

I'm not a bot

































Hi, before I came across the text below, I had thought we couldn't use "with" with "multiply" -for example, not "multiply two with four" but "multiply two by four". "Let us therefore multiply body A, proportional to 1, with its speed, proportional to 2; the product or quantity of motion will be proportional to 2. On the other hand,let us multiply body B, proportional to 4, with its speed, proportional to 1; the product or quantity of motion will be proportional to 4" It's from Leibniz's discourse on metaphysics and the original text is French. Last edited: May 28, 2018 The context is somewhat obscure - the idea of multiplying a "body" by a speed is a strange concept - I suspect that there might be a mistake in the translation. In a usual context, e.g. "multiply two by four", by is correct. However, although it is usual to multiply by a noun, i.e. one that references a number, where "with" has the meaning of "by the use of", e.g. "Multiply A by B and then multiply the answer with the answer from your earlier result." NB Please note that Leibniz is a proper noun/name, and therefore must be capitalised. You can use with, but if you use this preposition, don't be surprised if you are told that it's a mistake. "Let us therefore multiply body A, proportional to 1, with its speed, proportional to 2; the product or quantity of motion will be proportional to 2. On the other hand,let us multiply body B, proportional to 4, with its speed, proportional to 1; the product or quantity of motion will be proportional to 4" There is no "metaphysical" meaning for "multiply". This quote seems to refer to physics. The words "body" and "quantity of motion" are bad translations. Most likely "body" should be "mass", and "quantity of motion" should be "kinetic energy". Whatever the correct words are, the translator should have used exact physics technical terms, not general English rough translations. Since it's a bad translation, we should ignore it when considering whether "with" is acceptable with "multiply". I was looking for an answer to the same question and bumped into this old thread. Specifically, I was wondering should I say "multiply by a 1-bit value" or "multiply with a 1-bit value". According to PaulQ's answer above, with should be used here since "1-bit value" is not a number but only referencing a number. Is it correct? Use "by" . Using "with" is much less common, and is much easier to use incorrectly. Note: the phrase "a 1-bit value" means "zero or one". So here "multiple by" really means "choose the number or zero". It is a binary choice, not an actual multiplication. Note: the phrase "a 1-bit value" means "zero or one". So here "multiple by" really means "choose the number or zero". It is a binary choice, not an actual multiplication. Firstly, thanks, I will use "by". Secondly, I know exactly what multiplication by 1-bit value means technically. The thing is, I have an operation that is multiplication from algorithm point of view. It just so happens that I can reduce the multiplier to one bit. And of course, the implementation of the multiplication becomes very simple. However, it is not as simple as you think because I am dealing with complex values. Anyway, I was just wondering how to call this simplified operation. However, it is not as simple as you think because I am dealing with complex values. I vaguely remember the definition of "multiplication" for complex values. It's a different operation. I don't remember what terminology is used in mathematics for this operation. My comment about "by/with" was for general English: the multiplication of scalars. No imaginary numbers. No vectors. No complex numbers. It doesn't matter if they are complex numbers. It's the same remembering that i - squared is equal to minus one. Multiplication is always'by'. Hi there! I was reading a scholarly article published by an accredited institution earlier, and I stumbled across the clause "where there are more death and destruction." I stumbled over this clause, since I want to say that this expression should be "where there is more death and destruction." While it makes sense that having two objects after "there (to be)" would cause this verb to be pluralized, I wonder if there is an exception found here, since the nouns "death" and "destruction" are collective nouns / abstract nouns / something else? It sounds correct to say "where they are more deaths and destruction." What is the correct way? Thank you! It certainly sounds much more natural to say 'where there IS more death and destruction', but you can see the logic - two things are named so you should use a plural verb. Perhaps we think of 'death and destruction' as one idea so feel more comfortable with the singular verb? Please tell us where you saw this, and give us the complete sentence with some context. Please tell us where you saw this, and give us the complete sentence with some context. Here's the paragraph: The adage "if it bleeds it leads" suggests that news coverage focuses on violent or gory stories (Miller & Albert, 2015). When more people are killed in