

I'm not a bot



>> > > in this forum is correct The sentence "He is easy to be fooled." is not correct in English. Correct versions are: He is easy to fool.He is easily fooled.What I write here matches the answers given in that thread. One answer says "You are easy to be fooled" is "defective", meaning incorrect. The other answer says it must change from "You are easy to be fooled" to "You are easily fooled". 1. "The box is easy to be carried."Here "easy" applies to "box". It does not apply to "be carried". To apply "easy" to "carry" you can write any of these:2. The box is easy to carry. I still feel it hard to get the hang of the difference between the two easy's in 1 and 2 respectively.In sentence2, which does the "easy" apply to? PS I have deleted my post3# because I mistook the meaning of the quoted post.Many many thanks. "Easy to carry" is a standard form (adjective+to infinitive) where the adjective modifies the infinitive: easy to do, hard to do, too big to carry, happy to help. 1. The box is easy to carry. (correct)2. The box is easy to be carried. (wrong) Could it be said that when the subject can act as the object of "to do", then the sentence is correct?1. The box is easy to carry.-----> to carry the box (OK)2. The box is easy to be carried. -----> to be carried the box. (wrong)I think 3 is correct: He is easy to deal with. -----> to deal with the man. (OK) That makes sense to me. You are better at analyzing things than me. Many thanks.However, I came scross this sentence "Language can be tricky, difficult and confusing. It is easy to be misunderstood. It is easy to misunderstand. A single word can be meant and received as a compliment or an insult." source: RHETORIC - Mabelvale Church of Christ Why does the author use "It is easy to be misunderstood." instead of using the latter one (It is easy to misunderstand.) only? It seems that "something is easy to be + past participle" does exist but it may have a different meaning from "something is easy to do" ?Doesn't the "It" in "It is easy to be misunderstood." refer to "language" ?Many thanks again. Doesn't the "It" in "It is easy to be misunderstood." refer to "language" ? I think "it" here refers to "to be misunderstood".I read those two sentences as "It is easy for a person to misunderstand other people. It is easy for a person to be misunderstood by other people." In the sentence "It is easy to be misunderstood." the "it" is something called a "dummy subject". This is used when reversing a sentence order:It is easy to be misunderstood.To be misunderstood is easy. It's reasonable to think of "it" meaning "to be misunderstood" and the sentence to be shortened: It (to be misunderstood) is easy (stop here!) Why does the author use "It is easy to be misunderstood." instead of using the latter one (It is easy to misunderstand.) only? These sentences say opposite things. To understand the difference, you need to add names for the two people involved:it is easy (for A) to be misunderstood by B.This says B misunderstand A (easily).It is easy (for A) to misunderstand B.This says A misunderstands B (easily).The author is talking about A, saying it is easy for A to misunderstand others, and easy for A to say things others misunderstand. OK, then a last question. What about 3?2. The box is easy to be carried. (wrong)3. The box is easy to be carried away. (?)or Is there any possibility to add something to 2 to make it correct? Thanks. Making it a different verb does not change the grammar. Sorry. That's interesting.The box is ready ____ A. to carry B. to be carried.Now the answer is B. Am I right? You can say "It is easy to be misunderstood." That refers to you. Your efforts, intentions, desires, and goals may be misunderstood. You try to do something nice for your girlfriend or boyfriend and they misunderstand you.I think part of the problem with the passive voice is that logically "The box is easy to be carried" should make sense, but it just isn't what people say. Hi RedwoodGrove, I feel really happy to read your comment.The logic behind "The box is easy to be carried" is the very thing that I want to know."The box is easy to be carried by someone else but not me" is what I can see but what it really is?Many thanks. Well, you can say "The box is carried by me." That's the simple passive voice. "The ball is kicked by Tom" "The food is eaten by Mary." The problem is when you add an adjective and the infinitive "to be". You can say, "It is easy for the box to be carried by two strong men." In this way, you can say "It is easy to be carried away by music." It implies that you mean, "It is easy for a person to be carried away by music." "The box is easy to be carried by someone else but not me" is what I can see but what it really is? So here you would have to say, "It is easy for the box to be carried by someone else but not [by] me." I guess what's happening is that the "dummy it" is the subject in the passive construction and the prepositional phrase, "for the box", provides a kind of direct object to explain for whom or what something is easy, while the "to be" phrase and complement describe what is easy. I really can't think of any good reason why "The box is easy to be carried" should not be idiomatic, but it definitely is not. I know that in Dutch and German a preposition is required and I'm pretty sure in French it is as well. Not that that helps your enquiry. I'm genuinely trying to figure this out and just wondering if there is a historical reason for it that is common to European languages. I hope someone can help out!Just a thought, an adverb is