

Difference between Affect and Effect

There is often confusion over the words 'effect' and 'affect'. In order to understand which to use, you must know the difference between a **noun** and a **verb**. This is because effect is a noun; whereas, affect is a verb. However, there are tricks to get around this.

Examples:

▣ What effect did foot-and-mouth disease have on your business? ✓

(effect - noun)

("What consequence did foot-and-mouth..." < sounds ok; effect is correct)

▣ Did foot-and-mouth disease affect your business? ✓

(affect - verb)

("Did foot-and-mouth disease transform your business?" < sounds ok; affect is correct)

▣ Do not allow this incident to effect your decision. ✗

("...to outcome/consequence/appearance your decision" < nonsense; effect is wrong.)

("...to transform your decision" < sounds ok; affect is correct.)

▣ That spiral effect is effecting my eyes. ✗