

Effect vs. Affect

'Effect' and 'Affect' are words that are easy to confuse when you're writing.

Affect is always **VERB** and it is used to mean "to influence" or "to change" or 'to make a difference to'.

E.g.

The rain began to affect my health.

This is because the rain is making a difference, influencing or changing someone's health.

Effect vs. Affect

'Effect' and 'Affect' are words that are easy to confuse when you're writing.

Effect is usually a **NOUN** and it is "the result," "the change," or "the influence." It can also be used to talk about 'special effects.'

e.g.

The effect of studying will be a better grade. This is because there is a clear result from studying.

A verb or A noun?

...but how do I tell if it's a verb or a noun?

Effect= noun (a naming word). You can always tell if something is a noun if you can put 'a', 'an' or 'the' before it.

e.g.

'The effect of the wind was dramatic.'

'Her words had a great effect on the audience.'

So... if you're unsure if it's EFFECT or AFFECT think - could you put 'a', 'an' or 'the' before it?

If you can then you need EFFECT.

Practice and Practise

Similarly, 'Practice' and 'Practise' can be easy to confuse.

Practice is a **NOUN** and it is used:

- To talk about a place of work/ or a person's job

e.g. 'a lawyer's practice' 'a medical practice.'

To discuss a meeting or regular event

e.g.

The football practice will be after school.

Practice and Practise

Similarly, 'Practice' and 'Practise' can be easy to confuse.

Practise is a **VERB** and it is used to talk about **PERFORMING** or **DOING** an action. It usually follows the word 'to'.

e.g. I am going to **PRACTISE** my guitar.

I need to **PRACTISE** my French

A verb or A noun?

...but how do I tell if it's a verb or a noun?

Practice = noun (a naming word). You can always tell if something is a noun if you can put 'a', 'an' or 'the' before it.

e.g.

'The practice lasted an hour.

'A practice was called so that the students could rehearse.

So... if you're unsure if it's PRACTICE or PRACTISE think - could you put 'a', 'an' or 'the' before it? If you can then you need: Practice.

ANSWERS: Fill in the blanks to use the correct form of EFFECT or AFFECT and PRACTISE and PRACTICE.

1. The overall _____ was surprising.
2. When he lighted the oil a hundred tongues of flame shot up, and the _____ was really imposing.
3. The cold had a great _____ on him.
4. Poverty can _____ anyone, regardless of age, race, gender or social background.
5. The small town was _____ by the natural disaster.
6. They went to _____ the piano.
7. The doctor worked at a medical _____.
8. She needs to _____ her German vocabulary for the test.
9. The netball _____ was cancelled because of bad weather.
10. He left school early to _____ his speech.

ANSWERS: Fill in the blanks to use the correct form of EFFECT or AFFECT and PRACTISE and PRACTICE.

1. The overall EFFECT was surprising.
2. When he lighted the oil a hundred tongues of flame shot up, and the EFFECT was really imposing.
3. The cold had a great EFFECT on him.
4. Poverty can AFFECT anyone, regardless of age, race, gender or social background.
5. The small town was AFFECTED by the natural disaster.
6. They went to PRACTISE the piano.
7. The doctor worked at a medical PRACTICE.
8. She needs to PRACTISE her German vocabulary for the test.
9. The netball PRACTICE was cancelled because of bad weather.
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