required in "The box is ... easily" But then you can't have the infinitive "to be" following the adverb. I'll think it over. That's interesting.The box is ready ____ A. to carry B. to be carried.Now the answer is B. Am I right? Both of these are correct.The difference is that easy and ready are not related to the box and the carrying in the same way. "Carrying the box is easy" makes sense, but "Carrying the box is ready" does not. Forero, you're one of the most respected grammarians here in this forum.What's your opinion about the "The box is easy to be carried" thing?I mean the reason why it is wrong.Thanks. Forero, you're one of the most respected grammarians here in this forum.What's your opinion about the "The box is easy to be carried" thing?I mean the reason why it is wrong.Thanks. I wouldn't call it wrong, but to me it does not have a clear meaning without more context. In "The box is easy to carry", the infinitive "to carry" complements "easy". "The box is easy to carry" means that carrying the box is, or will be, easy. The box plays the role of logical direct object of "to carry". But "To be carried" does not take a direct object, and "to be carried" does not complement "easy". In, for example, "His yoke is easy, and his burden light", "easy" means "easy to bear"/"easy to live with". Such a complement is understood. By "The box is easy to be carried", do you mean that the box is easy to live with in order to be carried?Is "The box is easy to be carried" supposed to mean that the box to be carried is easy to live with? It means too much to me. I feel relieved now. < This discussion has been added to a previous thread. Cagey, moderator > Hi, A question from my student: The question is not easy ____ A. To answerB. To be answered I think the answer is B, but it's A. Why? Well, personally, I think the question is stupid."The question is not easy" is enough. Last edited by a moderator: Dec 26, 2016 < Thank you. Threads merged. Cagey, moderator. > It isn't a stupid question, because it is testing you on a common usage: we talk about something being "easy/difficult to do". They could have chosen a different example: This knot is difficult to untie. Last edited by a moderator: Dec 26, 2016 "The question is not easy" is enough. Hi there, Silver. It is not stupid, as velisarius says, we use this type of structure very often.What made me laugh was the idea that "it's enough" operates in English. If "it's enough" controlled us there would be many shorter answers in here. Doing enough and then a bit more is almost an epidemic for some of us Sentence A ("The question is not easy to answer") has missing (but implied) words: "The question is not easy for students to answer". Here "students" is the subject of the verb "to answer". Now the sentence makes sense. Depending on the context, the hidden noun could be "me, us, anyone, students" or something else. But the hidden noun is part of the sentence meaning: the question doesn't answer itself. People answer questions. This "words omitted but implied" grammar is called "ellipsis", and is very common in English. With sentence B ("The question is not easy to be answered"), adding a noun does not work. "Be answered" is a passive verb, and "question" is its subject."Be answered" is a valid passive verb to use with the subject "question", but the correct way to add "easy" is by using an adverb: "The question is not easily answered." Hello!When do people say so?Thank you. When they are being silly Exactly. It's a rather annoying way of saying "easy". Please don't use this expression... easy peasy, easy as pie. more common than the lemon squeeze, but still on the silly side Hello. I think that the authentic version is: "Easy, peasy, japanesey, Wash your bum in lemon Squeezy". (it was a detergent with a bizarre spelling) You would chant this as a child in the playground at school, certainly in the UK (at any point in the last fifty years). I'm not sure if this practice has died out.Maybe you could keep it alive. Learn something new every day Well, the meaning is obvious, but I do know one thing about it- I heard it on TV last night. I think it was a Discovery-channel bit about the construction of an aircraft-carrier, modular-style, by robot cranes and computerized blueprints. And today, a post about the expression, from Russia. The day has half arrived when that damned Boob Tube will be gushing with the same swill no matter where in the world you live. It's a conduit, but one we'll have to find ways of keeping clean. A herculean task? Or easy peasy lemon squeazy? When? whenever they feel something to be within their range of abilities.Why? because children get up to all sorts of mischief. Thanks, still I can't understand when and why children say so. Imagine a child in the school playground beating another child at a game. In a taunting, gloating way they might say: "Ha ha, beat you. Easy peasy lemon squeezy!" But equally, a mother might use it to a child, maybe after successfully convincing them to do something they were reluctant to do: "There, that wasn't difficult. Easy peasy lemon squeezy."The phrase itself makes no real sense, except for the word "easy". Don't take it literally. what would adults say instead of easy peasy lemon squeezy?I've been saying it currently, without knowing it was a childish way of saying.I am blushing.... Thanks, still I can't understand when and why children say so. It's a fun thing to say (a matter of opinion, of course). It's basically playing with language and making rhymes. So when children say it they say it because it's fun to say! Children are