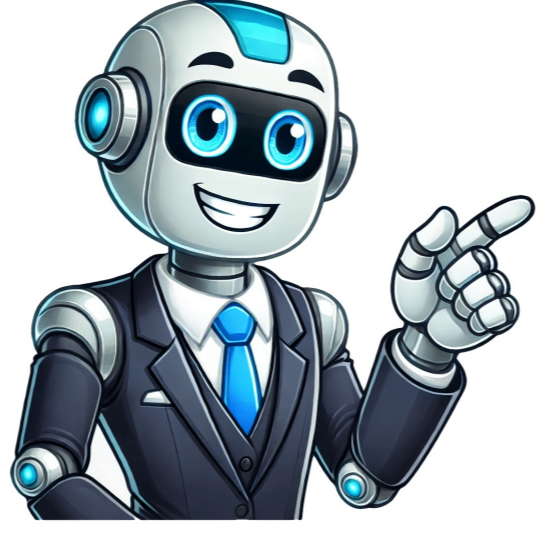


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Hi, which verb do you consider more appropriate if you are describing certain problems to your GP? It hurts when I do some movements. or It hurts when I make some movements. Thanks! also "certain movements"... also "or move in a certain/particular/etc way" I'm editing an English study textbook at the moment. There's an exercise that takes the form of an advert for swimming lessons, and it's headed "Beginning Class" (as in the lowest level). I immediately changed it to "Beginner's Class", but a moment of doubt about American English (I'm British) led me to do a Google search and I found there are lots of hits for "Beginning Class". I just want to throw this open to my friends on this forum and see which version they would go with if they had to make a choice. Thanks. It should be Beginners' Class, Slippery Slide. The position of the apostrophe indicates that this is a class for beginners not for one beginner. I'd certainly put Beginners' Class rather than Beginning Class. Thanks, although the position of the apostrophe depends very much on the writer's perception. In this case, I perceive it as the class that a beginner would want to take. The same can be said for "A Beginner's Guide", for which I can't find a single example of Beginner being considered a plural. It's a question that never ceases to cause debate, though. A Beginner's Guide is aimed at an individual beginner. A beginners class may be either beginners - or beginners with no apostrophe if you consider that beginners is being used attributively, not possessively. Well, I'm American, and in my mind, there is a slight difference in the two words: Beginner's Class, as Panj said, indicates that this is a class for (usually more than one) beginner. It is the domain of novices. Beginning Class would indicate that this is the first in a series of classes: Beginning Intermediate Advanced Expert for example. "Beginning Class" (as in the lowest level). I immediately changed it to "Beginner's Class", but a moment of doubt about American English (I'm British) led me to do a Google search and I found there are lots of hits for "Beginning Class". I just want to throw this open to my friends on this forum and see which version they would go with if they had to make a choice. Thanks. Well, I'm American, and in my mind, there is a slight difference in the two words: Beginner's Class, as Panj said, indicates that this is a class for (usually more than one) beginner. It is the domain of novices. [...] HI JazzByChas. What Panj said about this was that: A Beginner's Guide is aimed at an individual beginner. I hope it won't seem fussy to me to say that this is rather different than your for (usually more than one) beginner More than one beginner means plural beginners. So you are saying, if I've understood you, that a Beginner's Guide is a guide for beginners. A Beginner's Guide is a guide for an individual beginner, in my view, and in Panj's, if I understood him correctly. A Beginners Guide is a guide for beginners, and it could also be called a Beginners' Guide, if you like apostrophes. Call it a Beginner's Guide and it's a guide for one beginner: if there were several beginners then they would each need one of such a guide. Now this class is for beginners. I fully take your point about your hierarchy of possible classes, but we aren't talking about the Beginning Class here - that phrase would be perfectly acceptable in BE too, I think. However, a class for beginners is, in BE, in my view, a Beginners Class, or a Beginner's Class. Call it a Beginner's Class and you've only got one child in the class, and that child a beginner. Thanks for all your input. Still don't agree about the pluralisation, but it's been interesting. Actually, the last few editions of Private Eye magazine have contained an entertainingly pedantic debate about this apostrophe problem, in which many very well-informed linguistic experts have failed to agree on the correct way to apostrophize "Pedant's Corner". If they can't agree, I don't think much to our chances. It's just one of those grey areas.[...] And indeed this forum airs the debate on a regular basis with exactly the same outcome. The reassuring aspect to the debates is that each of us discovers that people hold completely different views so we are in good company whichever "side" we take in the debate. It was this debate that finally hooked the young panj two days after he arrived at WordReference: Possessive - Woman's college - Baby oil - Beginners class - singular/plural possessives. Panj's link raised a question in my mind. If Beginners Class is a class for beginners then Women College should be a college for women. Maybe that and a misplaced love of order have pushed me to prefer Beginners' Class. Aha - and we are back round the loop again. If it is Beginners' Class, and Women's College, then why is it not Babys' Oil. A love of order may drive you mad. Yes, I acknowledge it may well. The linked (in Panj's post 9) previous thread seemed to conclude, as it ran out of steam, that humans (apart from babies) took apostrophes, while non-humans, dogs and olives, for instance, could be preceded to adjectives without many problems - dog lead, olive oil. Despite my love of order, I