**A Note from West London University…**

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any students have the attitude that correct spelling, punctuation and grammar are not important in the real world. "As long as it's clear what I mean, that's all that matters." There are two flaws in this argument:

First of all, if the spelling and so on are not correct, the meaning may not be clear to the reader, even though it might seem obvious to the writer.

Secondly, employers frequently look at good English on application forms as a means of sifting out 'poor' candidates. This means that even if you have all the necessary skills to do a job and would be really good at it, you may not even get an interview because of your poor written English.”

**Bought vs. Brought**

**Bought** is the past tense of ‘buy’.

[](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=brought+bought&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=Y4gcdDIj6vumJM&tbnid=vWhCBKqX4ZC1aM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.mibba.com%2FTutorials%2FWriting%2F4807%2FBrought-or-Bought-The-Difference%2F&ei=hCvdUr3YBcarhAedtYAQ&bvm=bv.59568121,d.ZG4&psig=AFQjCNGCoO_RgN_woIi09b4db8XpWfZIAg&ust=1390312700831398)It means you have purchased something.

I **bought** my cooking ingredients in ASDA.

**Brought** is the past tense of ‘bring’.

It means you arrived with something.

I **brought** my ingredients to school in a Tupperware box.

**Tip:**

**Look at the second letter in each word to help you remember:**

**‘**Brought’ has ‘r’ as its second letter - the same as ‘bring’.

‘Bought’ and ‘buy’ both have vowels as their second letters.

Complete the following sentences with ‘brought’ or ‘bought’.

Tip: Look at the **second** letter.

1. She \_\_\_\_\_ her friend to my party last weekend.
2. He fancied some fruit so \_\_\_\_\_\_ a crunchy apple.
3. He \_\_\_\_\_\_ the apple to school to eat at Break time.
4. The shop were selling pens at half price so I \_\_\_\_\_ a silver one.
5. I also \_\_\_\_\_ three new pencils.
6. The poor behaviour was \_\_\_\_\_ to the teacher’s attention.
7. My friend was tired so I \_\_\_\_ him some water from the cooler.
8. John \_\_\_\_\_\_ some polish for his school shoes yesterday.
9. His friend just \_\_\_\_\_ sweets!

10. I \_\_\_\_\_ my journal to school in a plastic bag to protect it.

Answers: 1. Brought 2. Bought 3. Brought 4. Bought 5. Bought 6. Brought 7. Brought 8. Bought 9. Bought 10. Brought