

## Business and Technical English Easily Confused words Same or Different Pairwork

### Student A

By first of all reading out the word in italics and then the whole sentence, decide if the word you have and the word your partner has have the same or different meanings.

1. This is *an excellent company* to work for- I love it!
2. I do all my shopping in just one *department store*- shopping around is just a waste of time.
3. You can smell that the air isn't clean when you are near the area with all the chemical *plants* in it.
4. He never answers his mobile, so I have to leave a *note* on his computer screen asking him to get back to me
5. I don't think receiving *a free gift* has ever influenced my buying decisions
6. A good presenter must always summarize the *key points* of what he or she has said before they give their final conclusion.
7. You have to dial *zero* twice before the international dialling code.
8. It's really difficult to find anything in this town because there are no street *signs*.

Do you think any of the sentences above are true for your partner? Tell them which sentences and check.

Discuss the words and expressions below with a partner- do they have the same or different meanings?

- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Just 6% and exactly 6%                          | A CV/ a resume                  |
| A sales point and a selling point               | A share and a market share      |
| A sub and an assistant                          | A claim and a complaint         |
| An end user/ a consumer                         | A working woman/ a career woman |
| Meet man to man/ meet face to face              | Wide/ long                      |
| Pay a premium/ pay an additional charge         |                                 |
| 3 kilos/ 3k                                     |                                 |
| An antenna/ an aerial                           |                                 |
| Aluminium/ aluminum                             |                                 |
| a PET bottle and a plastic bottle               |                                 |
| Customized/ tailor made/ bespoke                |                                 |
| A cash register/ a till                         |                                 |
| A building/ an office building/ an office block |                                 |
| A post/ a post box                              |                                 |
| A bill/ a building                              |                                 |
| A freshman/ a new recruit                       |                                 |

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### Student B

By first of all reading out the word in italics and then the whole sentence, decide if the word you have and the word your partner has have the same of different meanings.

1. Even investing your money in *blue chip companies* is not a sure bet nowadays.
2. Once you are working for one *department*, you are unlikely to be able to switch.
3. I used to think working in a car *factory* was a terrible job, but it's better than many of the service jobs that have replaced it.
4. Everyone was standing round the water cooler talking about whether the latest *memo* from the CEO meant job cuts or not
5. The economy class seats are pretty much always the same in any airline; it's the *service* that makes the difference
6. The police sometimes set up *checkpoints* to check people's documents or test for drunk driving.
7. I sometimes write *nought* so that it looks like a six when I'm not paying attention
8. I write my *signature* so quickly that it's impossible to read my name.

Do you think any of the sentences above are true for your partner? Tell them which sentences and check.

Discuss the words and expressions below with a partner- do they have the same or different meanings?

Just 6% and exactly 6%

A CV/ a resume

A sales point and a selling point

A share and a market share

A sub and an assistant

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An end user/ a consumer

A working woman/ a career woman

Meet man to man/ meet face to face

Wide/ long

Pay a premium/ pay an additional charge

3 kilos/ 3k

An antenna/ an aerial

Aluminium/ aluminum

a PET bottle and a plastic bottle

Customized/ tailor made/ bespoke

A cash register/ a till

A building/ an office building/ an office block

A post/ a post box

A bill/ a building

A freshman/ a new recruit