was surprised at this, not believing English to be as well behaved as it suggests. We, in this thread, have hinted at a difference between attribution and possession. The women's college - the college for women The women's college - the college belonging to the women. Though I'm not sure that we've reached a conclusion about the consequences of the difference for apostrophe use, Panj seemed to suggest that we could drop the apostrophe when talking about attribution; however, we pronounce the s in a women's college, and can't surely write it a womens college. This leaves me with a Beginners' Class as a class for beginners unless we resurrect the we-drop-the-apostrophe-for-attribution suggestion, and if we do that, we need to explain how we deal with the women's college - the college for women. Perhaps we are back with the idea that irregular plurals are a special case. Wouldn't that make a Ladies College correct? Isn't "beginner class" better than "beginning class" in American English? My vote is for Beginners or Beginners'. Definitely not "Beginning". When you play tennis, you need quick "move" or "moving" or "movement" between right and left sides of court. I know I can say "move quickly between", but if I want to use a noun, which one above is correct and most common? Thank you! Because you want to use a noun instead of a verb in a context in which a verb is typical. When you play tennis, you need quick move between the right and left sides of court, you need quick move between the right and left sides of court, you need quick moves between the right and left sides of court, but it's cumbersome. You only see moving used in compound nouns like moving van. Because you want to use a noun instead of a verb in a context in which a verb is typical. When you play tennis, you need quick move between the right and left sides of court is ungrammatical. You could possibly rewrite the sentence, When you play tennis, you need to make quick moves between the right and left sides of court, but it's cumbersome. You only see moving used in compound nouns like moving van. Because you want to use a noun instead of a verb in a context in which a verb is typical. When you play tennis, you need quick move between the right and left sides of court is ungrammatical. You could possibly rewrite the sentence, When you play tennis, you need to make quick moves between the right and left sides of court, but it's cumbersome. You only see moving used in compound nouns like moving van. Thank you, dermott. If I say "The move or movement of tennis ball is very quick.", which one is correct? The movement of the tennis ball is very quick. I feel confused about how to use "at the moment" and "in the moment" in a sentence. Here is my contexts: - Hopes that she would be more moderate than her abrasive husband were quickly dashed right in the moment she talked to me. - Hopes that she would be more moderate than her abrasive husband were quickly dashed right at the moment she started to talk to me. You could you guys tell me whether I do it right or not, and explain to me why. Thanks for your visiting and reading it. - Hopes that she would be more moderate were quickly dashed right in the moment (in which) she talked to me. = she spoke to you only for a moment but it was within that moment that your hopes were dashed. - Hopes that she would be more moderate were quickly dashed right at the moment she started to talk to me. = as soon as (upon the moment) she started to speak, your hopes were dashed. Let me back away from your example for a moment, as it has several issues. Here are a couple of other examples with in a moment or at the moment. I'm sorry. At the moment I'm rather busy. (Means I'm busy right now.) I live in the moment. (I take advantage of each minute of my life and enjoy it to its fullest.) As for your original example, it's problematic because a moment is a very brief period of time, and "she talked to me" suggests a longer period that seems inconsistent with such a brief instant. If you change the sentence a bit, you can use moment. A preposition isn't necessary at all: My hopes that she would be more moderate than her abrasive husband were dashed the moment she opened her mouth. So let me describe what I get when I read your explanation: in the moment : is to describe a period of time (short one but still a period of time). And in this period of time, she talked to me, my hopes were dashed. at the moment : is to describe a point of time. My hopes were dashed for the first second she talked to me. Did I get it right? What if I write it this way: Hopes that she would be more moderate were quickly dashed right in the moment she started to talk to me. (it's wrong, right ?) With no
