

Make or Do? Common English Collocations

Level: A2

Some English phrases use make; others use do. Learn the whole phrase, then choose the right verb in the exercises.

With make

make a mistake	Do something incorrectly.	It is okay to make a mistake .
make a decision	Choose between options.	We need to make a decision .
make a plan	Decide what to do.	Let us make a plan .
make a list	Write items in order.	I make a list before class.
make a phone call	Call someone on the phone.	I need to make a phone call .
make noise	Create a loud sound.	Please do not make noise .
make friends	Get to know new people.	It is easy to make friends here.
make money	Earn money.	She wants to make money this summer.
make breakfast	Prepare the morning meal.	I make breakfast at seven.
make progress	Improve over time.	You make progress with practice.

With do

do homework	Complete school work at home.	I do homework after school.
do housework	Clean and care for your home.	We do housework on Saturday.
do exercise	Move your body to stay fit.	I do exercise every morning.
do a job	Carry out a particular task.	They can do a job for us.
do some work	Complete a task.	I do some work today.
do the dishes	Wash plates and cups.	I do the dishes after dinner.
do the laundry	Wash clothes.	We do the laundry on Sunday.
do your best	Try as hard as you can.	Please do your best .
do me a favour	Help me with a small task.	Can you do me a favour ?
do a test	Answer the questions in a test.	We do a test every Friday.

Exercise 1: Match the word and meaning

Match each English item with its meaning.

1. make a mistake → _____
2. make a plan → _____
3. make a phone call → _____
4. make money → _____

5. do homework → _____

6. do some work → _____

Call someone on the phone. Complete a task. Complete school work at home. Decide what to do.
Do something incorrectly. Earn money.

Exercise 2: Make or do?

Choose the verb that completes each phrase.

7. ___ a mistake

a) make b) do

8. ___ homework

a) make b) do

9. ___ a decision

a) make b) do

10. ___ the dishes

a) make b) do

11. ___ friends

a) make b) do

12. ___ your best

a) make b) do

Exercise 3: Complete the English

Type the missing word.

13. Sometimes I ___ when I answer too fast. (Do something incorrectly.)

14. Before our trip, let's ___ for each day. (Decide what to do.)

15. I need to speak to Ana, so I want to ___. (Phone someone.)

16. She works on weekends to ___. (Earn money.)

17. After school, I ___ for class tomorrow. (School work at home.)

18. After dinner, I wash the plates. I ___. (Wash plates and cups.)

Answer key

Exercise 1: Match the word and meaning

1. make a mistake → Do something incorrectly.
2. make a plan → Decide what to do.
3. make a phone call → Call someone on the phone.
4. make money → Earn money.
5. do homework → Complete school work at home.
6. do some work → Complete a task.

Exercise 2: Make or do?

7. a) make
8. b) do
9. a) make
10. b) do
11. a) make
12. b) do

Exercise 3: Complete the English

13. make a mistake
14. make a plan
15. make a phone call
16. make money
17. do homework
18. do the dishes