

- _____ 9. In 1958, a largest recorded wave, with a height of 500 meters, occurred in Lituya Bay,
Alaska.
A B C D
- _____ 10. Exercise in swimming pools is particularly helpful because of the buoyant
effect water.
A B C D

PROBLEMS WITH USAGE

In English certain groups of words have similar uses, and these words are sometimes confused in written expression questions on the TOEFL test. Although various usage problems are possible on the TOEFL test, the following problems are the most common: (1) when to use *make* and *do*; (2) when to use *like*, *unlike*, and *alike*; and (3) when to use *other*, *another*, and *others*.

SKILL 58: DISTINGUISH MAKE AND DO

Make and *do* can be confused in English because their meanings are so similar. Since the difference between *make* and *do* is tested on the TOEFL test, you should learn to distinguish them.

Make often has the idea of *creating* or *constructing*. The following expressions show some of the possible uses of *make*:

- She likes to *make* her own clothes.
- Would you like to *make* a cake for dessert?
- If you *make* a mistake, you should correct it.
- He was unable to *make* a response to the threat.

Do often has the idea of *completing* or *performing*. The following expressions show some of the possible uses of *do*:

- This morning she *did* all the dishes.
- The students *are doing* the assignments.
- The janitors *did* the work they were assigned.
- You can *do* your laundry at the laundromat.

These are only some of the uses of *make* and *do*. Many uses of *make* and *do* are idiomatic and therefore difficult to classify.

EXERCISE 58: Each of the following sentences contains *make* or *do*. Circle *make* or *do*. Draw arrows to the nouns that complete the expressions. Then indicate if the sentences are correct (C) or incorrect (I).

- I 1. The biology student (did) several mistakes in the lab report.
- C 2. I hope that you will be able to (do) me a favor this afternoon.
- _____ 3. No matter what job she has, she always makes her best.
- _____ 4. The runner did a strong effort to increase her speed in the mile race.
- _____ 5. It is comforting to think that your work can make a difference.
- _____ 6. His grade was not very good because he had not done his homework.
- _____ 7. In this job you will make more money than in your previous job.
- _____ 8. He was unable to do dinner because no one had done the lunch dishes.
- _____ 9. It is a pleasure to work with someone who always makes the right thing.
- _____ 10. If you make a good impression at your job interview, you will get the job.

SKILL 59: DISTINGUISH LIKE, ALIKE, AND UNLIKE

Like, *alike*, and *unlike* are easily confused because they look so similar and they have many different uses. There are several structures with *like*, *alike*, and *unlike* that you should be familiar with.

The first structures you should already be familiar with are the adjectives *alike* and *like* (see Skill 50). Study the use of *alike* and *like* in the following examples.

John and Tom are *alike*.
John and Tom worked in a *like* manner.

In both these examples, *alike* and *like* are adjectives that mean *similar*. In the first example, *alike* is a predicate adjective describing *John* and *Tom*. Because *alike* is a predicate adjective, it can only be used after a linking verb such as *are*. In the second example, *like* is the adjective form that is used immediately before the noun *manner*.

The next structures you should be familiar with are the prepositions *like* and *unlike*, which have opposite meanings. Because they are prepositions, they must be followed by objects.

John is (*like* Tom).
John is (*unlike* Tom).

In the first example, the preposition *like* is followed by the object *Tom*. It means that Tom and John are similar. In the second example, the preposition *unlike* is followed by the object *Tom*. It means that Tom and John are not similar.

The prepositions *like* and *unlike* can also be used at the beginning of a sentence.

(*Like* Tom), John is tall.
(*Unlike* Tom), John is tall.