

Same Word. Different Chaos.

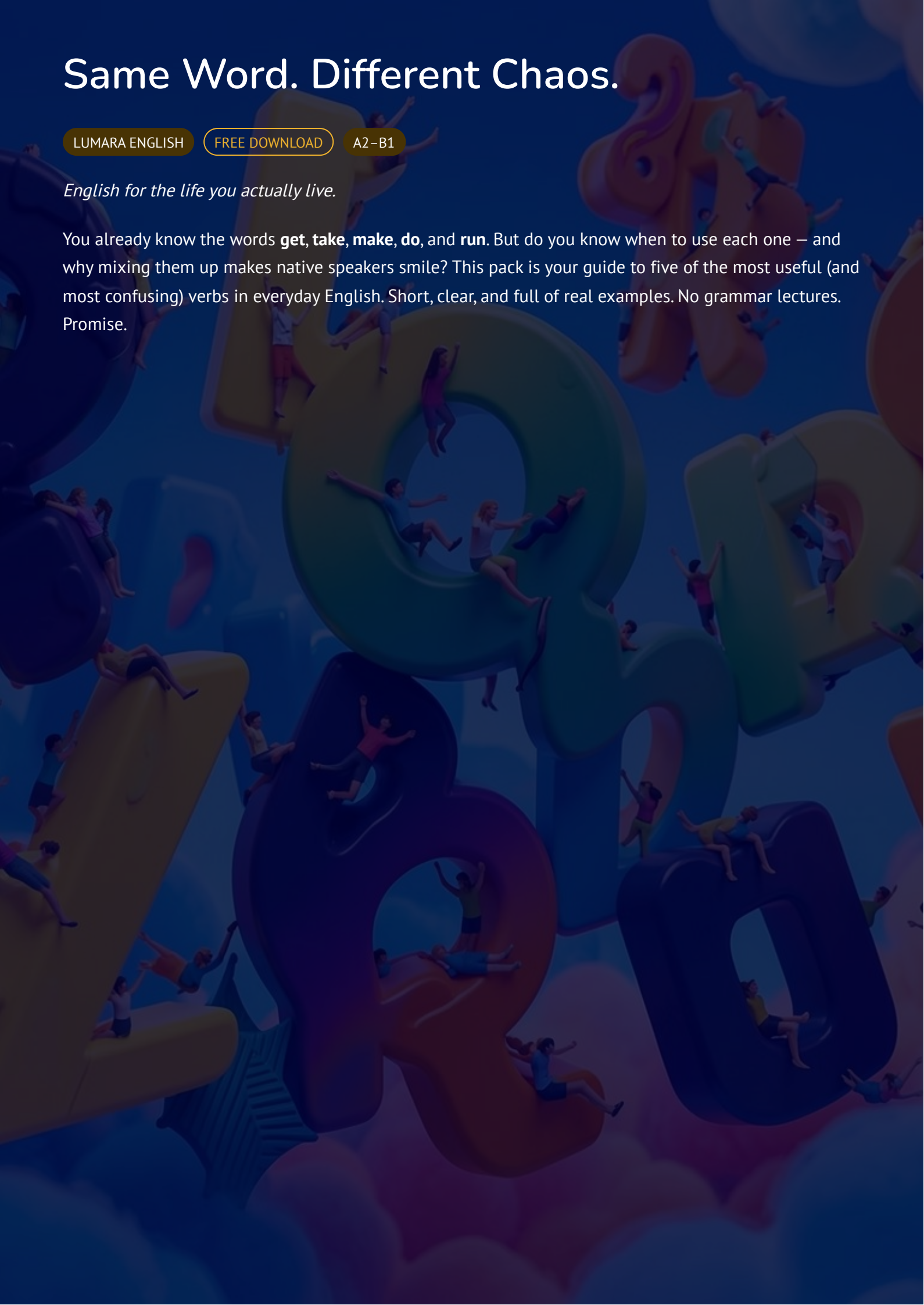
LUMARA ENGLISH

FREE DOWNLOAD

A2-B1

English for the life you actually live.

