

# English Vocabulary: “mistake”

## 1) Noun: a mistake (PT: erro)

a) a mistake (an error), to make a mistake (PT: errar)

- I'm sorry. You're right, I **made a mistake**.
- You can't learn a language without **making mistakes**.
- I found three **mistakes** in your maths test.
- There must be a **mistake** – please check your files again.
- It's a **mistake**. My name actually contains two Ls.
- Many people **make** this **mistake**.
- It's a common **mistake**. Don't worry about it.

b) by mistake (accidentally) (PT: por engano / sem querer)

- This is not my book. I picked up the wrong book **by mistake**.
- Oops! I pressed the wrong button **by mistake**.
- I gave the wrong document to the policeman **by mistake**.

Note: The opposite of “by mistake” is “on purpose”.

## 2) Verb: to mistake (mistake / mistook / mistaken) (PT: confundir)

The verb “to mistake” means to confuse something/somebody with another thing/person. It requires use of the preposition “for”.

- When I saw the twins yesterday, I **mistook** Susan **for** Elizabeth.
- I know the twins well. I **have** never **mistaken** Susan **for** Elizabeth.
- I know the twins well. I **would** never **mistake** Susan **for** Elizabeth.
- It's easy **to mistake** Chinese characters **for** Japanese.
- There's no **mistaking** American tourists!



## 3) Adjective: mistaken (PT: enganado)

- If I'm **not mistaken**, she is married.
- I think **you are mistaken**.
- It's a case of **mistaken** identity.
- It's a **mistaken** idea. Bigfoot doesn't really exist.



#### 4) Adjectives: **mistakable, unmistakable** (PT: *confundível, inconfundível*)

- Using a burka, she is **mistakable** for another person.
- With blonde hair and an orange face, he is **unmistakable**!



#### 5) Adverbs: **mistakenly, unmistakably** (PT: *erroneamente, inequivocamente*)

- A food allergy occurs when the immune system **mistakenly** believes that something that you eat is dangerous.
- This building is **unmistakably** Japanese.



#### Examples in music: **Unmistakable**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VQqB7cFSYDA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=beL2Hw3X1go>