

I'm not a bot

































Hi everybody, I'm reading a book about american accent recently. There is a question in that book as following sentence: Indicate he may have stolen a different amount of money? What's the exact meaning of "A different amount of"? And I got the correct answer is "I didn't say he stole the money, but rather other money." the words with underline mean that we should stress the word when saying the sentence. I think "amount" talks about the total quantity of something, it doesn't matter of distinguishing "this one" and "that one" just like the and other in the sentence. So why the answer is "I didn't say ... the ... other money" ? And I think I may have misunderstood the meaning of "A different amount of". I wonder what the exact meaning of that phrase is. Do I say it clearly? Last edited: Jun 27, 2011 Hi splash I'm afraid I'm a little confused by your question. Your context isn't very clear. Could you explain more about the text you are reading? Another thing: what is the spelling of the word you are confused about: different, different, or deferent? (You have spell it these 3 different ways in your question). Is the fact that the book is about accents relevant here? Hi Tunalagatta I'm very sorry for my misspelling. I've already corrected it, but I can't fix the title any more. In short I wonder what the meaning of "A different amount of", now I think I got it. For example Let's suppose Mr. Someone was suspected of stealing some money. defense attorney asked me : "Did you see he steal the money ?" I replied : "Yep, L... I saw him stole some money." prosecution attorney asked me "You mean he have stolen a different amount of money?" I replied "I didn't say he stole the money but rather other money." Thank you Tunalagatta, Amount refers to how much money was stolen, for instance if he was accused of stealing \$500, but actually he stole a different amount of money, i.e. \$1000 or \$2 or \$0.01 or whatever. I don't understand why your exercise book says otherwise and assume it must be an error. The correct answer would be I didn't say he stole that much money, but rather less/more/a different amount of money. Amount refers to how much money was stolen, for instance if he was accused of stealing \$500, but actually he stole a different amount of money, i.e. \$1000 or \$2 or \$0.01 or whatever. I don't understand why your exercise book says otherwise and assume it must be an error. The correct answer would be I didn't say he stole that much money, but rather less/more/a different amount of money. Thank you scrotgrot! Now I understand it completely. Hi, I have an issue I cannot resolve, neither can I identify the relevant rules/information. I have doubts of whether "different" should be always followed by a plural, or if the singular is allowed and when. Specifically, the context is this example: a) We applied pulses of different amplitude, width, and frequency b) We applied pulses of different amplitudes, widths, and frequencies I believe that (a) is the correct one, as it clearly states that different pulses were applied, each with its amplitude, width, and frequency, while (b) seems ambiguous to me and somewhat more generic (as if it suggested that there was no rule or criterion on the parameters, though this might be a very subjective interpretation). I do note that changing to "We applied pulses with different amplitudes, widths, and frequencies" seems to me a valid alternative to (a), though I still prefer this version. Am I wrong? Is there any rule supporting (or invalidating) my "feelings"? I would recommend saying it as either: We applied pulses of varying amplitude, width, and frequency (treating all three nouns as uncountable)or: We applied pulses of different amplitudes, widths, and frequencies (treating all three nouns as countable)Whether you use different or varying, that word modifies the nouns that follow it, not "pulses". I would recommend saying it as either: We applied pulses of varying amplitude, width, and frequency (treating all three nouns as uncountable)or: We applied pulses of different amplitudes, widths, and frequencies (treating all three nouns as countable)Whether you use different or varying, that word modifies the nouns that follow it, not "pulses". Thank you for your reply. It seems to me that "varying" is inappropriate, as the amplitude etc. do not "vary", and are rather set to constant values, though different at each step/experiment. In scientific writing (that's the context), this can be important. Anyway, I understand that I cannot treat the nouns as uncountable using "different", right? Could someone tell me what the difference between "no different" and "not different" is? e.g. Mary is not/no different than any other teenage girl. Thanks! (I am changing one of your "than"s to "from" because that is more correct, in the way that I interpret the sentences anyhow) Essentially, they have the same meaning. In your context, they both end up meaning that Mary is the same as other teenage girls. I would say that "Mary is no different than any other teenage girl" is a bit more commonly used to suggest that "Mary is just the same as all the other girls." While it essentially means the same thing, the sentence "Mary is not different from any other teenage girl" specifically sets "Mary" in comparison