

## Confusing words & false friends 2

Complete the following sentence pairs with the appropriate word or phrase.

1. **job / work**

Everybody has the right to a decent ..... with good pay.

During the economic recession, a lot of people found themselves out of .....

2. **lay / lie**

If you're suffering from dehydration, you should drink plenty of water and sit or ..... down for a while.

Before you begin the experiment, you should ..... a large plastic sheet on the ground.

3. **look at / watch**

We need to ..... the situation carefully over the next few weeks and see how things develop.

We need to ..... the problem carefully and decide if there is anything we can do about it.

4. **loose / lose**

Some people are very competitive and hate to ..... a game or competition.

The surface is mainly composed of ..... soil and small stones.

5. **make / cause**

The noise from traffic outside the school can ..... it hard to hear what the teacher is saying.

Hurricanes ..... widespread damage in urban areas.

6. **nature / countryside**

Thousands of ..... lovers head for the national parks every weekend.

I'd rather live in the ..... than in a city.

7. **per cent / percentage**

It is a myth that only ten ..... of Americans hold a passport.

Only a small ..... of land is privately owned.

8. **permission / permit**

I'm afraid we can't ..... photography in the museum.

We received ..... to attend the meeting, as long as we didn't interrupt.

9. **personal / personnel**

My own ..... view is that professional football players are paid far too much.

The company was in trouble until there was a change of ..... on the management team.

10. **possibility / chance**

We might go to Spain for our field trip. Another ..... is that we'll go to Italy instead.

If we act now, we have a good ..... of finding a cure for the disease.

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## 11. practice / practise

It's important to ..... your English whenever possible.

I think I need more ..... before I take the exam.

## 12. priceless / worthless

..... paintings by artists like Van Gogh and Rembrandt should not be in the hands of private collectors.

As inflation spiralled out of control, paper money suddenly became almost .....

## 13. principal / principle

Many people refuse to eat meat on .....

She was appointed University ..... in 2009.

The country's ..... food products are coffee and sugar.

I believe in the ..... that healthcare should be free for everyone.

## 14. problem / trouble

At night, the streets are full of people fighting and generally causing .....

I was wondering if you could help me with a little ..... I'm having.

## 15. process / procession

The highlight of the carnival is a huge ..... along the town's main street.

In some cases, applying for a visa can be a long and frustrating .....

## 16. raise / rise

As prices ....., demand usually drops.

In response to the oil crisis, most airlines had to ..... their fares.

## 17. remember / remind

I can ..... my first day at school really well.

Language teachers often ..... their students that the best way to remember new words is to use them as much as possible.

## 18. respectable / respectful

We all listened in ..... silence as she outlined her plans for the museum's future.

Everybody wants to bring their children up in a ..... neighbourhood.

## 19. tolerable / tolerant

People need to be more ..... of their neighbours, and not complain every time they make too much noise.

The local authorities say that the noise from passing trains is ....., but many living near the railway lines disagree.

## 20. treat / cure

Many hospitals are so understaffed that they are refusing to ..... patients with minor injuries.

The new drug was unable to ..... the disease, and hundreds died as a result.