# Commonly Mispronounced Words

1. **Accept:** verb, to take willingly or to respond favourably or without protest.

**e.g.** We accepted the invitation to go to the party.

1. **Except:** preposition, to exclude or a fact that prevents a statement from being completely true It can also be a verb meaning to leave out.

**e.g.** Everyone arrived on time except Matthew.

1. **Adapt:** verb, to change in order to make suitable.

**e.g.** Over time, most animals and humans adapt very well to their circumstances.

1. **Adept:** adjective, skilful.

**e.g.** Praveen is adept at finding reasons to miss work.

1. **Adopt:** verb, to take something or someone as one’s own.

**e.g.** We decided not to adopt the new policy.

1. **Access:** noun, permission or ability to enter or use. It can also be a verb meaning to get access to.

**e.g.** Only senior-level employees have access to the dining room and lounge.

1. **Excess:** noun or adjective, more than enough.

**e.g.** I hope you don’t have any excess baggage.

1. **Addition:** noun, something added or the process or result of adding.

**e.g.** Let me introduce you to a great addition to our team, Ashutosh Gowarikar

1. **Edition:** noun, version of a publication.

**e.g.** Do we have the latest edition of the dictionary?

1. **Adverse:** adjective, unfavourable or contrary.

**e.g.** They were unable to finish the tournament because of adverse weather conditions.

1. **Averse:** adjective, having a feeling of dislike or distaste.

**e.g.** The manager is averse to hiring new employees.

1. **Advice:** noun, recommendation, suggestion, or counsel.

**e.g.** He usually gives quite sound advice.

1. **Advise:** verb, to recommend or give advice; can also mean to inform.

**e.g.** He promised to advise us on which course of action to take.

1. **Affect:** verb, to act upon or influence.

**e.g.** His negative attitude affects everything he does.

1. **Effect:** noun, a result. Also can be a verb meaning to cause or bring about.

**e.g.** We’re not sure yet what the effects of the voting results will be.

1. **Allusion:** noun, a reference, often literary, to something else.

**e.g.** That movie contained many allusions to Shakespeare’s works.

1. **Illusion:** noun, a deceiving image or perception.

**e.g.** His apparent wealth was nothing more than an illusion.

1. **A lot:** (two words): adjective, many.

# Alot (one word) is not correct.

**e.g.** They received a lot of complaints after changing the design of their product.

1. **Allot:** (one word): verb, to distribute or to assign a share or portion.

**e.g.** The Nelsons chose to allot 10 percent of their income to charity.

1. **All ready:** (two words): prepared.

**e.g.** The team members were all ready to go when we arrived to pick them up.

1. **Already:** (one word): adverb, previously; prior to a specified time.

**e.g.** They had already finished the presentation when we arrived.

1. **All right:** (two words): adjective or adverb, agreeable or satisfactory.

**e.g.** Are you sure that it is all right if we arrive late tomorrow?

1. **Alright:** (one word): a variant of all right. ***Note:*** *Although alright is widely used, it is not used as frequently as all right: and it is considered nonstandard English by many.*

**e.g.** She smiled at him, and [said](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/said) yes, she thought that would be alright.

1. **Altogether:** (one word): adverb, entirely, wholly, completely.

**e.g.** I felt the movie was altogether too horrific.

1. **All together:** (two words): gathered; with everyone or everything in one place.

**e.g.** The managers were all together at the meeting last week.

1. **Amiable:** adjective, agreeable, easy to work with.

**e.g.** My new co-workers are quite amiable.

1. **Amicable:** adjective, peaceable, not hostile.

**e.g.** The manager and the director have quite an amicable relationship

1. **Ascent:** noun, climb.

**e.g.** After a quick lunch, they resumed their ascent toward the summit.

1. **Assent:** verb or noun, to give agreement.

**e.g.** The prospective employee assented to a background check.

1. **Assure:** verb, to make sure or certain or to give confidence to.

**e.g.** When they told the employees they were being laid off, they assured them it was only temporary.

1. **Ensure:** verb, to make sure or certain.

**e.g.** Before agreeing to an investment, my brother always ensures he will make a decent profit.

1. **Insure:** verb, to arrange for monetary compensation in the event of loss.

**e.g.** I don’t think that the building is adequately insured against possible damage.

1. **Awhile:** adverb, for a short period of time.

**e.g.** I hope that we can stay at the park awhile.

1. **A while:** noun, an unspecified (though usually short) amount of time.