to "any other girl" and in that comparison, she is the same as they are. That probably doesn't make very much sense. I hope it helps somewhat though. Hi there! Your sentence is fine like this: Mary is no different than any other teenage girl. But when using not with comparative adjectives, we often put any between them. This makes me want to write it like this, although I can't give you a rule for it, it just sounds better. Mary is not any different than other teenage girls. English is not any harder than other languages. My brother is not any taller than I am. Last edited: Oct 12, 2009 Hi there! Your sentence is fine like this: Mary is no different than any other teenage girl. But when using not with comparative adjectives, we often put any between them. This makes me want to write it like this, although I can't give you a rule for it, it just sounds better. Mary is not any different than other teenage girls. English is not any harder than other languages. My brother is not any taller than I am. "Different" is not comparative and should not be used with "than" in standard English. Your point is still valid however: "no different" = "not at all different" = "not any different" It is clearly stronger than "not different," which is a mere neutral statement of negation. Last edited: Oct 12, 2009 Which one is correct or better? ...different number of waves is used.... ...different number of waves are used.... ...different numbers of waves are used... [I'm not sure what waves you are talking about, but as an example:] If you used 3 waves in test 1, 6 waves in test 2, and 15 waves in test 3, you could say "A different number of waves is used for each test" or "Different numbers of waves are used for the tests. You second option does not work. [I'm not sure what waves you are talking about, but as an example:] If you used 3 waves in test 1, 6 waves in test 2, and 15 waves in test 3, you could say "A different number of waves is used for each test" or "Different numbers of waves are used for the tests. You second option does not work. Thank you very much! Hello, What is the meaning of "as different as"? "...in circumstances as different as information for senior politicians..." Please give us the whole sentence, and some context. Where is this from? Please give us the whole sentence, and some context. Where is this from? The whole sentence is: "While the solutions have generally been proposed at the level of the individual, there has been a recognition that they may sometimes need to be applied by the organisation, in circumstances as different as information for senior politicians, and big data in the hospitality industry." And the context is information overload. have generally be proposed have generally been proposed it means that they are speaking about two different circumstances, inform. for .....and big data in ..... and they want to stress there is a great difference. have generally be proposed have generally been proposed it means that they are speaking about two different circumstances, inform. for .....and big data in ..... and they want to stress there is a great difference. I did not understand your mean 100%. May you give me a mean for "as different as", please? Two circumstances are mentioned. Using "as different as" to introduce them suggests that they are very different indeed, and that they are just two examples representing extreme ends of a range of circumstances in which solutions may need to be applied by the organisation. The two circumstances given are "information for senior politicians" and "big data in the hospitality industry". Thank you very much. It may be different (with/from) each family, but there are similarities. How would you describe the difference between "different with" and "different from" in the given sentence? Using "from" in that sentence wouldn't be idiomatic, Little Mon You. Saying "It may be different with each family,...." means that "it" varies among families. Here's an idiomatic example using "different" and "from": My family is different from hers. Saying "It may be different with each family,...." means that "it" varies among families. Does it mean that using "different with" doesn't mean anything like "comparison"? Last edited: Jun 30, 2011 No. It is more like it varies with different families. The dictionary says that if things vary, they are different from each other. What made you use "with" instead of "from", as in "it varies with"? I am trying to figure out how to distinguish on using those two, so I asked if maybe "different from" has more sense of "comparison". It can't be different if it is not compared to anything else. Your dictionary is right. It is different (from the hypothesis or sample in question) with each family. Let's see if this helps, Little Mon You. When people use the pronoun "it" to mean "something", or "that thing", they typically use "with" when they use the word with "different": Carl likes jazz. It's different with me. I like rock. I am different from Carl. The music that I like is different from the music that Carl likes. Does that help? Last edited: Jun 30, 2011 It can't be different if it is not compared to anything else. Your dictionary is right. It is different (from the hypothesis or sample in question) with each family. Would you say "They are different with each other"? What would be the