

CONFUSED WORDS: LAY AND LIE

LAY	LIE
The verb <i>to lay</i> means “to place.” It always takes an object.	The verb <i>to lie</i> does <u>not</u> take an object. The subject simply performs the action, but does not transmit it to anything.
Example: I <i>lay</i> the book there.	Example: The book <i>lies</i> there.

Present	Past	Past Participle	Present Participle
lay	laid	laid	laying
lie	lay	lain	lying

Present and Future Tenses	
He <i>lays</i> the plate on the table.	The plate <i>lies</i> on the table.
He is <i>laying</i> his plans.	The plans are <i>lying</i> ready to be used.
We shall <i>lay</i> away some money.	Our money will <i>lie</i> in the bank.

Past Tense	
They <i>laid</i> gems in the box.	The gems <i>lay</i> neatly in the box.
I <i>laid</i> my hat there.	My hat <i>lay</i> there.
Who <i>laid</i> these here?	Did you <i>lay</i> these here?

Past Participle	
He has <i>laid</i> his plans well.	His plans have <i>lain</i> unused.
Where have you <i>laid</i> the keys?	They have <i>lain</i> on the mantle for days.
She had <i>laid</i> my clothes on the bed.	My clothes had <i>lain</i> on the bed.

Present Participle	
The team is <i>lying</i> down to rest.	She is <i>laying</i> the book on the desk.
<i>Lying</i> there will get you nowhere.	He is <i>laying</i> the dishes on the table.
María is <i>lying</i> on the beach in Puerto Vallarta.	The newspaper is <i>laying</i> on the porch.

CONFUSED WORDS: LEAD, LED, AND LET

LEAD	LED	LET
<p>First, <i>lead</i> can mean the material used for bullets, fishing weights, or for the core of a pencil. When <i>lead</i> means a material, it rhymes with <i>bed</i>, <i>thread</i>, and <i>dead</i>.</p>	<p><i>Led</i> is pronounced exactly the same as the lead in your pencil. It is the past tense of <i>lead</i>, to be a leader.</p>	<p><i>Let</i> means to allow something to happen. It sounds a lot like <i>led</i>, but it ends in a distinct <i>t</i> sound. It rhymes with <i>bet</i>, <i>threat</i>, and <i>net</i>.</p>
<p>Second, <i>lead</i> can mean to be a leader, to cause others to follow you. When <i>lead</i> means this, it is pronounced to rhyme with <i>need</i>, <i>feed</i>, and <i>greed</i>.</p>		

Fill in the blanks in the following sentence with *lead*, *led*, or *let*.

1. When we dance, you can _____.
2. Protect your children from eating peeling paint, especially if the pain contains _____.
3. He proudly _____ his family through his new apartment.
4. Live and _____ live!
5. Get the _____ out of your pants!
6. The _____ story on the evening news was the hurricane in Texas.
7. Joe l_____ the whole Little League in his record for runs batted in.
8. The delegation from Iowa was _____ by a 79-year old woman.
9. Let's _____ bygones be bygones.
10. The Dean will _____ her return to school next semester on probation.

Write one sentence using the word *lead*:

Write one sentence using the word *led*:

Write one sentence using the word *let*:

Write one sentence using the three words *lead*, *led*, and *let*:
