

When to use where, were and wear

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English as a language is full of <u>confusing words</u>. The way we speak and the way we write is different. There are some words that sound same but are spelt differently. These words are known as homophones. There are many words that sound similar but the way they are spelt and the meaning are entirely different. So, to do away with the confusion, we have compiled a list of words that confuse us the most. Recognizing and understanding them will help you improve your English.

Today, we will help you to understand the difference between where, were and wear.



Where

Where is the most adaptable of the three words. Where can function as a conjunction, a pronoun and an adverb. The uses of where is related do with a place, location, or situation. It has to do with directions. Let's have a look at few examples

The book is where you left it. (Conjunction)
Where did you come from? (Pronoun)
Where does this affect us? (Adverb)
Where is used under three circumstances:

a. To refer to a point of reference, which requires the preposition "from" in the sentence

Examples:

- Where did that dress come from?
- From where did you order this dress?
- b. To refer to a destination, which doesn't require the preposition "to".

Examples:

- Where are you going?

If you add "to" in the sentence that doesn't look correct:

- Where are you going to? This sentence doesn't look correct.

c. Where can sometimes be used to mean "in which."

Examples:

- There is not a single instance where I didn't miss you.
- There is not a single instance in which I didn't miss you.

Were

Were is used to describe something that happened in the past.

Examples:

- What were you doing yesterday?
- My parents were out of town last week.

Since were is a verb, it can be separated from where because where cannot function as a verb.

Examples:

- Where is the cat? (Correct)
- The cat is were? (Incorrect)
- The cat is where?(Correct)

In the above sentences, there is already a verb, so "were" cannot be the correct choice.

Wear

Wear means, "to carry or have on the body or about the person as a covering, equipment, ornament," Wear can also be a noun such as wear and tear on a car. Wear has to do with clothing.

Examples:

- Are you wearing my t-shirt?
- My mother wears glasses.

The above explanation might have cleared the confusion between where, were and wear. In order to <u>improve</u> <u>your English</u>, you can join a Spoken English course and learn English grammar and its usage with ease.

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-By Chander Madan

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