difference with(from)? "they are different from each other"? Let's see if this helps, Little Mon You. When people use the pronoun "it" to mean "something", "that thing", they generally use "with" when they use the word with "different". Carl likes jazz. It's different with me. I like rock. I am different from Carl. The music that I like is different from the music that Carl likes. Does that help? Certainly a lot! Thank you for your help. So saying "they are different with each other" can be simply considered as "a bit strange", while the meaning does not get changed a lot from using "from"? No, you cannot say different with each other It can only be different from each other. Different with and different from have two distinct meanings and cannot work interchangeably. No, you cannot say different with each other It can only be different from each other. Different with and different from have two distinct meanings and cannot work interchangeably. Would you explain to me the two distinct meaning? Owlman has already answered that in post #7 quite well. I'm not a native speaker, and I haven't been able to figure out the following: When using "different" followed by something in plural, is the verb that follows to be conjugated as singular or plural? "the different problems constitute/constitutes..." "the different traits this entail/entails for the..." Thanks! Welcome to the Forum! To answer your question: The noun ["problems" or 'traits'], not the word 'different', tells you whether to use the singular or plural verb. In your phrases the nouns are plural, so the verb has to be plural to match them. 'Different' is an adjective, describing the noun that follows, and it has no relation to or influence on the verb. If you had the sentences 'The old men have a beer at lunchtime', then 'men' is plural, and so is the verb (have).Change 'men' to 'man', and the verb becomes 'has'. I hope that is clear. That was quick! Thanks both of you! I got confused thinking "different" could constitute some kind of singular entity, thus forcing a singular verb. But all is clear now! To clarify the noun this in the second sentence is singular and is the noun with which the verb should agree. JE Yes, I did realise this (it was a misleading example to use on my part). Thanks again! I think in the OP the question is whether different should be always collocated with plural forms unless it is preceded by a. 1) Different person has different idea. 2) Different persons have different ideas. Thoughts and context: People have different ideas regarding this thing. Hello everybody! I came across a sentence: "In different times this profession was called differently". Is not it more correct to say "at different times"? Thank you! vlatat, where did you see this sentence? It doesn't look to me like something a native English speaker would have written. What is the rest of the paragraph? You are correct that "at different times" is the more usual way to say "in other time periods" or "on other dates," but there are circumstances in which one might write "in different times." The preposition depends on what you mean by "times." There is a difference between times on the clock, e.g. 0700, 1430, 4 p.m., etc and periods of time such as "olden times," "modern times," etc. Times on the clock take "at," while periods such as "olden times," "modern times" takes "in." I take the context of your post to mean time periods, and takes "in." "In different times this profession was called differently." is certainly an awkward sentence. I don't think I've ever heard the phrase 'in different times,' but to me, besides being awkward, it is vague. That is, 'at different times' implies at more than one different time in the past, i.e. the profession has had multiple names at multiple times in the past. 'In a different time' would imply just one other time, like, 'in a different era'. 'In different times' leaves me guessing. I don't know if it's incorrect, but it is certainly vague. If I wanted to refer to something that happened at different times by the clock, that would be "at different times". If I wanted to say that Bill and Charlie didn't arrive at the same time, I might say "at different times". I might use it to refer to historical periods, but for that context "in different times" comes more naturally to mind. Here are a few examples from in different times. Many/most of the examples involve "live". We live in different times now and we have to change or fail. ... funded through 20, 30 or even 40 workless years by pensions which were designed in different times. Here are some examples from at different times. ... the Pittsburgh Steelers have relied on a variety of players at different times in the season. ... because they shot scenes at different times. ... and some of us like me can be mean at different times in our lives. Himmmmmmmmmm. Theory 1 Having read through a lot of examples, I formed the opinion that: ... when time=occasion, "at" is used. ... When time=period, "in" is used. I also formed the opinion that this is a generalisation, and that it is easy to find exceptions, especially in relation to the use of "at". Theory 2 There's something else (I've been looking at more examples). It's about the relevance of "different". When "different" is referring to the time itself, "at" is used. When "different" is