



PET COMMON WRITING MISTAKES 8

Near, nearby, or next to?

1. Circle the correct alternatives below.

Example: My girlfriend works in a near nearby restaurant.

1. I walk to school because I live near / nearby.
2. Jasmine sat right near / nearby / next to me so she could see what I was writing.
3. The shopping centre is quite near / nearby / next to the city.

2. Read the rules 1–5 and then match them to the examples a–e.

Near and nearby both mean not far away. However

1. use nearby as an adjective before a noun:
2. use nearby as an adverb:
3. use near as a preposition:
4. say nearer and nearest, not more/most nearby:
5. Use next to when describing two people or things that are very close to each other:

a Dimitri heard the noise because he was working nearby.

b I always sat next to my best friend at school.

c Jan travels to work from a nearby village.

d Tamara lives near the station.

e Which is the nearest underground station? Can you come nearer?

3. Each of the sentences below contains a mistake made by intermediate students. Find and correct the mistakes. In some sentences, more than one answer is possible.

Example: We are going to go to a ~~near~~ nearby island, which is called Eigina.

1. The theatre is conveniently located nearby to the Bradford bus station.
2. The town has an excellent park nearby our hotel.
3. He lives next to my village, in Mirambel.

4. Complete the sentences below by writing nearby, next to, or the correct form of near in each gap. In some sentences, more than one answer is possible.

Example: Carla wanted to leave early, so she sat ...near OR near to OR next to... the door.

1. Is there a bank? I need to get some money out.
2. We live some very noisy neighbours and we can hear everything they say.
3. I thought she was crying, but as I got I realised she was laughing.
4. We live the sea – we can drive there in less than ten minutes.

ANSWERS

1.
 - 1 nearby
 - 2 next to
 - 3 near

2.
 - 2 a
 - 3 d
 - 4 e
 - 5 b

3.
 - 1 nearby near OR next to
 - 2 nearby near OR next to
 - 3 next to near

4.
 - 1 nearby
 - 2 next to
 - 3 nearer
 - 4 near