

Here are questions asked by one student in a class, followed by their answers with examples.

1- What is the difference between *like* and *as* ?

Like is used for similarity whereas *as* for *identity*.

Like rubber, wood is an insulator. (This means that rubber and wood share in common the feature of insulation. Rubber and wood are similar in the sense that both are insulators.)

CuSo₄ is used **as** an efficient catalyst. (This means that CuSo₄ is definitively a catalyst, and so it is identified. There is no similarity in this sentence.)

2- What is the difference between *many* and *much* ?

Many is used with countable nouns, unlike *much* which is used with uncountable ones. A countable noun has got a plural form. Refer to the former PDF file in the platform to see more details about countable or uncountable nouns.

3- What is the difference between *then* and *than* ?

Then is a sequencer. Sequencers are used to clearly show the passage from one step or action to the following one. The English sequencers are *first, then, next, after that, finally, and at the end*. *Electricians should wear thick rubber shoes then work with electricity.*

Than is rather a preposition used in comparison as in *copper is less expensive than platinum.*

4- What is the difference between *can* and *may* ?

Both *can* and *may* are modal verbs but are different from each other meaningfully. *Can* is to be used for physical, mental, chemical, or mechanical ability. Copper *can* conduct electrons efficiently. *May* is rather to be used for asking for or giving permission or right or expressing probability. Dangers *may* be lethal, so the priority of technicians is protecting themselves.

5- What is the difference between *maybe* and *may be* ?

Maybe is an adverb meaning perhaps. Notice there is no space between *may* and *be*. If you do not control a high risk, *maybe* it kills you.

May be is rather the combination of the modal verb *may* and the auxiliary verb *be*, which is to be preceded by a subject. Dangers *may be* deadly.

Homework N 01

Consult Google or your Oxford or Cambridge dictionary and relearn by rote the list of the English irregular verbs together with their simple pasts and past participles.

Homework N 02

For protecting yourself as an industrial worker, you need a set of different items set specially for that purpose such as a pair of goggles, a boiler suit, a pair of gloves, a pair of mittens, and a helmet. Consult Google or your Oxford or Cambridge dictionary and see the definition of each of these items.

NB: You are required to do and revise all your homeworks.