referring to circumstances or conditions being different, "in" is used. I think I understand the general difference in the usage of prepositions regarding "time." However, I found myself struggling trying to describe a film called Mr. and Mrs. Smith. In several different scenes in the film, we see the eponymous characters at different stages of their marriage. If I wish to use the word "time" to talk about how the film is set, does the following sentence make sense? These scenes are set at different times of their marriage: some good, and others bad. Thank you as always, everyone! Last edited: Jul 31, 2021 Is ' the only correct way to write an apostrophe (e.g. I'm) or can also use ' and ' ? (e.g. I'm or I'm) the correct formal way is I'm I would never use (e.g. I'm or I'm) on a forum let alone an essay. I don't think I even have that on my keyboard lol An apostrophe is exactly like a comma only used in the superscript position. However, different keyboards around the world, especially those that need to create accents (in French, e.g., acute and grave) do not always produce such a symbol "correctly". That's what I used to think, I have a Finnish keyboard and it has ' and ' for making accented letters. However, I recently found out that it can also do ' That's what I used to think I have a Finnish keyboard and it has ' and ' for making accented letters. However, I recently found out that it can also do ' I should, perhaps, have said that "operators of such keyboards do not always succeed in producing 'correct' apostrophes"! (Along the lines of "Many operators of English keyboards don't know how to create the accents used in other languages"). There are two single quotation marks: one is concave to the right ', and the other is concave to the left '. They may not show up clearly in your display font for these messages, but the rightmost figure about halfway down this page, under the heading "First a quick lesson," shows them clearly. The second quotation mark in this figure, concave to the left, should be used as an apostrophe. Many keyboards have only a vertical tick, in a tradition that goes back to the days of typewriters. It's often used instead of a single quotation mark or an apostrophe for two reasons: it's easier to enter a character that's on the keyboard than a character that isn't, and many people don't know when to use which "curly" quotation mark. (Microsoft Word's "smart quotes" feature gets them right about 99 percent of the time, but not 100 percent.) Some people, knowing that they shouldn't use a vertical tick but not knowing what to use instead, use an accent character. That's worse. I've always been frustrated by Word's "smart" quotes when I want an initial apostrophe. An initial apostrophe in a program that has smart quotes turned on will show an upside down '20. I think you can have Word make "vertical ticks as in '20 " instead of upside down apostrophes (temporarily switch off smart quotes) but to get this: '20 I had to type a character before the apostrophe and then delete it Be that as it may, it is a keyboard/programming issue that is dealt with differently around the world. Part of your answer will depend of what kind of a document you are producing. If you look at published material, you will see something like this: I'm If you produce the straight quotes version (I'm), it will look informal or unprofessional. This version is of course normal for email, this Forum, text messages and so on. Other versions ( I'm, I'm) will look distinctly non-English. Also, don't confuse the apostrophe with the prime symbol (although we might use the same character for email, etc.) - this is the one used for abbreviating foot or feet. I might write, she's 5'4", and properly I should use a single and a double prime symbol: 5' 4" rather than 5' 4". (One of your symbols does look like a prime symbol.) JS: If you want the apostrophe in '20s in Word, use the sequence + that forces the apostrophe or single close inverted commas. Also: + then for " Thank you Nat -I may not be the only one to learn something from this discussion That's very helpful, Nat. Thank you very much. GS Hello... I need some help with this... which is the most correct way to say that something has to be repeated at different moments during the day (it doesn't matter how much time elapses between each time as long as it is done at different hours): ex- repeat... at different times/hours of the day? thanks Either will do, but there might be certain contexts in which one is more appropriate. I would say "repeat as necessary." Regularly could be a word. I have to change the baby regularly throughout the day. Please make sure you check the toilet facilities on a regular basis. If something needs to be done every hour, for example, you could use periodic. The oven temperature needs to be checked periodically at hourly intervals. There are other words, but as Cyberpedant says, it depends on the context as to which is most suitable. the thing is it needn't be done periodically or regularly but rather 'randomly'. It is about pollinating a flower and if you do it at different times of the day you might be more successful as it depends on the temperature and other environmental factors. How about "the flower needs to be pollinated at random intervals daily"?

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