

ADVERBIAL CLAUSES & PAST SIMPLE VS PAST PERFECT

A Skim the article. Was the story about lice true or false?

Menu

Articles

Community

Search

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Believing More Than We Should

Is everything you read on the Internet true? If your answer is "no," you are absolutely right. Many stories and even photos are not to be trusted. And don't believe that because a good friend or a well-known news source has posted something that it is necessarily trustworthy.

There are many reasons for the spread of inaccurate content on the Internet. One reason is that satirical websites can create very believable stories, which they invent in order to make a point or to make people laugh. Other reasons might be an attempt to gain more readers, a desire to damage someone's reputation, or simple curiosity about how far a fake story can spread.

One story that spread throughout the media before anyone had checked the facts involved teenagers, selfies, and head lice. The article claimed that when teenagers were posing together for selfies, their heads often touched and the tiny insects were jumping from head to head. The article went on to say that this was causing a massive outbreak of lice. Some major websites and news outlets picked up the story, not even bothering to consult the experts. It

turned out that some entrepreneurs who were marketing a new treatment for head lice had made up the story and posted it. Their motivation was to get attention and more business.

The spread of this story is understandable. It involved one epidemic (selfies) causing another (lice), and the "ick" factor was irresistible. Because there is so much false information online, there are now websites, such as Snopes and Factcheck, which exist specifically to find out if stories are true or not. So the next time you see a story that sounds too good to be true, at least you have somewhere to turn for verification before you spread false information to all your friends.



B Read the article. Find the words in *italics* in the article. Then check (✓) the meaning of each word.

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|--|
| 1. <i>inaccurate</i> | ☐ not exact or true | ☐ shocking or disgusting |
| 2. <i>satirical</i> | ☐ humorously critical | ☐ completely factual |
| 3. <i>reputation</i> | ☐ hurtful news about someone | ☐ public opinion of someone |
| 4. <i>massive</i> | ☐ small | ☐ very large |
| 5. <i>irresistible</i> | ☐ hard to prove | ☐ hard to fight against |
| 6. <i>verification</i> | ☐ proof of truth | ☐ another opinion |

ADVERBIAL CLAUSES & PAST SIMPLE VS PAST PERFECT

1 Requests with modals, *if* clauses, and gerunds page 17

- Use the simple past form – not the gerund or simple present form – after *if* with *Would you mind . . . ?* and *Would it be all right . . . ?*: **Would you mind if I used** your car? **Would it be all right if I used** your car? (NOT: *Would you mind if I using* your car? OR *Would it be all right if I use* your car?)

Read the situations. Then complete the requests.

- You want to borrow a friend's underwater camera for a diving trip.
A: I was wondering if I could borrow your underwater camera.
B: Sure. That's fine. Just please be careful with it.
- You want to use your roommate's computer.
A: Is it OK _____
B: You can use it, but please don't drink near it.
- Your neighbor has a car. You need a ride to class.
A: Would you mind _____
B: I'd be glad to. What time should I pick you up?
- You want your brother to help you move on Saturday.
A: Can you _____
B: I'm sorry. I'm busy all weekend.
- You would like a second piece of your aunt's cherry pie.
A: Would it be all right _____
B: Yes, of course! Just pass me your plate.
- You want to borrow your cousin's red sweater.
A: Could you _____
B: Sorry. I don't like it when other people wear my clothes.

2 Indirect requests page 20

- In indirect requests with negative infinitives, *not* comes before – not between – the infinitive: Could you tell Allie **not to be** late? (NOT: Could you tell Allie ~~to not be~~ late?)

Complete the indirect requests. Ask someone to deliver the messages to Susie.

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. Are you busy this weekend? | → | Could <u>you ask Susie if she's busy this weekend?</u> |
| 2. Do you want to hang out with me? | → | Can _____ |
| 3. Text me. | → | Can _____ |
| 4. Do you know my address? | → | Can _____ |
| 5. Don't forget to write. | → | Could _____ |
| 6. What are you doing Saturday? | → | Can _____ |
| 7. Do you have plans on Sunday? | → | Could _____ |

ADVERBIAL CLAUSES & PAST SIMPLE VS PAST PERFECT

1 Past continuous vs. simple past page 23

- Verbs for non-actions or states are rarely used in the past continuous: I **wanted** to stop, but I couldn't. (NOT: I ~~was wanting~~ to stop . . .)

Circle the best forms to complete the conversations.

- A: How **did you break** / **were you breaking** your arm?

B: It's a crazy story! Ramon and I **rode** / **were riding** our bikes in the park when a cat **ran** / **was running** out in front of me. I **went** / **was going** pretty fast, so when I **tried** / **was trying** to stop, I **went** / **was going** off the road and **fell** / **was falling**.

A: That's terrible! **Did you go** / **Were you going** to the hospital after it **happened** / **was happening**?

B: Yes. Luckily, we **weren't** / **weren't being** too far from City Hospital, so we **went** / **were going** there.
- A: You'll never guess what **happened** / **was happening** to me this morning!

B: What?

A: Well, I **brushed** / **was brushing** my teeth when suddenly the water **went** / **was going** off. I **had** / **was having** toothpaste all over my mouth, and I couldn't wash it off.

B: So what **did you do** / **were you doing**?

A: Fortunately, I **had** / **was having** a big bottle of water in the refrigerator, so I **used** / **was using** that water to rinse my mouth.

2 Past perfect page 25

- Use the past perfect to show that one past action happened before another past action:

I **wasn't able to** pay for lunch because I **had left** my wallet at work.

PAST ————— X ————— X ————— NOW
 had left my wallet wasn't able to pay

Combine the two ideas into one with a past event and a past perfect event. Use *when* or *because*.

- The museum closed. A thief stole a famous painting earlier.
 The museum closed because a thief had stolen a famous painting earlier.
- We finished cleaning the house. Then our guests arrived.

- Someone robbed my house yesterday. I left the window open.

- There was no food in the house. We forgot to stop at the supermarket.

- I called her three times. She finally answered.

- I knew about the problem. Your brother told me about it.

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Put the words below in the correct order to make the questions. Then answer the questions.

1. you think read the did What you when headline?
2. 'tick'? are hear images in mind the What when word you your
3. about do know ticks? What you
4. a do if on skin? tick was What would you your
5. do have? ticks use What
6. about disease? do know Lyme What you
7. been bitten by? have insects What you
8. country? Have in seen ticks you your
9. 'tick'? do of the think What word you
10. any Are bugs detest? that there you
11. article? Did like reading this you

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12. 'blood'? do hear of the think What when word you you

13. about do read? think What what you you

14. blood? body by do drinking increasing of size their think ticks What you

15. Are creatures large or scariest? small

16. avoid can do ticks? to What we

17. bring? bug-related change climate might other problems What

18. all disappeared? happen if in nature ticks What would

19. change from habits hiking now? Will you your

20. article? ask in like professor questions the the to What would you