You already know the words **get**, **take**, **make**, **do**, and **run**. But do you know when to use each one — and why mixing them up makes native speakers smile? This pack is your guide to five of the most useful (and most confusing) verbs in everyday English. Short, clear, and full of real examples. No grammar lectures. Promise.



Start Here

YOUR GOALS FOR THIS PACK

Goal 1: Spot the pattern

Learn which verb goes with which noun. These are **collocations** – useful word partnerships that sound natural to native ears.

Goal 2: Use them confidently

Stop second-guessing yourself. After this pack, you'll reach for the right verb without freezing mid-sentence.

Goal 3: Make them yours

Practice with real situations – then personalise. The speaking and writing tasks are about *your* life, not a textbook character's.

How to use this pack

Work through the pages in order. Read the examples out loud – seriously, it helps. Do the exercises before you look at the answers. If you're unsure, make a guess. A wrong answer now is a remembered answer later.

 **Mini scenario:** It's Monday morning. You **get** an email from your boss. You **take** a deep breath. You need to **make** a plan. There's a lot to **do**. The whole office seems to **run** on coffee. Sound familiar? All five verbs. One Monday. Let's go.

A quick heads-up

These verbs don't follow one perfect rule. **Make** doesn't always mean "create" and **do** doesn't always mean "action." Instead, think of each combination – each **collocation** – as its own small friendship. *Make a plan. Do your homework. Get tired. Take a break. Run a business.* Learn the friendship, not the formula.

Key contrast to remember

Get to work = arrive at your workplace

Get home = arrive at your house

Both use *get* to mean *arrive* – but notice: *get to work* needs "to," while *get home* does not.

English, everybody.

What's coming up

- **Learn It** – clear explanations with examples
- **See It In Real Life** – a fictional story using all five verbs
- **Try It** – fill-in exercises (no peeking!)
- **Make It Yours** – speaking and writing tasks
- **Answers & Examples** – full key at the end

Learn It

COLLOCATIONS IN FOCUS

PART 1: GET · TAKE · MAKE

Let's look at three of our five verbs up close. For each one, you'll see the meaning, real examples, and a quick Spanish note to anchor the idea — not a translation, just a bridge.

GET — three meanings in one verb

Get is one of the hardest English verbs because it does so many different jobs depending on the word next to it. Here are three essential meanings:

- **Receive:** *I got an email this morning.* (= I received an email) → *Recibir:* "Me llegó un correo."
- **Become:** *She gets tired after long meetings.* (= She becomes tired) → *Ponerse / volverse:* "Se cansa."
- **Arrive:** *What time do you get home?* (= arrive at home) → *Llegar:* "¿A qué hora llegas a casa?"

⚠ **Watch out:** *Get home* (no "to") but *get to work / get to school* (with "to"). Why? Because *home* is treated as an adverb in English, not a noun here. Don't try to logic it — just remember the two as a pair.

TAKE — actions with things and time

Take often appears when you pick something up, capture something, use something, or give yourself permission to stop.

- **Take a photo:** *Can I take a photo here?* → *Sacar / tomar una foto*
- **Take a break:** *Let's take a break — we've been working for two hours.* → *Tomar un descanso*
- **Take the bus:** *I take the bus to work every day.* → *Tomar el autobús / camión / colectivo*

Notice that *take a break* isn't about picking anything up — it's an expression meaning to rest for a short time.

These expressions travel as a unit. Learn them together, not word by word.

MAKE — producing a result or plan

Make often appears when something is produced, created, or decided — but not always. It's best to learn each combination individually.

- **Make a mistake:** *Don't worry — everyone makes mistakes.* → *Cometer un error*
- **Make a plan:** *We need to make a plan before the meeting.* → *Hacer un plan*
- **Make coffee:** *I'll make coffee — sit down!* → *Hacer / preparar café*

⚠ **Avoid this idea:** "Make always means create." It doesn't. *Make a mistake* doesn't create anything — it's just the verb this expression uses. Accept the collocation; resist the urge to find a rule that explains all of them.



