

30 Common spelling errors

1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

- 1 a Some people believe that there should be more women in government.
b Some people believe that there should be more women in government.
- 2 a It is the responsibility of every contry to protect the environment.
b It is the responsibility of every country to protect the environment.

Some words are spelled incorrectly because they are similar to another word:

- *to* or *too*? I want to go **to** the park. I wanted a new computer but ended up with a printer **too**. (= as well)
- *there* or *their*? Your book is **there**, on the table. Students must buy **their** books before the start of term.
- *though* or *through*? Several students chose Russian **though** they had never studied a language before. The tour guide led the group **through** some areas of ancient rainforest.

Sometimes there is confusion over British and American spellings:

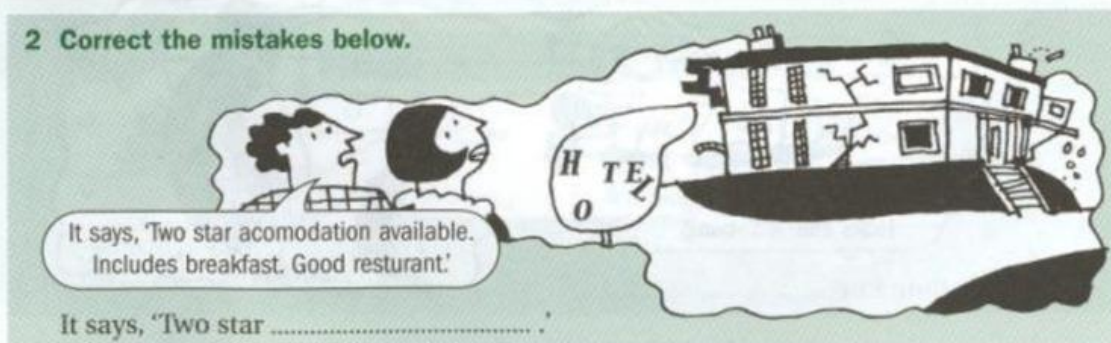
e.g. *programme* = British *program* = American

☆ Use either British or American spellings, but do not mix the two different styles:

(UK) *It's my favourite colour.* or: (US) *It's my favorite color.* (not *It's my favourite color.*)

The following words are also often spelled incorrectly. Pay particular attention to those with double letters: *accommodation, advertisement, always, benefit, beginning, business, commercial, country, different, environment, government, nowadays, occurred, passenger, restaurant, teacher, which*

2 Correct the mistakes below.



3 Correct the spelling mistakes in the sentences below.

- 1 The goverment of my contry has introduced a new system to encourage recycling.
- 2 I am not sure wich of the students has brought there camera.
- 3 Nowdays you need to be sure to read advertisments carefully.
- 4 It makes good comercial sense to invest time and money in your busines.
- 5 My geography teatcher taught us a lot about the enviroment.
- 6 The passangers had to walk throught several corridors to reach the plane.
- 7 My sister has to watch her favourite TV programme every nite.
- 8 There are many benifits in using the internet to book acomodation.