

# Writing in Standard English

Ever wondered about the differences between Standard and non-Standard English? I have...

## Standard and non-Standard English are different

1. Standard English follows spelling, punctuation and grammar rules. It's a more formal type of English.
2. Non-Standard English doesn't follow formal spelling, punctuation and grammar rules. It's a more informal type of English.

## Non-Standard English is found in speech

3. People sometimes use non-Standard English when they speak. You need to use Standard English in your writing.

~~I aren't sure.~~ → I am not sure. ✓

I'm ~~well~~ happy. → I'm really happy. ✓

It ~~were~~ great. → It was great. ✓

We ~~was~~ going. → We were going. ✓

He ~~was sat.~~ → He was sitting. ✓

He would ~~of~~ won. → He would have won. ✓

We haven't got ~~none.~~ → We haven't got any. ✓

I was ~~been~~ silly. → I was being silly. ✓

1. Using Standard English makes your writing clear and easy to understand. You are expected to write in Standard English in all subjects and you will lose marks in your GCSE exams if you don't do this.
2. Using non-Standard English can make your writing more friendly, so you might use it to write to a friend. However, using non-Standard English might make people think you can't use SPaG correctly, so it's best to stick to Standard English for most work.