Learning tip: When you learn a new word in English, don't just write the word — write the collocation. Not just *mistake*, but *make a mistake*. Not just *break*, but *take a break*. Your brain remembers teams better than solo players.

See It In Real Life

A STORY IN REAL ENGLISH

PART 2: DO · RUN · ALL FIVE TOGETHER

Before we meet our characters, let's finish the vocabulary. Then read the story and notice how all five verbs appear naturally.

DO — tasks and responsibilities

Do appears with activities — especially things that feel like work or duty.

- **Do homework:** *Did you do your homework?* → *Hacer la tarea*
- **Do the dishes:** *I'll do the dishes after dinner.* → *Lavar los platos / trastes*
- **Do your best:** *Just do your best — that's enough.* → *Hacer tu mejor esfuerzo*

⚠ **Remember:** *Do* is not "the action verb." We say *make a plan*, not *do a plan*. We say *do homework*, not *make homework*. Learn the pair, not the rule.

RUN — operating and moving

Run is more flexible than it looks:

- **Run a business:** *She runs a small bakery downtown.* → *Dirigir / manejar un negocio*
- **Run for exercise:** *He runs every morning before work.* → *Correr (ejercicio)*
- **A machine runs:** *The air conditioning runs all night.* → *Funcionar / estar en marcha*

📖 A story: One Tuesday in the life of Valentina

Valentina **runs** a small online shop from her apartment. She sells handmade jewellery, and business is good — but busy.

On Tuesday morning, she woke up early to **do** her exercises. Then she went to the kitchen to **make** coffee. While the coffee machine **ran**, she checked her phone and saw she had **gotten** three new emails overnight — two orders and one complaint.

"Okay," she said to herself, "I need to make a plan."

She sat at her desk and started typing replies. After an hour, she **got tired** — her eyes were heavy and her shoulders hurt. *"Time to take a break,"* she decided.

She grabbed her camera. *"I'll take a photo of the new earrings for the website. That's still work, but a different kind."*

By midday, her neighbour knocked. *"Are you taking the bus to the market today?"* he asked. Valentina had forgotten. She'd promised to help him carry things.

"Give me five minutes!" she called. She quickly finished the email, hit send — and immediately noticed she had made a mistake. She'd sent the wrong price to a customer.

"Okay. Don't panic. I'll fix it. Everyone makes mistakes."

She sent a correction, then grabbed her bag. They took the bus together, did the shopping, and **got home** by 3pm. That evening, she sat down to **do the dishes** while listening to a podcast.

It had been a full day. But she had done her best — and that, she reminded herself, was always enough.

📄 **Count them!** Go back through Valentina's story and underline every collocation from this pack. How many can you find? (Answer: there are at least 12 instances across all five verbs.)

Try It

EXERCISE

NO PEEKING AT THE ANSWERS YET!

Complete each phrase with the correct verb. Use the base form only: **get / take / make / do / run**. Write your answer on the line. There is one correct verb for each.

1

___ a photo

You want to save a memory. What do you do?

Your answer: _____

2

___ your homework

Your teacher is waiting. Tonight is the night.

Your answer: _____

3

___ a mistake

You wrote the wrong date. It happens to everyone.

Your answer: _____

4

___ tired

It's 11pm. You've been studying for four hours.

Your answer: _____

5

___ a business

She's the boss. She manages everything.

Your answer: _____

6

___ a break

You've earned it. Step away for ten minutes.

Your answer: _____

7

___ your best

The exam is hard, but you're going to try hard anyway.

Your answer: _____

8

___ a plan

The project is big. You need to organise your ideas first.

Your answer: _____

Finished? Check your answers on the last page. And remember – a mistake now is a lesson learned. 💪

Make It Yours

SPEAKING TASK

WRITING TASK

YOUR TURN

Speaking Task: Tell me about your day

Think about yesterday – or any typical weekday. Use the prompts below to help you speak for 60–90 seconds. You can speak to a partner, record yourself on your phone, or just say it out loud alone. All three work.