always playing with language, exploring it and changing it.Or to put it in another ways, they're silly billyies, like me Easy as pie!Piece of cake!It's a breeze!!It's a walk in the park! I've even heard "easy-breezy" from adults who would never say, "Easy-peasy." That's a sweet peace of info, thanks to all! so just means don't careor easy It doesn't mean 'don't care', in my opinion. It only means "easy" or "no problem". Yes, 'don't care' could be expressed as: don't mind/doesn't matter/no mind/whatever/whichever/couldn't give a damn/couldn't care less. Exactly. It's a rather annoying way of saying "easy". Please don't use this expression... Sorry - grew up with it. I've got my six year old saying it, and now some people at work are using it. Long live "easy peasy, lemon squeezy" Hello. I think that the authentic version is: "Easy, peasy, japanesey, Wash your bum in lemon Squeezy". (it was a detergent with a bizarre spelling) You would chant this as a child in the playground at school, certainly in the UK (at any point in the last fifty years). I like it, Chesty. I grew up in Lancashire in the 60s and have no recollection of it. I do recall the detergent, which was spelled Squeezy, for reasons known best to the manufacturers. Last edited: Jul 16, 2009 I grew up in Cheshire in the late sixties and seventies, and I remember the shortened version well. I like Chesty's version, although I don't recall ever hearing it before. I should point out that I live in California now, so it's influence is spreading around the globe. The Mexican housekeeper where I work is one of the people that has picked it up and started to use it. Hello. I think that the authentic version is: "Easy, peasy, japanesey. Wash your bum in lemon Squeezy". (it was a detergent with a bizarre spelling) You would chant this as a child in the playground at school, certainly in the UK (at any point in the last fifty years). I'm not sure if this practice has died out.Maybe you could keep it alive. I've got to point out... that this would be very offensive to lots of people saying "Easy, peasy, japanesey. Wash your bum in lemon Squeezy". Think I wouldn't be doing my job if I didn't point it out.I find it offensive at least. I saw your post and would appreciate some clarification as to why you state this phrase is offensive. Having lived six years in Japan and now married (14 years) to a Japanese woman with two beautiful, mixed race children, I consider my sensitivity to racial slurs rather acute. However, I have yet to find any historical evidence that this phrase was used as a racial slur. Please enlighten me with what you have uncovered in your research. Can anyone shed light on the relevance of the "japanesey" inclusion in the "original" version from post #5? ICU812I am also married to a wonderful Japanese woman , from an intermed family incidentally, so also sensitive to slurs. I don't think jameh0 was suggesting this was intended and used as a slur or insult when it was being used. When I read the phrase, my PC (political correctness) light came on and I wondered why the word Japanese was in the jingle. Is it appropriate, could it cause offence, what does it mean? Is it innocuous and used solely for rhyme and meter, or is there an implication about japanese here somewhere? Does it mean they are to be complimented on their cleanliness, or should clean more? The potential for slur is there (recognized these days, but maybe not back then, in a manner similar to the words like gypped, welshed, jewed etc.). Those words have, thankfully, largely dropped out of use, for obvious reasons. Perhaps this reaction reflects on me and my world view, but you'd be surprised, or maybe not, how many people still use the word Jap as a derogatory term and how insulting it is, whether used by someone intending to insult or just not being aware that it is perceived that way. Is it innocuous and used solely for rhyme and meter [...] That was my reaction: this is a children's nonsense rhyme, after all ICU812, I somehow doubt you'll get an answer from Jameh0 - he hasn't visited since he posted the comment you reacted to. In any event, welcome to the forums! That was my reaction: this is a children's nonsense rhyme, after all Thanks! I finally noticed (d'oh) the dates of the original posts (it kept coming up on g**gle!) I agree it is nothing more than rhyme and meter, with no real reference to Japanese. It has shown up in a Japanese pop-song, by the way, possibly in a dubious context : "You are easy breezy and I am Japanesey"Austin Powers made it dubious also by getting it wrong "Easy squeazy, lemon peasey Also a possible name for an incarnation of Ubuntu - Easy Peasy and the Japan localized version is.... you guessed it Last edited by a moderator: Jul 16, 2009 Moderator note: I have deleted some very well written posts about topics unrelated to the question in the first post. I apologize to those who put careful thought and effort into writing those posts, but we need to stay on or at least near the subject of the thread. We say this all the time in the family when we're teasing each other - not don't use it out of the family. But I hadn't realised it's apparent origins with the washing-up liquid Sgezy (surely it's been overtaken by Fairy Liquid now; ewie: it's spelt with a single , and available in this part of the world!). According to this, The brand first appeared on the shelves in 1964 as "easy peasy lemon sgezy" washing up liquid. So did the phrase originate here or did it pre-date Sgezy? Last edited: Jul 16, 2009

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