

We say **powerful engine**, (NOT ~~strong~~ engine).

This is a new car with a powerful engine. (*Don't say: This is a new car with a ~~strong~~ engine*).

I would like to possess a motor vehicle with a powerful engine. (*Don't say: I would like to possess a motor vehicle with a ~~strong~~ engine*).

We say **someone is injured**, (NOT someone is ~~damaged~~).

He was injured in the accident. (*Don't say: He was ~~damaged~~ in the accident*).

Fortunately, nobody was injured in the car accident. (*Don't say: Fortunately, nobody was ~~damaged~~ in the car accident*).

Tom injured his arm and stayed in hospital after the car accident. (*Don't say: Tom ~~damaged~~ his arm and stayed in hospital after the car accident*).

We say **something is damaged**, (NOT something is **injured**).

The house was damaged by the storm. (*Don't say: The house was ~~injured~~ by the storm*).

The building was damaged by the fire. (*Don't say: The building was ~~injured~~ by the fire*).

Tom's house was badly damaged in the fire. (*Don't say: Tom's house was badly ~~injured~~ in the fire*).

We say to **rob someone or an organization**, (NOT to **steal** someone or an organization).

He robbed the bank. (*Don't say: He ~~stole~~ the bank*).

He robbed an elderly man. (*Don't say: He ~~stole~~ an elderly man*).

We say to **steal something**, (NOT to **rob** something).

He stole money from his parents. (*Don't say: He ~~robbed~~ money from his parents*).

He was arrested because he stole a car. (*Don't say: He was arrested because he ~~robbed~~ a car*).

We say **the latest news**, (NOT the **last** news).

Have you heard the latest news? (*Don't say: Have you heard the ~~last~~ news?*).

I keep up to date with the latest news via the smartphone. (*Don't say: I keep up to date with the ~~last~~ news via the smartphone*).

We say **speak a language**, (NOT **talk** a language).

Do you speak English? (*Don't say: Do you ~~talk~~ English?*).

I can speak English, French and Chinese. (*Don't say: I can ~~talk~~ English, French and Chinese*).

We say **reject an idea/a suggestion**, (NOT **refuse** an idea/a suggestion).

They quickly rejected his idea. (*Don't say: They quickly ~~refused~~ his idea*).

She rejected my suggestion as impractical. (*Don't say: She ~~refused~~ my suggestion as impractical*).

We say **refuse an invitation/offer**, (NOT **rejeet** an invitation/offer).

He refused my invitation. (*Don't say: He rejected my invitation*).

Mary refused his offer of working in New York for a year. (*Don't say: Mary rejected his offer of working in New York for a year*).

We say **very happy**, (NOT **absolutely** happy).

He was very happy about his unexpected promotion. (*Don't say: He was ~~absolutely~~ happy about his unexpected promotion*).

We are very happy about the birth of our new baby. (*Don't say: We are ~~absolutely~~ happy about the birth of our new baby*).

We say **be under a lot of/considerable pressure**, (be under **high** pressure).

She has been under a lot of pressure lately. (*Don't say: She has been under ~~high~~ pressure lately*).

He was under considerable pressure at times. (*Don't say: He was under ~~high~~ pressure at times*).

We say **someone wants to do something**, (NOT someone **is wanting to** do something).

I'm hungry now. I want to eat something. (*Don't say: I ~~am wanting~~ to eat something*).

I want to see you now. (*Don't say: I ~~am wanting~~ to see you now*).

We use **"anything"** is used in **negative sentences**. (NOT **everything**).

He didn't remember anything. (*Don't say: He didn't remember ~~everything~~*).

I can't do anything else. (*Don't say: I can't do ~~everything~~ else*).