

Hi everybody!

I hope you have had a great week if you have not lost track of the weekdays : ) For the coming week, I thought maybe it is a good idea to work on pronunciation and some vocabulary. I would like to introduce a youtube channel where you can find a set of lessons on pronouncing sounds correctly in English. The channel is called Clear English Corner with Keenyn Rhodes. I bet you can find some lessons constructive and insightful for yourself. Secondly, below I have added an exercise from *English File* series on confusing words. You might be surprised once you are checking some of your answers with the key at the end.



source: <https://dribbble.com/shots/10451877-Stay-Positive>

## Confusing words

- 1 Choose the correct word to complete the minutes below. Check in a dictionary if you're not sure.

### Minutes of the Board meeting: 15th June

The President opened the meeting and explained that Ms. Bonnamour couldn't *attend/assist*<sup>1</sup> as she was *currently/actually*<sup>2</sup> on a business *trip/travel*<sup>3</sup> to the USA and therefore had to *lose/miss*<sup>4</sup> the meeting. He then proceeded to *control/check*<sup>5</sup> that all the participants agreed with the *agenda/itinerary*<sup>6</sup> for the meeting.

The first point discussed was about the *rise/raise*<sup>7</sup> in costs over the last year. The President *told/said*<sup>8</sup> it was clear that the company's plan to reduce costs had not been *effective/efficient*<sup>9</sup>. The Finance Director *reminded/remembered*<sup>10</sup> the Board members that, six months previously, he had *advised/warned*<sup>11</sup> the Board that costs were *still/yet*<sup>12</sup> too high and *accused/blamed*<sup>13</sup> this on the dramatic increase in raw material prices. The President answered that, although the results were *disappointing/disappointed*<sup>14</sup>, the company should work *hard/hardly*<sup>15</sup> and continue with the same cost-cutting *politics/policy*<sup>16</sup> in the coming year. The Finance Director *agreed/accepted*<sup>17</sup> this proposal and added that, for purely *economic/economical*<sup>18</sup> reasons, the company should also take the unfortunate decision to *lay off/dismiss*<sup>19</sup> 5% of the workforce over the next year. This proposal was approved unanimously by the Board and the President then *adjourned/postponed*<sup>20</sup> the meeting for a short break.

... At the end of the meeting, the President announced that, as he would soon be 70 years old, he had decided to *resign/retire*<sup>21</sup> at the end of the year. The Marketing Director replied that, although the news was not really *surprising/surprised*<sup>22</sup> since all the Board members had already known of the President's plan to retire, they would be very *interesting/interested*<sup>23</sup> in who was going to take over the role of President. The President answered that, although it was a *familiar/family*<sup>24</sup> company, he did not want to *intercept/interfere*<sup>25</sup> in the choice and that the Board members would have the *occasion/opportunity*<sup>26</sup> to vote for the new President at their next meeting.

Answer Key:

1. attend
2. currently
3. trip
4. miss
5. check
6. agenda
7. rise
8. said
9. effective
10. reminded
11. warned
12. still
13. blamed
14. disappointing
15. hard
16. policy
17. accepted
18. economic
19. lay off
20. adjourned
21. resign
22. surprising
23. interested
24. family
25. interfere
26. opportunity