**e.g.** They said they would arrive in a while.

1. **Beside:** preposition, next to.

**e.g.** He said he would always stand beside me.

1. **Besides:** adverb, also. Also used as a preposition meaning other than: or except.

**e.g.** He likes to eat guacamole besides. Did anyone besides Smita arrive early?

1. **Between:** preposition, in the middle in relation to two things or people or in the time, space, or interval that separates two things.

**e.g.** The car between the two vans is mine.

1. **Among:** preposition, in or through the midst of or surrounded by.

**e.g.** Among all the people that I know, John is the most ambitious.

1. **Flagrant:** adjective, conspicuously offensive; wilful flouting of law or morality

**e.g.** The accountant’s flagrant violation of the law was apparent when he was arrested for embezzling company money.

1. **Breath:** noun, air inhaled or exhaled.

**e.g.** Eating some foods can cause bad breath.

1. **Breathe:** verb, to inhale or exhale.

**e.g.** During our aerobic training, we were taught to breathe evenly and deeply.

1. **Capital: i**. noun, seat of government, **ii.** also, an amount of money used for investment. As an adjective, it may refer to money or assets that add to the worth of an entity, or to an act that is punishable by death.

**e.g.** i. Paris is the capital of France.

ii. They plan to increase their advertising once they acquire more capital.

1. **Capitol:** noun, the building in which the governing body meets.

**e.g.** My daughter’s class took a field trip to the capitol yesterday.

1. **Cereal:** noun, grain from plants such as corn or wheat.

**e.g.** I eat cereal every morning for breakfast.

1. **Serial:** adjective, of, relating to, consisting of, or arranged in sequence; also a noun, meaning series.

**e.g.** Do you know what the serial number is on that item? I believe that TV program is a serial, isn’t it?

1. **Cite:** verb, to quote or mention or to call attention to.

**e.g.** The author cited several other works that discuss the issue in more detail.

1. **Sight:** noun, the ability to see; also verb, to catch sight of something.

**e.g.** After she lost her sight, my grandmother listened to books on her a cassette tape.

1. **Site:** noun, a place or location.

**e.g.** The employees arrive at the building site every morning at seven.

1. **Coarse:** adjective, rough, vulgar; the opposite of fine.

**e.g.** This coarse material isn’t really appropriate for making clothing.

1. **Course:** noun, a planned route or program or a playing range for golf. Also used in the expression of course.

**e.g.** This math class is the hardest course I’ve ever taken.

1. **Compliment:** noun, a word of praise. As a verb, to give praise.

**e.g.** Every day he pays his wife a heartfelt compliment.

1. **Complement:** noun, something that completes, adds to, or fills in something else. As a verb, to complete by adding something to make something else whole.

**e.g.** The new acquisition is a complement to our other holdings.

1. **Conscience:** noun, sense of right and wrong as related to one’s own conduct.

**e.g.** I’ve found it best to always let my conscience be my guide.

1. **Conscious:** adjective, capable of perceiving, noticing, or observing; aware of; awake.

**e.g.** Until that moment, Satya was not conscious of the noise.

1. **Console:** i. verb, to give comfort in a time of need, ii. a noun meaning a [panel](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/panel) with a number of [switches](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/switch) or [knobs](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/knob) that is used to [operate](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/operate) a machine.

**e.g.** i. I did my best to console my friend after the death of her spouse.

ii. After buying the new console, my gaming skills have really improved.

1. **Consul:** an individual who represents his or her country in a foreign country.

**e.g.** The British consul had made a wonderful impression on the government leaders.

1. **Council:** noun, a group that consults or advises or that is chosen to represent others.

**e.g.** The members of the town council could not agree on the issue.

1. **Counsel:** verb, to advise. It can also be a noun meaning advice or legal adviser.

**e.g.** I counselled her not to act rashly. My parents always gave me wise counsel. Have you met the defendant’s counsel?

1. **Discreet:** adjective, prudent and tactful; showing good judgment or discernment.

**e.g.** She’s making a few discreet inquiries with her mother’s friends.

1. **Discrete:** adjective, separate, individually distinct.

**e.g.** Didn’t Texans always want to remain a discrete society?

1. **Elicit:** verb, to draw forth or bring out.

**e.g.** The director was not sure how to elicit a truthful response from her colleague.

1. **Illicit:** adjective, illegal.

**e.g.** You will be terminated for participating in illicit activities.