

B1 Preliminary Reading Part 5 - Confusing verbs

A. Discuss the questions with a partner.

1. What have you borrowed recently? Who did you borrow it from?
2. What would you borrow from a Library of Things? Why?

B. Complete the sentences with the words in each pair. Use each word once.

1. **borrow / lend**: Can I your bike? Can you it to me?
2. **hire / buy**: We can a car for a day or one to keep.
3. **spend / save**: Walk to the shops to money. Don't it all!
4. **collect / deliver**: I'll it from the shop. They can it to my house.
5. **look for / find**: Help me my keys. I can't them anywhere.
6. **learn / teach**: I want to Spanish. Can you me?
7. **remember / remind**: Please me to call her. I won't without help.
8. **keep / return**: You can this book. You don't need to it.

C. Read the text. For questions 1–6, choose A, B, C or D. Example 0 is done.

Borrowing instead of buying

The Library of Things at London's Barbican Library offers a (0) of useful equipment, including drills and sewing machines. Instead of buying these things, people can (1) them and give them back after use. This can save money when an item is only needed for one job.

The service is not free: you pay to (2) equipment for a short period. You choose an item online, then (3) it yourself from a locker inside the library. Before using it, (4) to read the instructions.

If you cannot find an item at your nearest location, you can check other locations on the website. After use, you must (5) the equipment to the same locker, ready for the next person. People with no repair experience can also (6) new skills at sessions with their neighbours. The idea is simple: share equipment, use less space at home and buy fewer things.

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|-------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| 0 A row | B side | © range | D level |
| 1 A lend | B provide | C offer | D borrow |
| 2 A order | B own | C hire | D sell |
| 3 A collect | B deliver | C send | D lend |
| 4 A notice | B remind | C remember | D realise |
| 5 A return | B keep | C remain | D stay |
| 6 A teach | B learn | C revise | D explain |

Confusing verbs - Language reference

Learn the meaning and the sentence pattern. Each pair shows a useful difference.

borrow / lend

borrow: get something to give back later

lend: give something for a short time

Can I borrow your pen?

I'll lend you mine.

hire / buy

hire: pay to use something for a time

buy: pay to own something

We hired a car for the weekend.

She bought a new bike.

spend / save

spend: use money to pay for something

save: keep money or use less of it

I spent £5 on lunch.

Cycling saves me money.

collect / deliver

collect: go somewhere to get something

deliver: take something to a person or place

I'll collect the cake from the shop.

They deliver food to your door.

look for / find

look for: try to discover where something is

find: discover where something is

I'm looking for my glasses.

I found them under the sofa.

learn / teach

learn: get new knowledge or skills

teach: help someone get knowledge or skills

I'm learning to drive.

My dad is teaching me.

remember / remind

remember: not forget something

remind: help someone remember

Remember to lock the door.

Please remind me to take my keys.

keep / return

keep: have something and not give it back

return: take or give something back

You can keep the bag.

Please return the book tomorrow.

say / tell

say: use words to express something

tell: give someone information

What did she say?

Tell me your name.

hear / listen to

hear: notice a sound

listen to: give your attention to a sound

I heard a noise outside.

I listen to music on the bus.

see / watch

see: notice something with your eyes

watch: look at something for a time

I can see a bird in the tree.

We watched it build a nest.

win / earn

win: get a prize or be first in a competition

earn: get money for doing work

Our team won the match.

She earns money at a café.

hope / wait for

hope: want something to happen

wait for: stay until something happens

I hope the bus comes soon.

I'm waiting for the bus.

wear / carry

wear: have clothes on your body

carry: hold and move something

He's wearing a blue coat.

He's carrying a heavy bag.

arrive / reach

arrive: get to a place; use at or in

reach: get to a place; no preposition

We arrived at the station at six.

We reached the station at six.

know / meet

know: be familiar with a person

meet: see someone for the first time

I've known Eva for years.

We met at school.

Answer Key

A.

Answers vary.

B.

1. borrow; lend
2. hire; buy
3. save; spend
4. collect; deliver
5. look for; find
6. learn; teach
7. remind; remember
8. keep; return

C.

0. C range
1. D borrow
2. C hire
3. A collect
4. C remember
5. A return
6. B learn