

Some Commonly-confused Words.

This table takes you alphabetically through words which are often mixed up. It gives the word, then its part of speech, then its meaning, and finally an example of its usage.

Please note that only the most widespread meanings and uses of these words are used here: **each may have alternative meanings and usages.**

Word.	Part of speech.	Meaning.	Examples.
Adverse.	Adjective.	Having a negative or harmful effect.	Adverse publicity damaged the firm's reputation.
Averse.	Adjective.	opposed to something.	
			reporting procedures.
Effect.	Noun.	Result or outcome (of an influence).	The effect of these new requirements will be dramatic.
Alternate.	Adjective.	Every other time or thing.	They meet on alternate

Subsequently.

Adverb.

After or

Militate (against).	Verb.	To be a powerful factor in preventing something.	The current tax system militates against the proper redistribution of wealth.
Perpetrate.	Verb.	To carry out (a harmful action).	Many crimes are perpetrated by people who are drunk.
Perpetuate.	Verb.	To cause something to continue.	These stories perpetuated the myth.
Practice.	Noun.	To use or apply a method, belief or idea. Customary, habitual or expected procedures.	Their ideas were too expensive to put into practice. He practised his beliefs. It is common practice for pop singers to use autotune.
Practise.	Verb.	To repeat to gain or improve a skill. To carry out a profession.	She practised hard to become proficient. He began to practise law a year ago. She practised as a lawyer.
Precede.	Verb.	To come before.	John preceded Mary in the job.
Proceed.	Verb.	To continue as planned.	The lawyers proceeded with the case.
Prescribe.	Verb.	To recommend or order (a course of treatment).	The doctor prescribed a course of antibiotics.