

The British use “do” in a different way than Americans.

British English	American English
Come stay with us. I may do.	Come stay with us. I may.
He’s supposed to lock the safe. He has done.	He has.
I was thinking of her as I have never done before.	I was thinking of her as I never have before.
He didn’t pass his exam, but he could have done.	He didn’t pass his exam, but he could have.
I like the saxophone and I always have done.	I like the saxophone and I always have.

Using Make or Do

- Who (makes/does) those cute dresses? My mother _____.
- Do you (make/do) the laundry? No, my wife _____.
- Who (made/did) this mess? The kids _____ it.
- I like to (make/do) cookies. I _____ too.
- She (makes/does) her shopping online. I never _____ online.
- I think I will (make/do) fried chicken for dinner. I _____ know how to make that.
- You will (make/do) more money working for yourself. But I _____ want to work for myself. I like working for other people.
- Mother will (make/do) a cake for you to take to class. What kind will she _____?
- The painter did not (make/do) a good job. No, he _____.
- My sister (made/did) my hair. She _____ a good job.
- I (made/did) a mistake when I added up my expenses. Did you _____ a big mistake?
- What shall we (make/do) about his hearing problems? We can _____ nothing. He is not our responsibility.
- She didn’t (make/do) anything wrong. Yes, she _____.
- Is there something I can (make/do) for you? _____ you know where Dr. Jeffries office is?
- I (made/did) little work today. Why _____ you _____ little work?
- I need to (make/do) some ironing before I get dressed. I will _____ it for you.
- During the holidays I will (make/do) some reading and take some naps. I _____ like to read. I prefer to listen to music.
- I (made/did) some letter writing this afternoon. Who _____ you write?
- Let’s (make/do) a plan for Sunday. What _____ you want to _____ on Sunday?
- He (made/did) no harm. He _____ a lot of harm.
- (Make/Do) me a favor and turn down the radio. _____ you ask me to turn down the radio?
- Please (make/do) your bed. I will _____ it later.
- She (made/did) a fortune in the insurance business. _____ she share her money with her family?
- May I (make/do) a suggestion? Sure, what would you _____ about this problem?
- Let me (make/do) a phone call, then we can go. Please _____ it quickly.
- I didn’t (make/do) much progress on painting the house today because of the rain. You can _____ it tomorrow.
- I asked the school to (make/do) an exception and let my son enroll late. Did they _____ an exception?
- They (made/did) an offer on our house. How much _____ they offer?
- The building is on fire! Someone (make/do) something! _____ you call the fire department?
- We (make/do) business with a company in Singapore. Do you often _____ business with overseas companies?
- They haven’t (made/done) a decision yet. What _____ you think they will decide?
- Have you (made/done) an attempt to contact the manager? Yes, I have _____ that several times.

Read these conversations twice. Underline words you don't understand. After reading, explain the conversation to the group in your own words. Try not to look at the conversation as you explain.

Pay attention to "had on" and "wearing" in this conversation. Do they mean the same thing?

Lynn: Did you see Sara? She had on the most unusual outfit.

Tom: I heard she was wearing her pajamas over her tights.

Lynn: Yes, she wears the strangest things.

Tom: She has unusual taste in clothes.

Leslie: Due to the bad weather, the company postponed the picnic.

Carla: That's a good idea because it rained during the picnic last year. Everyone got drenched. I don't want to repeat that experience.

Leslie: Yes, that was the cause of this year's postponement. The company didn't want to have a lot of unhappy employees. I don't think the weather would have been as bad this year as it was last year, though.

Are you postponing anything in your life right now? For example, some people postpone having children until their careers are established.

Pay attention to the use of "during" in this conversation.

Charles: Do you know Li and Chu?

Sam: Yes, I met them during my stay in China last year.

Charles: Were you in China during the New Year?

Sam: No. During the New Year, we stayed in Thailand.

Pay attention to the use of "each" and "every" in this conversation.

Jeff: I like my new job because each day is different. I spend several days in each department learning the ropes. Management likes new employees like me to get to know the staff in every department.

Carol: Are you expected to know the names of every person in each department?

Jeff: Not exactly. I am expected to know the names of every manager. I spend several hours with each manager, so it is not hard to remember their names.

Carol: And each new employee does this?

Jeff: Not every employee. Just the manager trainees, like myself.

Pay attention to "each other" and "one another". Do they mean the same thing?

Amy: The students decided who should get the starring role in the musical this year. They listened to each other singing. Then they voted to decide who was the best.

Susan: Is that unusual? Doesn't the teacher usually assign roles?

Amy: The drama teacher is very unorthodox. She believes students should take responsibility for the production of the plays. The students decide on one another's jobs.

Susan: Don't the students just vote for the most popular kids?

Amy: No, they are good at knowing each other's talents. Sometimes they know better than the teacher.

Do you think it's a good idea to put students in charge of the school play? Did you ever have an unorthodox teacher?

Again, pay attention to "each other" and "one another".

Jan: Is it hard being married to someone who lives in another state?

Brad: Not really. We talk to each other every day. We Skype with one another most evenings while we eat dinner. It's just like being in the same room.

Have you ever lived apart from your husband or wife? Was it difficult?