an attack, this can increase the shock value to viewers and increase fear of terrorism (Zhang Shoemaker, & Wang, 2013). Therefore, when there are more death and destruction, we should see more coverage (Nacos, 2002). As Chermak and Gruenewald (2006) focused in a study of media coverage on domestic terrorism pre-9/11, at least one casualty led to both an increase in the number of articles written about that attack and the length of that article. Media may cover higher fatality count attacks more because death is both newsworthy and draws readers in. I didn't think the context was relevant in this case, which is why I didn't originally post it! Sorry for that. It's from an article titled "Why Do Some Terrorist Attacks Receive More Media Attention Than Others?" written by Erin M. Kearns, Allison E. Detus & Anthony F. Lemieux. Thanks. Yes, it does sound odd/wrong. I would have said 'when there is . . .'. I was reading a scholarly article published by an accredited institution earlier, and I stumbled across the clause "where there are more death and destruction." I stumbled over this clause, since I want to say that this expression should be "where there is more death and destruction." While it makes sense that having two objects after "there (to be)" would cause this verb to be pluralized, I wonder if there are is more death and destruction Preliminary point: "more death" and "destruction" are not objects, but predicative complement of "be". I'd say that "is" is appropriate here because "more death" and "destruction" are so closely related as to be interpreted as a single concept; "are" is inappropriate because it would leave people puzzling over what precisely was the distinction intended between the two. where there are is more death and destruction Preliminary point: "more death" and "destruction" are not objects, but predicative complement of "be". "Is" is appropriate here because "more death" and "destruction" are so closely related as to be interpreted as a single concept; "are is inappropriate because it would leave people puzzling over what precisely was the distinction intended between the two. Oh!! Thank you so much for this distinction. The purpose of this article was to distinguish specific factors that would lead to a greater coverage of a specific terrorist attack. Therefore, it would make sense to use this grammatical construction, given that "amount of casualties" and "degree of destruction" were separate factors. Thank you again! Hi, For a multiple choice question, only one out of several choices is correct and supposed to pick. Now, what I want to ask is that when a question has several choices, and more than one choice (e.g. two or more) is correct and all the correct ones are required to pick, what do you call this kind of question? Many thanks It's still "multiple choice", easychen. There are multiple choices and you have to pick the right ones. It's still "multiple choice", easychen. There are multiple choices and you have to pick the right ones. Hi,Dimc.I think it's rather confusing.Now, if I take an exam with these multiple choice questions, how am I supposed to tell which is which? Normally the question will state something like (Choose all that apply) when there are more than one correct answer. Also, for some reason, I usually notice that multiple choice questions with only one answer will have circles to fill in on the answers. However, the questions with more than one correct answer will have BOXES instead of CIRCLES. Hi, vector! Thank you so much. And it occurs to me that questions with more than one correct answer might be uncommon in the U.S and other English-speaking countries.What do you say? We are moving away from a language question to one of test design. When an exercise has only one "correct" answer the instructions tell the reader to mark only one answer. When more than one answer is possible, the instructions tell the reader to mark all those that are correct. As Dimcl said clearly, both varieties are called multiple choice questions. We are moving away from a language question to one of test design. When an exercise has only one "correct" answer the instructions tell the reader to mark only one answer. When more than one answer is possible, the instructions tell the reader to mark all those that are correct. As Dimcl said clearly, both varieties are called multiple choice questions. Hi, cuchul! To me, it's still a language question. What I'd like to point out is that whenever "multiple-choice questions" came up in a conversation (between a native English speaker and me), native English speakers had invariably taken it as "a question with only one correct answer". Such being the case, I speculate that using questions with more than one answer is seldom done in English-speaking countries,and wonder if there is a set phrase for this kind of question to tell from each other. Since both Cuchu and I indicated that there isn't, I'm not sure what answer we can give you, easychen... I'll add my voice to those of Dimcl and Cuchu. The multiple choice questions I have seen come with instructions. They may say "Choose the