reference to support me, I see these two phrases as completely different. "In the moment" describes an emotional/mental state of being of a person, while at the moment describes a point in time. A person may be in the moment - completely absorbed by what is going on around, at one with the circumstance of the present moment. In fact one may be in the moment at the moment of some occurrence. I have recently seen "in the moment" used in terms of the currently trending pop psychology flavor of "mindfulness". I would not use "in the moment" as shown in the example of the OP. To me, "in the moment" is more about experiencing the moment-about my being emotionally in it. When he told me I loved me. I was completely in the moment and didn't notice it had started raining. "At the moment" is more about localizing the action in time. At the very moment he proposed to me, it started raining. Your sentence still sounds a bit foreign. First, quickly is redundant, as you are already saying the hopes were dashed at the very moment she started to talk to you. In the moment also just sounds to me like a foreigner speaking English. You could say at the moment but in AE it is more natural, at least to me, to leave off the preposition entirely. I would say "Hopes that she would be more moderate were dashed the moment she started to talk to me." So let me describe what I get when I read your explanation: in the moment : is to describe a period of time (short one but still a period of time). And in this period of time, she talked to me, my hopes were dashed. at the moment : is to describe a point of time. My hopes were dashed at the first second she talked to me. Did I get it right? Yes. That is the idea. What if I write it this way: Hopes that she would be more moderate were quickly dashed right in the moment she started to talk to me. (it's wrong, right ?) Yes, I think it is wrong. I like Embonpoint's "My hopes that she would be more moderate than her abrasive husband were dashed the moment she opened her mouth." But, and even easier, you can omit both right in and right at, and it sounds idiomatic: Hopes that she would be more moderate were quickly dashed right in/at the moment she started to talk to me. To add a bit, I think what we're dealing with here is not grammar but simply the idiomatic way we typically express the concept you are expressing here. The idea "at the very moment" is often expressed as "the moment." The two sentences below are the same, but the first would be more common. The moment I arrived, she started yelling at me for not having called her. At the very moment I arrived, she started yelling at me for not having called her. Base on your sentence (I live in the moment), I used in the moment for the first of mine. - Hopes that she would be more moderate than her abrasive husband were quickly dashed right in the moment she talked to me, to describe the context that when she talked to me, I took time to hear what she said, and then my hopes were dashed, and in the moment is the one I can think of. Could you make it right for me? And could you explain me more about the meaning of in the moment. I think I still unclearly understand it in the moment is often used to mean your brain is in a particular moment-that you are completely absorbed by what is happening. The movement of "living in the moment," which many people talk about, means that you appreciate each moment of your life fully. So I may have cancer, I may be losing my job tomorrow, but right now I am on the beach with my lover and it's a beautiful day. I'm living in the moment. It means I am appreciating the particular brief space of time fully. It makes no sense in your sentence. I can't say it's completely wrong grammatically. But it sounds like you are a foreign speaker. Does that make sense? Everything is clear now. Idiom make grammar become confusing I will note this for the next time I use this phrase, thank you all But it sounds like you are a foreign speaker. Does that make sense? Yes I am. I'm trying to widen my English knowledge more deeply. If I have any wrong grammar when discussing in the forum, please help me to fix it. I appreciate it. I know you are a foreign speaker. What I was trying to say is the sentence you wrote, while I can't say it's grammatically wrong, makes you sound foreign. We tend to be precise here at WR. If something is grammatically wrong, we know so. Other sentences may just be foreign-sounding or awkward, while not actually wrong. Your goal (I'm guessing) is to sound as native as possible! There is probably too much to fix in everything you wrote, but I'll make one suggestion, since it could come up a lot: If I make any grammatical errors in the forum, please correct me. In the moment is often used to mean your brain is in a particular moment-that you are completely absorbed by what is happening. Hello, everyone! The following sentence is an example where "in the moment" is used in a different way. "Discipline is about making decisions based on who you want to become, not how you feel in the moment". Source: YouTube Title of the video: "How to Force Yourself to Be Consistent | Simon Sinek's Powerful Insights" (minute 3:02) When my speech ended, I felt honoured to receive a round of applause from the audience. In that moment/at that moment/that moment (without any preposition), I felt a spasm of energy inside. Are all three okay? Can we choose to say 'that/this moment' without a preposition preceding? Please help! You usually say at that moment (in is less common). I don't think that you can leave out the preposition in BE in your sentence - at least in writing. I would not be surprised to hear no preposition in casual speech. You have ended your sentence with inside. Inside what? As a further thought, that moment / In that moment/ at that moment/ are all supposed to be adverbial phrases - they all require a preposition... the appropriate