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In the world of business communication, clarity and mutual understanding are paramount. Yet, asking "Does that make sense?" can sometimes come across as either condescending or self-doubting. It implies either that the audience might not be sharp enough to understand or that you, as the speaker, are not clear in your communication. To navigate this delicate balance, it is essential to phrase your queries for clarification in a way that is respectful, engaging, and conducive to productive dialogue. This article explores 25 alternative phrases to "Does that make sense?" and delves into when and why each is most appropriate. What to Say Instead of "Does That Make Sense?": 25 Ideas 1. "I'd love to hear your thoughts on this." "I'd love to hear your thoughts on this." "I'm not fully understood but also resonates with me." This phrase values the listener's opinion. It is ideal in collaborative settings where you want to encourage a two-way dialogue and show that you value the perspective of your audience. 2. "How do you feel about what I've just outlined?" "How do you feel about what I've just outlined?" Your insights could help refine these ideas further." This question is particularly useful when you are looking for more than just confirmation of understanding. It opens the floor for emotional and intellectual responses, making it great for discussions that require buy-in or consensus. 3. "Could you please share your perspective on this?" "Could you please share your perspective on this?" Understanding your viewpoint is crucial for us to move forward effectively." This approach is respectful and acknowledges the value of the listener's viewpoint. It's particularly effective in a team environment where each member's input is vital. 4. "Is there anything I can clarify further?" "Is there anything I can clarify further?" I want to ensure that every aspect is clear and comprehensible." This phrase is a direct and open invitation for questions. It's most suitable when you've presented complex or detailed information and want to make sure nothing is misunderstood. 5. "What are your initial reactions to this?" "What are your initial reactions to this? Immediate feedback will help in assessing if the concept is on the right track." This prompt is great for gauging initial responses. It's particularly useful in brainstorming sessions or when presenting a new idea, as it encourages instinctive feedback. See also 25 Things to Say Instead of "Sorry for Your Loss" 6. "Do you need more details on any part of this?" "Do you need more details on any part of this?" I'm here to provide further information if required." This is an inclusive way to ask if anyone needs more information. It's particularly useful in educational or training scenarios where comprehension is key. 7. "I'm curious to know how you interpret this." "I'm curious to know how you interpret this." Your interpretation will help us see if the message is being conveyed as intended." This phrase encourages the listener to share their understanding. It's useful in creative or strategic discussions where individual interpretation can provide valuable insights. 8. "I see you pause a moment. Any questions or comments?" "I see you pause a moment. Any questions or comments?" This phrase gives you a chance to address any uncertainties immediately." This approach is direct and gives a clear invitation for questions or feedback. It's ideal in presentations or meetings where you want to encourage immediate responses. 9. "How does this align with your understanding?" "How does this align with your understanding?" It's crucial that we are on the same page before moving forward." Asking for alignment instead of understanding shows respect for the listener's intellect. It's especially effective in collaborative projects or strategic planning. 10. "Would you like me to go over any of this again?" "Would you like me to go over any of this again?" Sometimes, revisiting a point can bring more clarity." This is a considerate way to offer a recap. It's most suitable in educational or training settings, or when you have presented complex information. 11. "Are there any aspects that you'd like to discuss more?" "Are there any aspects that you'd like to discuss more?" Your questions can provide valuable insights for everyone." This phrase encourages deeper exploration of specific topics. It's ideal in meetings or discussions where detailed understanding is crucial. 12. "I want to make sure we're in sync." "What are your thoughts?" This will help us ensure that we are moving forward together." Here, the focus is on alignment and teamwork. It's particularly effective in collaborative environments where collective understanding is the goal. See also 20 Polite Ways to Uninvite Someone 13. "Let me know if I should elaborate on any point." "Let me know if I should elaborate on any point." Your feedback is important to ensure the clarity of the discussion." This phrase is accommodating and shows that you are open to providing more information as needed. It's great in any setting where you want to be approachable and helpful. 14. "I'm here to answer any questions you may have." "I'm here to answer any questions you may have." Feel free to ask anything that might help you understand the topic better." This is a welcoming and open-ended offer for questions. It's suitable in a variety of settings, from formal presentations to informal discussions. 15. "Do you see any gaps in what I've presented?" "Do you see any gaps in what I've presented?" Identifying any missing pieces will help in making the information more complete and robust." Asking about gaps invites a critical review, which is useful in situations where thorough understanding and detail are important. 16. "Is this in line with what you were expecting?" "Understanding your expectations will help in tailoring the message more effectively." This is a good way to check if the information meets the listener's expectations or preconceived notions. It's especially useful in client meetings or project briefings. 