

Confusing pairs and false friends

Confusing pairs are two words which have a similar meaning to each other, but are used in a different way.

or are related to the same topic, but have a different meaning.

or look similar, but have a different meaning

A false friend is a word in English which has a similar-looking word in another language but which has a different meaning.

Complete the following sentences with the appropriate word.

1. actually / now

Please can we go home _____?

It looks quite small, but _____ it is over five metres high.

2. advice / advise

My grandfather gave me a very useful piece of _____.

I _____ you to put all your money into a deposit account.

3. affect / effect

The cuts in spending will have a serious _____ on the hospital.

The strike will seriously _____ the train service.

4. already / yet

I haven't seen her _____ this morning.

I've _____ done my shopping.

5. afraid of / worried about

I am _____ snakes.

She's _____ the baby; he doesn't look very well.

6. avoid / prevent

The police will _____ anyone from leaving the building.

You should travel early to _____ the traffic jams.

7. beside / besides

Come and sit down _____ me.

_____ managing the shop, he also teaches in the evening.

8. bring / fetch

It's your turn to _____ the children from school.

Don't forget to _____ the books to school with you.

9. chance / possibility

Our team has a good _____ of winning tonight.

There is always the _____ that the plane will be early.

10. channel / canal

You can take a boat trip around the _____s of Amsterdam.

Can you switch the television to _____ 4 for the news?

England and France are separated by the _____.