Use at least **FOUR** of these in your answer:

- get an email / get home / get tired
- take a break / take the bus / take a photo
- make coffee / make a plan / make a mistake
- do homework / do the dishes / do your best
- run a business / run for exercise

Planning space – jot your ideas here:

Morning: _____

Afternoon: _____

Evening: _____

One thing that went wrong: _____

One thing you're proud of: _____

Speaking success checklist

- ☐ I used at least 4 collocations from the pack
- ☐ I spoke for at least 60 seconds
- ☐ I didn't stop to translate every word in my head
- ☐ I described at least one real feeling or reaction

Writing Task: A short message

Write a WhatsApp-style message (50–80 words) to a friend. Tell them about a busy or unusual day you had recently. Use at least **three collocations** from this pack. It doesn't need to be perfect – it needs to be honest and real.

Your message:

Writing success checklist

- ☐ 50–80 words (count them – it's fast!)
- ☐ At least 3 collocations used correctly
- ☐ It sounds like me, not a textbook
- ☐ I reread it once before finishing

Meme of the pack

[Image: a tiny person sitting at a huge messy desk, surrounded by floating envelopes, coffee cups, and a clock showing midnight]

"Got an email. Made a plan. Made a mistake. Made more coffee. Did my best. Got home. Took a photo of the mess. Called it a day."

– Everyone learning English AND working in it at the same time 

Language note: Notice how "called it a day" is an idiom meaning *stopped working and decided the day was done*. You can add it to your notebook! *Dar el día por terminado.*

Answers & Examples

FULL ANSWER KEY

MODEL RESPONSES INCLUDED

Exercise Answers (page 5)

1 TAKE a photo

Take = capture an image. *Sacar / tomar una foto*. We don't say "make a photo" in English (though you may hear it in other European languages!).

2 DO your homework

Do = complete a task or duty. *Hacer la tarea*. It's always *do* homework, never *make* homework.

3 MAKE a mistake

Make = this is simply the fixed collocation. *Cometer un error*. We don't say "do a mistake."

4 GET tired

Get = become. *Ponerse / volverse cansado/a*. You can also say "get hungry," "get bored," "get nervous."

5 RUN a business

Run = manage or operate. *Dirigir / manejar un negocio*. Also: run a team, run a project, run a campaign.

6 TAKE a break

Take = allow yourself to rest. *Tomar un descanso*. Not "make a break" or "do a break."

7 DO your best

Do = effort and performance. *Hacer tu mejor esfuerzo*. A fixed, encouraging expression.

8 MAKE a plan

Make = produce or create something organised. *Hacer un plan*. Not "do a plan."

Model Speaking Response

"Yesterday was pretty full. I woke up early and made coffee – well, I tried to. I made a mistake and used salt instead of sugar. Honestly. I took a photo because nobody would believe me. I took the bus to school, did my homework on the way, and got home around 7pm. By then I was really getting tired, so I took a short break before dinner. I did my best on everything. It was a good day, mostly."

Note: This is a model – a useful example of what a response could sound like. Your answer will be different, and that's completely correct.

Model Writing Response

"Hey! Crazy day. I got three emails before breakfast, made a plan for the week, then immediately made a mistake on a work message 😊. I took a break at lunch and just walked around. Got home late, did the dishes, watched TV. How are you? Let's take a break together this weekend? ☕"

Note: 62 words. Three collocations clearly used. Friendly, real tone. Yours just needs to be honest – not identical to this.

Key Learning Points — Quick Recap

Collocations are teams, not rules

Learn *make a mistake* as one unit, just like you learn a word. Don't look for the logic – accept the friendship.

GET is a shape-shifter

Receive (*get an email*), become (*get tired*), arrive (*get home / get to work*). Context tells you which one.

RUN goes beyond running

Manage a business, exercise, or describe a machine operating. Three very different meanings – all one verb.

Well done for completing this pack. You did your best – and that's always enough. 🌟

More free materials at tms.lumarauniverse.com

LUMARA ENGLISH – English for the life you actually live.