

5202 GRAMMAR (Übung; ECTS 3)

Winter Semester 2003-04

Tuesdays 16-18 in A3

Wednesdays 8-10 in C29

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Pairs of Confusing Verbs (not just for foreign learners of English!)**lie (lie, lying, lay, lain):** recline, rest, remain inactive

PRESENT: The cards lie (are lying) on the table.

FUTURE: The cards will lie on the table.

PAST: The cards lay on the table.

PERFECT: The cards have lain (had lain, will have lain) on the table.

* never takes an object

lay (lay, laying, laid, laid): put, place, set down

PRESENT: The player lays (is laying) his cards on the table.

FUTURE: The player will lay his cards on the table.

PAST: The player laid his cards on the table.

PERFECT: The player has laid (had laid, will have laid) his cards on the table.

* always takes an object

There is also **lie (lie, lying, lied, lied)** meaning "to tell a lie".**accept** (receive): He accepted my apology.**except** (leave out): Can we except one man from the general pardon?Note: *except* is generally a preposition**accuse** (to blame, to bring a charge against): The state has accused them of murder.**allege** (to claim something that has not yet been proved): The defense will try to prove that the alleged murder never actually occurred.**adapt** (to change): He adapts and arranges the music of others.**adopt** (to take as one's own): In the play he adopted an Irish accent.**affect** (influence): The dampness affects my throat.**effect** (bring about): The arbitrator effected a successful agreement.Note: *effect* is generally a noun**borrow** (take on a loan): May I borrow your pen?**lend** (give on loan): I will lend it to you if you promise to give it back today.**bring** (carry toward something): Please bring it here.**take** (carry away): Take it to the library when we go tomorrow.**can** (be able to): Can you swim across the lake?**may** (have permission to): May I use your phone?Note: *May* also expresses possibility: It may rain.**emigrate** (to move out of a country): Heidi emigrated from Austria in 1934.**immigrate** (to move into a country): After many years she finally immigrated to Israel.

leave (go away; to allow to remain): Leave the room. Leave it here.

let (permit): Let him go. Let us pray.

rise (rise, rising, rose, risen) (to move upward, to be increased):

The sun rises in the east every day.

* never takes a direct object

raise (to lift, to increase, to grow):

The Cotters raise corn in their back field.

* generally takes a direct object

set (set, setting, set, set): put, place

PRESENT: Set the lamp on the table.

PAST: When I was little, I set the table every day.

PERFECT: We have set a date for the rally.

* takes a direct object

sit (sit, sitting, sat, sat): be situated, seated

PRESENT: He is sitting in the chair over there.

PAST: He sat in the third row last year.

PERFECT: He has never sat in the last row.

* never takes a direct object

Exercise: Choose the correct form from the two given.

1. Rover was (lying, laying) peacefully under the table.
2. Do you think Steerforth will (accept, except) the position?
3. (Can, May) I have a look at the sports section for a moment?
4. The table was (laid, lain) for eight people.
5. Yesterday we (laid, lay) on the beach too long and were badly burned.
6. (Set, Sit) that big vase on the floor by the fireplace.
7. Why don't you (leave, let) me alone and (leave, let) me concentrate on my work?
8. When you go, (bring, take) this package and leave it at the laundry.
9. Mother was deeply (affected, effected) by our dog's death.
10. I don't feel like cooking tonight. Can you (bring, take) something home with you?
11. Who among them can (adopt, adapt) the play for our audience?
12. An eyewitness (accused, alleged) him of the crime.
13. She (adapted, adopted) a peculiar accent after her stay in England.
14. We (accuse, allege) that they stole the typewriter.
15. When you come to my house this evening, could you (bring, take) your new CD?
16. My grandfather (immigrated, emigrated) from Poland more than fifty years ago.
17. My father (immigrated, emigrated) to the United States in 1928.
18. We have been (sitting, setting) here since the office opened.
19. She plans to (rise, raise) at seven.
20. They are (lying, laying) a new sidewalk on our street.
21. You have been told twice to (leave, let) the dog alone.
22. You should (lie, lay) down and rest.
23. They (sat, set) the flowers in the vase.
24. Why won't you (leave, let) me sit here in peace?
25. The fox had (lain, laid) in the leaves for hours watching the hunters.