

Getting it Wrong

1 Look up the word **malapropism** in the dictionary.

What does it mean, and what example is given of a malapropism?

2 Correct these malapropisms (in bold type) by finding the correct word:

- a ‘The two players had a really fierce **alternation**. I thought they were going to come to blows.’
- b ‘The car skidded off the road and ended up balanced on the edge of a cliff. I’m telling you, it was really **precocious**.’
- c ‘We’ve got such **noisesome** neighbours that sometimes you can’t hear yourself think.’
- d ‘I blame your sister. She kept out of harm’s way but she **incinerated** everyone else to make trouble.’
- e ‘You’ll need a bit more **levitation** to get that door open.’
- f ‘We had to **remunerate** with him about his disgraceful behaviour.’
- g ‘Water **sprouted** from the broken tap.’
- h ‘The dentist **extradited** two of my teeth.’
- i ‘The danger of a nuclear war has acted as a very strong **detergent**.’
- j ‘New members are always put on **prohibition** for a month.’

3 Try to invent two or three malapropisms yourself, with the help of the dictionary.