28 Using nouns: *appearance* and *communication*

1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

1 a Public art can have a considerable effect on the outlook of public spaces.
  b Public art can have a considerable effect on the appearance of public spaces.
2 a We need better communications between parents and teachers.
  b We need better communication between parents and teachers.

The *appearance* of something is the way it looks and a person's *appearance* is the way they look (their face, body, hair, etc.) and the way they dress:
Artificial ingredients are sometimes added to enhance the taste or ***appearance of*** *food.*
Many young women spend a lot of time on their ***appearance****.* (not ~~*their appearances*~~)

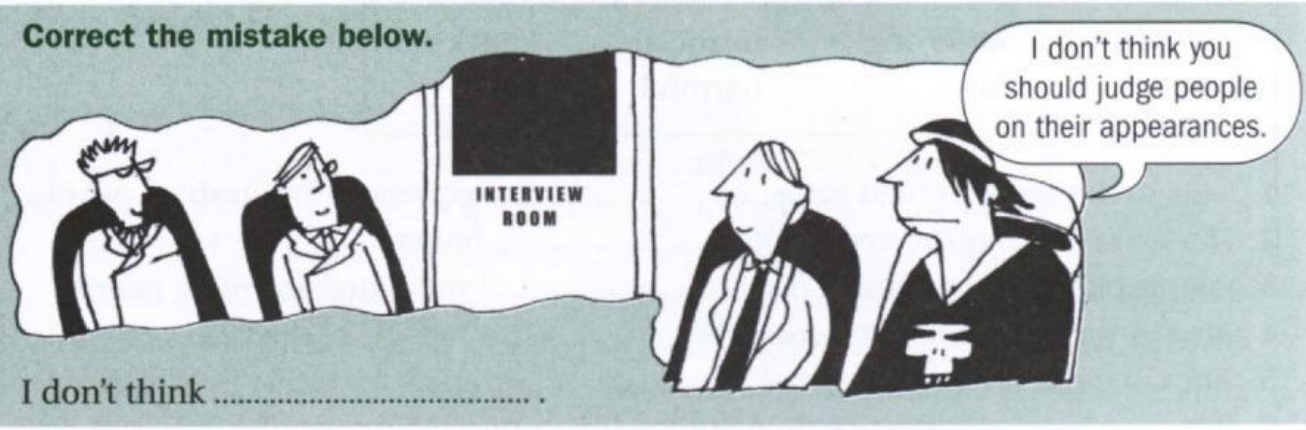
A person's *looks* refers to how attractive they are – their face, etc. but not their clothes:
She had gone grey and ***lost her looks****.* (= she was not as attractive as before)

A person's *outlook* is the way they think about their life and the future:
The accident completely changed ***her outlook on life****. She enjoys each day at a time.*

Communication is an uncountable noun and refers to the act of talking to people:
The job requires excellent ***communication skills****.*
Email is now our main ***means of communication****.* (not ~~*mean of communication*~~)

Communications (plural) refers to all the methods of sending information, for example by telephone, email, post, etc.:
They produce mobile phones and other ***communications*** *equipment.*

2 Correct the mistake below.



I don't think ..... .

3 Underline the correct words.

1 In a digital age, face-to-face *communication/communications* is still important.
2 He's rather scruffy and doesn't pay much attention to his *appearance/looks*.
3 People spend more money on their health and *beauty/appearance* than in the past.
4 Good *communication/communications* are essential for a successful business.
5 He denied that he got the film contract just because of his *looks/appearances*.
6 She's very different from her sister in *outlook/look* and attitudes.
7 Don't be put off by the external *appearance/looks* of the building.
8 Mobiles are now a vital means of *communication/communications* in remote areas.

LIVEWORKSHEETS