preposition. Thank to both of you! As a further thought, that moment / In that moment/ at that moment/ are all supposed to be adverbial phrases - they all require a preposition... the appropriate preposition. Hey PQ, I couldn't quite get it. It's still confusing me. You have ended your sentence with inside. Inside what? I meant to say inside me or inside of me. Is it incorrect to end a sentence with 'inside'? To use inside to mean inside me is too vague for me. I could only use it if I had previously been describing what was inside me. Yes. I'd use "at". When you begin a sentence with "That moment", the reader is more likely to expect it to be the subject of the sentence rather than an introductory adverbial phrase. At first, "inside" (on its own) sounded OK, but on further thought I'm inclined to agree that it is insufficient. I might opt for a different way of saying it, like "I felt a spasm of energy shooting through my body". Do spasms shoot? It sounds somewhat organic, but perhaps that's exactly what the writer means. Thanks to everyone! The 'in vs at' difference is quite clear now. But, Actually I was just wondering that if we can use 'that/this night/day' without a preposition, why is it not the same with 'that/ this moment'? His father died on that night= His father died that night. On that day, I was quite busy with my homeworks, so I couldn't come with you= That day, I was quite busy, you. Are my assumptions right? Please help me with it! again, i thing that if you say "His father died that night" something missing here, because we dont know on which night death occurred. But with the "on that night" you are pointing out exactly the night when his father passed away. Maybe I am mistaken, very interested to hear some other opinions His father died that night is fine and I would probably not bother with the preposition. The use of on does not tell you anything extra. That night can come at the start of the sentence (That night I was fairly busy with my homeworks). Hey! Thanks again! So, why is it not the same with "that moment"? My problem is quite the same with 'the/ that/ in the/ at/ in that/ in this/ why' can't we just leave out the prepositions here? For example: 1)That moment, I felt like stranded! 2)You need to do it the way everyone else does it. Maybe, my question is becoming off topic but this is where my actual confusion lies! I feel that there is a difference between speech (informal) and writing (formal). That moment I felt like stranded is more conversational English and so less formal. The same applies to (in) that way. I did it my way, as Sinatra's song goes. Thanks e2efour! Now I see! My confusion was due to this difference between the colloquial and the formal! It also depends on the noun. For example, that night is the norm, not on that night. But at that moment is more usual with the preposition. Nothing is simple. Thanks again e2efour! What exactly happens when one's heart lurches? I'm familiar with lurch meaning "a sudden tip or roll to one side, as of a ship or a staggering person." Is this then a metaphorical way of saying that you get sick emotionally, something like seasickness but about feelings morphing into one another and your heart missing a beat in anguish? This is what I make of it. I look forward to your input. Here's a passage from Catherine Allott, The Secret Life of Evie Hamilton. [The daughter is told that her father has a love child, and doesn't want to meet this other girl.] No one's going to make you. [...] [The mother] soothed. "Then why did he bloody well tell me," she cried, looking up. Her eyes were bright, anguished. My heart lurched for her. "Because you had to know, my sweet. We all had to know." Thanks! The reference to ships is misleading you, I think (although the word was originally in reference to ships). There is no direct connection with seasickness. In general, to lurch means "make an abrupt, uncontrolled movement or series of movements; stagger" (Oxford). It seems to me that in reference to a heart, this is fairly clear;
it describes the sort of movement or beating pattern of the heart that you feel when you receive a shock of some kind. What is the difference between those three verbs. In my native language, they mean the same thing. I think that 'fix' is used when something is attached to sth, 'secure' is used when we make sure that a thing stays in a particular position, and 'steady' is used when something is secured in such a way that it doesn't wobble, shake, etc. But I am not 100% certain Here are some examples: 1. The killer had steadied the weapon before he pulled the trigger. (He ensured that the weapon didn't shake). 2. They secured the rod to the wall with screws 3. The seats are firmly fixed to the ground Is there any difference between these three verbs? I would really appreciate it if you explained the difference between them. They are all used correctly. But they are not interchangeable. But then what is the difference between them? Thank you so much, Packard! Here are some examples: 1. The killer had steadied the weapon before he pulled the trigger. (He ensured that the weapon didn't shake) 2. They secured the rod to the wall with screws 3. The seats are firmly fixed to the ground The last two examples are not particularly good. You understand "to steady" = to prevent unwanted movement (as much as possible). "He was drunk and steadied himself against a lamppost." "with screws" is adverbial and adds nothing, likewise, "firmly" can be omitted in 3 as it confuses the meaning of "fixed". 