

Standard English Warm-Up



What Is Standard English?

Sometimes, when you are speaking, you may use locally-spoken or non-standard forms of English, for example:



We **was** shopping when we **seen** it. It **were** massive!

However, when you are writing, you should always use standard English. You can do this by using the correct verb inflections and not using any 'slang'. She should have said:



We **were** shopping when we **saw** it. It **was** massive!

Non-Standard English

Non-Standard Forms	Standard English
We was	We were
I ain't got	I haven't got
You should of	You should have
I done it	I did it / I have done it
I seen him	I saw him / I have seen him



Spot the Slang

Read the sentences below and spot the **non-standard** English which needs to be corrected.



It were a huge, red bus.

It **was** a huge, red bus.



“I seen him at the newsagents yesterday,” recalled Joey.

“I **saw** him at the newsagents yesterday,” recalled Joey.



“I want one of them fancy watches,” said Liam.

“I want one of **those** fancy watches,” said Liam.

Jack don't want none of them flies to bite him.

Jack **doesn't** want **any** of **those** flies to bite him.



Standard English Quick Quiz

Let's see if you can spot the slang.

Which of these sentences is written in standard English?

I only come to see the paintings.

I only came to see the paintings.

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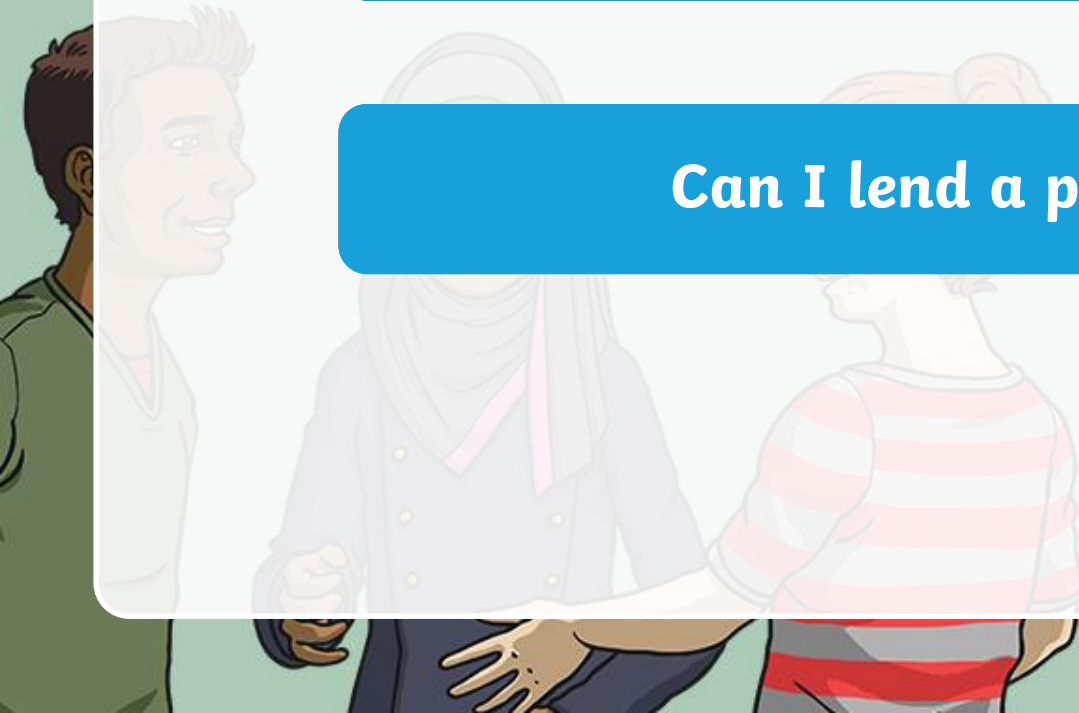
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Can I borrow a pencil?

Can I lend a pencil?



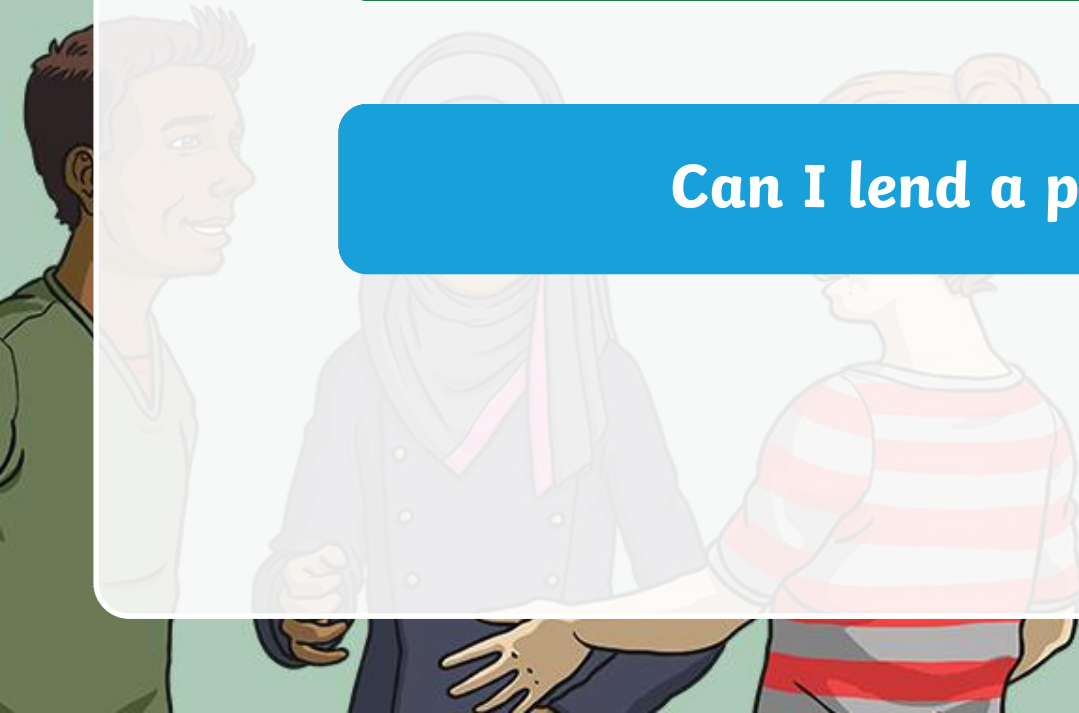
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Conversation Confusion

This conversation between a pair of teenagers is so confusing! Look at the corrected speech and read it our loud.



I'm dead bored. I done all my homework already.

I'm **really** bored. **I've** done all my homework already.

I **haven't**. Can I **borrow** it from you and copy?

I ain't. Can I lend it from you and copy?

Naw ! You should of did it yourself. It were easy.

No! You should **have done** it yourself. It **was** easy.

Well, you should **have** said if you **were** bothered.

Well, you should of said if you was bothered.



Standard English Quick Quiz

Take a quiz to see if you are an expert!

Which of these options is the correct way to complete this sentence?

“I could _____ died!” screamed Bob.

have

of

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