correct answer" and they may say "Choose the correct answers". There is no difference in what the questions themselves are called. I recently participated in an on-line survey in American English. Some of the questions ended "Check one" and others "Check all that apply". They were all multiple choice questions. It is more usual for multiple choice questions on tests to have only one answer, but that is not mandated by the term. Don't really know how to make it any clearer. Thank you very much everyone, for your painstaking efforts! P.S. In Chinese, you know, there are surely words for these different kinds of questions,and that's why I was splitting the hairs! This issue comes up in my job with some frequency, and my supervisor regularly changes what I've written. Let's say I'm describing some incident that occurred on two separate dates in the same month and year. For example, I might write "The incident occurred on January 24 and 26, 2017," and my supervisor would change it to "The incident occurred on May 24, and 26, 2017." How should a date written in this manner be punctuated? In my mind, I am listing days, and because I do not have more than two, I only need one comma before writing year. I'm not entirely sure of my supervisor's reasoning, but my guess is that she believes something to the effect of a singular date having a comma after the day, and so each listed day should be followed by a comma. I agree with you. The comma after the first date is pointless. If your supervisor really wanted the statement to be crystal clear, she should have suggested repeating the month: The incident occurred on May 24 and [again on] May 26, 2017. 大家好，我想考证一个问题：Multiple choice 很多字典解释都是“多项选择题”，（多选）。但在国内（大陆），学生的「单选」、「多选」是两种不同的题型。「单选」是只能选择一项的题目。「多选」是可以选择多个选项的题目。两种题型合称「选择题」。根据我的经验，在英语国家，multiple choice并非我们概念中的“多选题”，而是“选择题”的统称。之所以说multiple 是因为题目本身提供了几种选择。也因此，后面的choice并没有贬。我的理解对吗？英语国家实际讲我们所谓的「单选」时，是需要另行说明「only one option is correct」吗？Interesting post, SuperXW! So in learning a word in a foreign language, we don't just need to know how to say it in the target language but also what it means exactly in the target language. The meanings of what's supposed to be the same word may, as you've shown, turn out to mean the opposite on close examination. In this case, some people may say that the words in the two languages mean the same and another may choose to say that they mean the opposite, and thenceforth erupt the endless debates and disputes that we often see on the forums...(Not on our forum, of course! ) Last edited: Jul 19, 2011 我的理解对吗？英语国家实际讲我们所谓的「单选」时，是需要另行说明「only one option is correct」吗？Based on my university experience in an English-speaking country, when people say multiple choice, it is almost always understood to be 单选. If it is meant to be 多选, the instructions will tell you that one or more answers may be correct, etc. Based on my university experience in an English-speaking country, when people say multiple choice, it is almost always understood to be 单选. If it is meant to be 多选, the instructions will tell you that one or more answers may be correct, etc. Amen to that. Interesting observation! I agree. I've actually never come across any English-language tests or exercises in which a multiple choice test was '多选' in the Chinese sense; whereas 多选 is a common phenomenon for mainland Chinese students. Sidenote: I hear that the Turkish examination system also commonly incorporates 多选题 as part of its equivalent to the 高考. So it seems that since 多选题 are inherently much trickier, they might be employed more frequently in countries in which standardised testing is used as the ultimate means of evaluating students and deciding university admissions. Just a hypothesis. :) Moderator's Note: Please let me remind all that we can discuss as much as necessary the words or phrases in the title of the thread, but as soon as we go further than that and away from the linguistic aspect of the words and phrases in question, we run the risk of going off topic. ("Which type of test being more difficult", for example, is not a linguistic question.) So, please pay a little attention to this and continue enjoying the discussion. Last edited by a moderator: Jul 20, 2011 Thanks all! So in your experience, if a question does allow more than one answers, beside giving an additional instruction, is that possible for the tester to use "multiple choices" instead of "multiple choice"? Thanks all! So in your experience, if a question does allow more than one answers, beside giving an additional instruction, is that possible for the tester to use "multiple choices" instead of "multiple choice"? Hi SuperXW, I don't think the word "choice" in "multiple choice" is intended to reflect how many answers you can give to the question, but just to show that the question involving choosing (out of multiple answers, usually 4). So, I don't think we use "multiple choices" in this context. There isn't an 's' behind 'choice' because the word is employed as an adjective. i.e. Multiple-choice questions, also affectionately known as MCQs. Thanks! I think it's also abbreviated to MC or M/C, if my memory serves.