

## **Practice, practise, advice, advise etc.**

These words are often confused. Those forms that end in ce or cy are nouns. The other forms that end in se or sy are verbs. That means 'advice' is a noun, whereas 'advise' is a verb. In the same way, prophecy is a noun, whereas prophesy is a verb.

### Examples

He gave me some advice. (Advice – noun)

I hate people who advise me. (advise – verb)

I practise the piano every day. (practise – verb)

You just need some practice. (practice – noun)

Some of her prophecies have come true.

The Mayans prophesied that the world would end in 2012.

## **Hoard and horde**

These words are often confused. Both hoard and horde rhyme with board and ford.

Hoard is a verb. To hoard something is to store it away for future use. This is not exactly an honest practice. For example, merchants often hoard grains like rice and wheat when there is a shortage. By secretly storing grains away, they can further reduce their availability in the market. This will increase their prices. And when prices rise, the same merchants will sell these grains at a huge profit. Hoarding food grains is a punishable offence in many countries.

Horde is a noun. It is used to refer to a large gathering of people.

Hordes of fans came to the stadium to cheer their team.