2. They secured the rod to the wall. 3. The seats are fixed to the wall. In 2 and 3, neither verb is used in the sense of "to prevent unwanted movement" both emphasise the connection between the potentially free object and the base that holds it. It is worth noting that a tiger can be secured by a chain to a wall, but it cannot be "fixed to a wall" by a chain. Fix implies no movement of its object; secured does not. To fix is easily qualified: "It was fixed loosely to the wall." To fix (without an adverb) does not have this meaning of a lack of movement; you can ask the question "How securely do you wish it fixing to the wall?" Secure implies a degree of permanence - fix does not necessarily do this. To secure implies safety and security - things are secured to prevent them being stolen, lost, falling off, etc. To secure is not easily qualified negatively. "It was secured loosely to the wall." To fix (without an adverb) does not have this meaning of a lack of movement; you can ask the question "How securely do you wish it fixing to the wall?" Secure implies a degree of permanence - fix does not necessarily do this. To secure implies safety and security - things are secured to prevent them being stolen, lost, falling off, etc. To secure is not easily qualified negatively. "It was secured loosely to the wall." Thanks, PaulQ, You said that "to secure" implies permanence and I found this sentence on a site called www.learnersdictionary.com: "Please secure your belongings under your seats?" I conclude from the context that person who is asked to secure her or his belongings must be on a plane, bus, etc. but she or he doesn't have to leave her or his belongings there because they are permanently secured, does she/he? Here is the link to the site: Secure - Definition for English-Language Learners from Merriam-Webster's Learner's Dictionary At the top, you will see a box with three items: secure (adjective), secure (verb) and knowledge. Click secure (verb) and go to sense 1b. It's the first sentence. Dear all, Which of the following is correct? (1) Shuttle bus services to and fro from the airport and major hotels in the city. (2) Shuttle bus services to and fro from the airport to major hotels in the city. Please advise. Thank you. Regards, Michael Neither is correct. You would say Shuttle bus services run between the airport and major hotels in the city, as in sentence 2, which I don't find wrong. You don't find the combination "fro from" (as in to and fro from the airport...) or the use of "to and fro" to describe a one way journey (from the airport to the major hotels) to be wrong? I do. Thanks a lot! If 'to and fro' and 'back and forth' are the same. Does it mean that I can say "to and fro between the airport and major hotels in the city". Thanks. Rather than use to and fro I would would probably say "shuttle services to and from the airport and major hotels," or "services between the airport and major hotels." I see no objection to to and fro between A and B. Between does sound preferable to from, but I'm not sure that the latter is wrong. Does it really imply one direction only? The description "from the airport to the hotels" (which is what the sentence said) certainly implies one direction only. But the original sentence contained to and fro, which is surely extra information. It is more than saying that there is a shuttle service from the airport to the hotels, although it may not be the best way of expressing the idea. By the way, I forgot to welcome michaelwong to the forum! For me, "to and fro" is an old-fashioned way of saying something like every-which-way, hither and thither, etc. The butterflies flit to and fro in the garden. They are not going back and forth between two destinations. I would think: "Shuttle bus services to and fro between the airport and major hotels in the city," means that the buses move randomly throughout that entire area. 'To and fro' is adverbial, not adjectival. The shuttle bus service isn't to and fro, it's the bus that shuttles to and fro. (1) Shuttle bus services to and fro from the airport and major hotels in the city. (2) Shuttle bus services to and fro from the airport to major hotels in the city As Mahantong pointed out in post 2, if these are meant to be sentences they need verbs. Run is probably the most commonly used in English. I agree with Myridon: "to and fro" has, to me, overtones of random movement. Michaelwong's (1) would work if "fro" was replaced by "from": (1) Shuttle bus services to and fro from the airport and major hotels in the city. ... though, as others have said, this is not a complete sentence. Welcome to the forums from me too, michaelwong. (a) I'm not sure if anyone has mentioned that "fro" means "from". That is why you can't say "to and fro from...". (b) A shuttle bus, by its very nature, moves to and fro/back and forth. That is the definition of shuttle. My suggestions Shuttle buses service the airport and major hotels in the city. ["to service" is a verb] or Shuttle buses run between the airport and major hotels in the city. If you want to use the term "to and fro" then you need to use the preposition "between" or possibly "among". Last edited by a moderator: Sep 28, 2013 I cannot see that either of the OP's examples are correct, nor can they be saved whilst they have "to and fro" in them: I would say "Shuttle buses services run back and forth between the airport to and the major hotels in the city." The phrase "to and fro" is typically used on its own: that is, not specified further by other indications of place. For example: There was an old bear at the zoo who always had something to do. For an hour or so he would walk to and fro and then he would walk fro and to. (Please bear in mind that 'fro and to' is not a set phrase like 'to and fro', just a facetious variant of it.) Last edited: Sep 28, 2013 Thank you guys for the detailed explanations and great welcome! I've learned so much here. Have a great weekend! I wonder if I can say: He walked to and fro. Thanks a lot Hello. As far as I know, 'across' can mean both movement and position. But 'across from' can mean just only 'position'. Then, when I express 'position', can I use both 'across' and 'across from' like following? 1a. He lives across the road. b. He lives across from the road. 2a. The store is just across my house. b. The store is just across from my house. 3a. He sat across me at the table. b. He sat across from me at the table. Do both (a) and (b) version all correct and completely have the same meaning? Thank you always... 1a is fine 1b is not. 2a and 3a aren't English... unless you mean in 3a that somebody is sitting on top of your body. Note the usage in "The tree fell across the road" and "The pub is across the road." Obviously the meanings are different. If you're looking for an immutable "rule," you will be frustrated. Like many things in English you just have to learn the idiomatic use of the language. No. Across by itself is used with the item that separates two things. Therefore, "the house is across the road" is correct, since the road separates the house and the field, he would live "across the field from the road," but I'm not sure what "across from the road" would mean by itself. 2a: Something "across your house" would lie over the top of it - perhaps a tarp that was covering your roof during repairs. 3a raises very odd implications. Edit: Crossposted with sdgraham and Egmont; at least we all agree. "The store is just/right across from my house." I often here just/right when talking about distance. Is there any difference in emphasis between them? One thing I think is worth mentioning that was not mentioned above is that many times the item in between the two things is not explicitly stated. "The store is just/right across from my house." In this sentence, the item is "the street/road". "The store is right across the street from my house." In this sentence, "right" indicates "directly opposite". Any building on the other side of the street is across the street from my house, but only one is generally directly opposite. "Just across" doesn't make as much sense to me. Last edited: Apr 29, 2021 Agreed. "He lives just across the road from me/from my house." - the shorthand version SOMETIMES needs expanding. He lives just across that field. - sometimes needs explaining = "in that house over there which you can see just across that field which I am pointing to!!!!" - that is a bit long-winded
and also ends with a preposition with which you are not supposed to end a sentence with. As explained above, 1b 2a 3a are not English and would have to be expanded to make them make sense. Last edited: Apr 29, 2021 One thing I think is worth mentioning that was not mentioned above is that many times the item in between the two things is not explicitly stated. "The store is just/right across from my house." In this sentence, the item is "the street/road". "The store is right across the street from my house." In this sentence, "right" indicates "directly opposite". Any building on the other side of the street is across the street from my house, but only one is generally directly opposite. "Just across" doesn't make as much sense to me. Thank you for the answer. I really want to know why "just" doesn't make sense here. Is it because we use "just" only when talking about time? "Just" when used with directions means a short distance. Something "just down the road" is a little ways along the road from where the speaker is. I don't know what "a little ways across the road" means. It's either across the road or it's not. It doesn't matter if you use "just" or "right" in this context they are just qualifiers or emphazisers for the preposition "across" - you could also say "exactly" or "nearly" or "directly". Unless you are standing talking to this person and he is pointing across the road, then I can't see/understand any difference between those adverbs/qualifiers. Other examples = It's just over there. It's nearly opposite. It's exactly where I said. It's right on top of that hill. It's directly behind the church. It's just next to the school. It's nearly at the top of the High Street. "Just" when used with directions means a short distance. Something "just down the road" is a little ways along the road from where the speaker is. I don't know what "a little ways across the road" means. 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