Confusing words / Everyday verbs

Can I borrow your pen?

A2 / 25–30 min / Name _____



At an evening class. What is the woman giving her classmate?

1 Spot the difference

borrow / lend
I borrow a pen **from** you. You lend a pen **to** me.

say / tell
Say **something**. Tell **someone** something.

bring / take
Bring it **here**. Take it **there**. Think about where the speaker is.

2 Choose the best words

Circle your answers. Then compare with a partner.

1. I forgot my pen. Can I **lend / borrow** yours?
2. Of course. I can **lend / borrow** you a blue one.
3. Can you **say / tell** me your name?
4. Could you **say / tell** that again, please?
5. I'm in Room 4. Please **bring / take** my bag here.
6. We're in Room 4. Please **bring / take** this note to Room 6.

3 Get ready for class

Work in pairs. Student A has a spare pen and knows the room number. Student B needs a pen and wants to know the room number. Ask for both. Then A asks B to take a note to the teacher in Room 6. Swap roles.

Try: "Can I borrow your pen?" "Sure. I can lend you this one."

Write one thing you said and one thing your partner said.

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Confusing words / Clothes and polite choices

Does it suit me?

B1 / 30–35 min / Name _____



Trying on a jacket. What could you say about the jacket and scarf?

1 Spot the difference

fit / suit / match
Fit is about size. **Suit** is about what looks good on someone or works for an occasion. Things **match** when they go well together.

I don't mind
Either option is fine with me.

It doesn't matter / I don't care
The choice makes no difference / I have no interest or preference. *I don't care* can sound dismissive.

2 Choose the best words

Circle your answers. Then compare with a partner.

1. The jacket is too tight across the shoulders. It doesn't **fit / match**.
2. That shade of green really **fits / suits** you.
3. Do these brown shoes **match / fit** this brown belt?
4. "Blue or black?" "**I don't mind / It doesn't matter** wearing either colour."
5. The scarf won't show in the photo. **It doesn't matter / I don't mind** to the photographer which one you wear.
6. Your friend asks you to choose a café. Which sounds friendlier? **I don't mind. You choose. / I don't care.**

3 Choose an outfit

You need an outfit for a group photo. Choose between a navy jacket (slightly tight) and a green jacket (the right size). Add a green scarf or a cream scarf. Agree on one jacket and one scarf. Use two clothes verbs and one expression about choice.

Try: "The green jacket fits you. Does the cream scarf match it?"

Write your final choice and one reason.

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Confusing words / Editing a news update

Get the story straight

B2 / 35–40 min / Name _____



A local radio studio. What would you double-check before reading a story on air?

1 Spot the difference

actual/actually/currently
Actual = real (*the actual cost*). **Actually** = in fact. **Currently** = at the moment.

affect / effect
A change can **affect** a service. It can have an **effect** on the service.

raise / rise
Someone **raises** a price. The price **rises**. *Rise* has no direct object. Past forms: **raised / rose**.

steal / rob
Someone **steals** an object and **robs** a person or place. Past forms: **stole / robbed**.

2 Choose the best words

Circle your answers. Then compare with a partner.

1. Early reports said £2. The **actual / actually** ticket price is £2.50.
2. "You said £3." "**Currently / Actually**, I said £2.50."
3. Staff are **currently / actual** checking the ticket machines.
4. The change may **affect / effect** commuters. What **affect / effect** might it have?
5. The operator **raised / rose** fares yesterday. Fares **raised / rose** by 50p.
6. Two people **stole / robbed** cash from a kiosk. The same kiosk was **stolen / robbed** last month.

3 Write a 30-second news update

In pairs, write 3–4 sentences using words from three boxes. Bus fares went from £2 to £2.50 yesterday. Some machines still show £2. Staff are checking them now. In a separate incident, someone took a charity tin from the station kiosk. Read your update aloud.

Try: "First, a correction. The actual fare is £2.50."

Draft your update here. Check the verbs and their objects.

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