



**PSLE English Mastery**  
**Synthesis /**  
**Transformation**  
**The Write Tribe**

**ALTERNATIVE +  
PREFERENCE**



## instead of

• You use **instead of** to talk about a different choice or action. You put **instead of** before a noun, noun phrase or gerund (ing-form of a verb).

- I shall wear a new dress for my interview. I do not want to wear my old ones.
- **Instead of** my old dresses, I shall wear a new one for my interview.  
noun phrase

- Siti wrote her grandparents a letter. She did not send them a postcard.
- Siti wrote her grandparents a letter **instead of** sending them a postcard.  
gerund

Remove "instead" when you join the sentences with "instead of".

- ↓
- We did not go for a walk in the park. We went shopping instead.
  - **Instead of** going for a walk in the park, we went shopping.  
gerund

- Dad did not sweep the floor yesterday. My brother Mark did it instead.
- **Instead of** Dad, Mark swept the floor yesterday.  
noun      Remember to use the past tense form "swept" in the combined sentence.

Change "in place of" to "instead of" in the rewritten sentence.

- ↓
- In place of the art programme, the students will learn photo editing in the computer room.
  - **Instead of** the art programme, the students will learn photo editing in the computer room.  
↑  
noun phrase

### Practice 3

Rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Your answer must be in ONE sentence. The meaning of your sentence must be the same as the meaning of the given sentence(s).

- 1 Tim is not helping us with the project. He is creating more problems instead.

Instead of

- 2 Mr Kim built a big bungalow with a swimming pool. He did not build a two-storey house.

Instead of

- 3 You should take a taxi to the airport. You should not go by bus.

instead of

- 4 I do not want to buy vegetables from the market. I want to grow my own vegetables instead.

instead of

- 5 I am not able to meet you tomorrow. I will meet you on Friday instead.

instead of

- 6 In place of shops, the ground floor of the mall will have a large playground.

instead of

## prefer, would rather

- The word **prefer** is used to say someone likes something more than another thing. You use **prefer** with **to**. The words **prefer** and **to** are generally followed by nouns, noun phrases or gerunds (ing-form of verbs).

Do not include "like(s)" in the combined sentence.

- Rita likes juice. She does not like coffee.
  - Rita **prefers** juice **to** coffee.
- noun      noun

Do not include "more than" in the rewritten sentence.

- Tom liked to live in the city more than the countryside.
  - Tom **preferred** living in the city **to** the countryside.
- gerund                      noun phrase

Do not include "choose" in the rewritten sentence.

Do not include "rather than" in the rewritten sentence.

- More and more people choose to buy things online rather than go to the shops.
- More and more people **prefer** buying things online **to** going to the shops.

- You can also use **would rather** to talk about preference. It is often followed by a verb in the base form. You use **would rather** with **than**.

- I would rather fail my exam. I do not want to cheat.
- I **would rather** fail my exam **than** cheat.

verb (base form)

- Jenny wanted to buy the handbag on the shelf. She did not want to buy the one on the counter.
- Jenny **would rather** buy the handbag on the shelf **than** the one on the counter.
- We prefer Grandma's cooking to any restaurant food.
- We **would rather** have Grandma's cooking **than** any restaurant food.

#### Practice 4

Rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Your answer must be in ONE sentence. The meaning of your sentence must be the same as the meaning of the given sentence(s).

- 1 The twins do not like outdoor games. They prefer to read.

	prefer	

- 2 I like summer more than winter.

	prefer	

- 3 James preferred playing football to table tennis.

	would rather	

- 4 The soldiers would rather die. They do not want to surrender.

	would rather	

- 5 Dad prefers reading the newspapers to watching the news broadcast on television.

	would rather	

- 6 My brother chose to work during his school holidays rather than take up a course.

	preferred	