

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

Can you fill in the table below to convert these poorly written phrases into standard English? Remember to use the correct verb inflections.

| 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.

Next

Standard English Quick Quiz

Let's see if you can spot the slang.

Which of these sentences is written in standard English?

I done all of my work.

I did all of my work.

Next

Standard English Quick Quiz

Let's see if you can spot the slang.

Which of these sentences is written in standard English?

Can I borrow a pencil?

Can I lend a pencil?

Next

Standard English Quick Quiz

Let's see if you can spot the slang.

Which of these sentences is written in standard English?

Their house hasn't got any toys.

Their house ain't got no toys.

Next

Standard English Quick Quiz

Let's see if you can spot the slang.

Which of these sentences is written in standard English?

It's are cousin, Spencer.

It's our cousin, Spencer.

Finish

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 don’t want _____ of those chips!”
screamed Chantelle.

none

any

Next

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?

Holly_____that film yesterday.

saw

seen

Next

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?

Trish is _____ Employee of the Month.

are

our

Next

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’d like one of _____ buns,” requested the old lady.

them

those

Next

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

Finish