

ACTIVITY 2

Why do students make mistakes? Choose the correct term in the box below for the following descriptions.

TERMS

A. false friend	B. interlanguage	C. L1 interference
D. overgeneralization	E. fossilization	F. developmental error

DESCRIPTIONS

1. When the learner's mother tongue affects their performance in the target language. A learner may make a mistake because they use the same grammatical pattern in the target language as they use in their mother tongue. The L1 grammatical pattern is not appropriate in L2. _____
2. The process in which incorrect language becomes a habit and cannot easily be corrected. _____
3. An error made by a second language learner which is <u>natural part of the language learning process</u> because they are unconsciously organising and working out language. These types of error are also made by children learning their first language and often disappear as their language ability improves. _____
4. When a student uses a grammatical rule he/she has learned, but uses it in situations when it is not needed or appropriate, e.g. a student says <i>There were three girls</i> (correct plural form used for most nouns) <i>and two mans</i> . (incorrect plural form – not appropriate for <i>man</i>). _____
5. The learners own version of the second language which they speak as they learn. They create their own grammatical system as they are learning, which is neither their first language nor the target language but something in between the two. This version of their language changes as they progress and learn more. _____
6. A word in the target language which looks or sounds as if it has the same meaning as a similar word in the learners' first language but does not, e.g. in French ' <i>librairie</i> ' is a place where people can buy books. In a <i>library</i> in English, you do not buy books but borrow them instead. _____