17. "I'd appreciate your input on this." "I'd appreciate your input on this." Your feedback will not only confirm understanding but also enrich the discussion." This approach values the listener's contribution and is ideal in collaborative settings where everyone's input is valued. 18. "Let's ensure we have a shared understanding here. Your views?" "Let's ensure we have a shared understanding here. Your views?" This helps in confirming that we are all on the same track." Focusing on shared understanding promotes a team-oriented approach. It's great in work environments where collective comprehension is key. See also 25 Things to Say Instead of "I Hope You Feel Better" 19. "I'm keen to know if this resonates with you." "I'm keen to know if this resonates with you." I'm keen to know if this resonates with you." Resonance is as important as understanding in ensuring that the message is impactful." This phrase is useful when you're not just looking for comprehension but also for emotional or intellectual engagement with the idea. 20. "Could I provide more clarity on this?" "Could I provide more clarity on this?" Sometimes, additional details can make a concept more comprehensible." This is a humble and helpful way to offer more information. It's particularly appropriate in training sessions or when explaining new concepts. 21. "Are we aligned on this?" "Are we aligned on this?" Alignment is key to moving forward successfully in any project or plan." Asking for alignment is a concise way to check for understanding and agreement. It's effective in team meetings and project discussions. 22. "Does that point seem clear?" "Does that point seem clear?" I'm happy to explain further." This phrase is polite and shows a willingness to provide additional information. It's suitable in any setting where you want to ensure clarity. 23. "Engage with the dialogue." "Engage with the dialogue." This encourages active participation and shows that you value the listener's input. It's useful in collaborative settings where you want to ensure everyone is engaged. 24. "I'd be interested to hear how you're processing this information." "I'd be interested to hear how you're processing this information." Your processing and interpretation can provide unique perspectives." This phrase encourages the listener to share their process of understanding, which can provide insights into how the information is being received. 25. "Let's take a moment to discuss any unclear points." "Let's take a moment to discuss any unclear points." This will ensure that everyone has a clear understanding before we proceed." This is a proactive approach to address any uncertainties. It's especially useful in meetings or workshops where clarity is essential for progress. In the realm of effective communication, finding diverse ways to articulate perplexity or confusion can greatly enhance clarity and comprehension. "Doesn't make sense" is a common phrase, but it's not always the most precise or engaging option. Luckily, the English language offers a myriad of alternatives to express bewilderment or incomprehension. In this article, we'll explore 12 inventive alternatives to "doesn't make sense," providing you with a versatile toolkit for more effective communication. Here are 12 alternative ways to say "doesn't make sense": Seems Illogical Doesn't Add Up Appears Confusing Lacks Clarity Makes No Sense Isn't Rational Feels Incomprehensible Defies Logic Isn't Intelligible Doesn't Compute Sounds Absurd Contradicts Itself Here's the table with meanings and examples: Alternative Phrase Meaning Example Seems Illogical Appears irrational or nonsensical The decision to invest in that scheme seems illogical. Doesn't Add Up Doesn't make sense or fit together Logically His argument makes no sense in the context of the discussion. Isn't Rational Doesn't adhere to logical reasoning It's rational to believe in superstitions. Feels Incomprehensible Seems impossible to understand The technical jargon used in the manual feels incomprehensible to beginners. Defies Logic Goes against the principles of logic The sudden change in policy defies logic and reason. Isn't Intelligible Not understandable or clear The handwriting on the document isn't intelligible. Doesn't Compute Doesn't make sense in a logical context His excuses for being late simply don't compute. Sounds Absurd Seems wildly unreasonable or illogical The idea of cats flying sounds absurd. Contradicts Itself Contains conflicting or inconsistent elements His statement contradicts itself, making it unreliable. In conclusion, there are numerous alternative phrases to express the concept of "doesn't make sense." Each of these alternatives provides a unique way to convey confusion, lack of clarity, or irrationality in communication. By incorporating these varied expressions into your vocabulary, you can effectively articulate your thoughts and enhance clarity in your interactions. Yes, "Doesn't Make Sense" is a correct phrase in English. It is commonly used to convey that something is illogical, unreasonable, or incomprehensible. This phrase is often employed when discussing ideas, actions, or situations that lack coherence or fail to align with rational thinking or common sense. For example, you might say, "The decision to invest in that project doesn't make sense given the current market conditions." In this context, "doesn't make sense" implies that the decision is not logical or justifiable based on the available information. Overall, "Doesn't Make Sense" is a valid expression used to express disbelief or confusion about something that appears illogical or irrational. Subject: Clarification Needed: Recent Decision Doesn't Make Sense Dear [Recipient], I hope this email finds you well. I wanted to address a recent decision that has left me feeling confused and in need of clarification. The decision regarding the new software interface seems to contradict our previous agreements and data that we've gathered. I believe it would be beneficial for us to conduct a thorough review of our current processes and ensure that we are all on the same page and fully understand the reasoning behind this decision. This will not only help me gain clarity but also ensure that we are moving forward in a unified direction. I'm available to schedule a meeting at your earliest convenience to discuss this matter further and address any questions or concerns that may arise. Additionally, if there are any additional insights or information that you can provide to shed light on this decision, I would greatly appreciate it. Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your prompt response and the opportunity to gain clarity on this issue. Best regards, [Your Name] When something seems illogical, it gives the impression of being irrational or nonsensical. This phrase is commonly used when trying to express disbelief or confusion at a situation or argument that doesn't align with logical reasoning. Scenario: In a professional context, you might encounter a decision made by upper management that seems illogical based on the available data or company objectives. This can lead to frustration among employees who are trying to understand the reasoning behind the decision. Example Sentence: "The company's decision to cut costs by reducing employee benefits seems illogical, considering our recent profitability." Variations: Colleagues: "I find it hard to comprehend why the management would make such an illogical decision." Friends: "It just doesn't make any sense to me. How can they think that's a good idea?" Mentor-Mentee: "When faced with situations that seem illogical, it's important to approach them with curiosity and a willingness to understand the underlying reasoning." Grammar/Usage Rule: When using "seems illogical," it's essential to provide context or evidence to support your assertion. This helps to strengthen your argument and demonstrate why you believe the situation is irrational. Dictionary Insight: According to the Cambridge Dictionary, "illogical" means not using reason or clear thinking. Pros: Conveys a sense of confusion or disbelief effectively. Encourages further explanation or clarification. Cons: May indicate a lack of understanding or a need for more information. Related Grammar/Usage Rule: In formal writing, it's crucial to avoid logical fallacies and ensure that arguments are based on sound reasoning and evidence. Exceptions: There may be instances where something seems illogical on the surface but has valid reasoning behind it, such as strategic decisions based on long-term goals or unseen factors. Definitions: Illogical (adjective): Not logical or reasonable. Subject: Concerns Regarding Recent Decision-Making Process Dear [Recipient], I hope this email finds you well. I wanted to address some concerns I have regarding the recent decisions made by the management team, particularly in regards to the changes in our employee benefits package. Upon reviewing the proposed changes, it seems illogical to reduce benefits at a time when our company has been experiencing significant growth and profitability. From a strategic standpoint, it appears counterintuitive to undermine employee morale and satisfaction, which are essential factors in maintaining our competitive edge in the market. I believe it's essential for us to have a more transparent and collaborative decision-making process moving forward, one that takes into account the input and concerns of all stakeholders. By fostering open communication and alignment with our company's overarching goals, we can ensure that future decisions are both rational and beneficial to all parties involved. I look forward to discussing this matter further and finding constructive solutions that uphold our shared values and objectives. Best regards, [Your Name] When something doesn't add up, it suggests that the information or situation lacks coherence or consistency. This phrase is often used when there are discrepancies or inconsistencies that make it difficult to understand or believe. Scenario: Imagine you're reviewing financial reports for your business, and you notice that the numbers don't add up between different sections. This discrepancy can be concerning and may require further investigation to uncover the source of the error. Example Sentence: "The numbers in the report don't add up between the sales figures and the inventory records. Specifically, there seems to be a significant discrepancy in the reported sales numbers for the past quarter compared to the corresponding inventory levels. As a result, I'm concerned about the accuracy of our financial data moving forward. I appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to discussing it further to identify appropriate solutions. Best regards, [Your Name] When something appears confusing, it gives the impression of being unclear or difficult to understand. This phrase is often used when trying to describe a situation or information that is complex or ambiguous. Scenario: Consider encountering a set of instructions for assembling a piece of furniture that appears confusing due to unclear diagrams or convoluted steps. This can lead to frustration and may require seeking additional clarification or guidance to complete the task successfully. Example Sentence: "The new software interface appears confusing to users, as it lacks intuitive navigation and clear instructions." Variations: Colleagues: "I've been reviewing the new procedures, and some aspects appear confusing to me. Have you encountered similar challenges?" Friends: "I tried following the recipe, but it appears confusing with all the unfamiliar ingredients. Do you have any tips to simplify it?" Mentor-Mentee: "When faced with situations where information appears confusing, it's essential to ask questions and seek clarification to ensure understanding." Grammar/Usage Rule: When using "appears confusing," it's important to provide specific examples or descriptions of the aspects that are unclear or difficult to understand. This helps to convey the nature of the confusion and facilitate clearer communication. Dictionary Insight: According to the Cambridge Dictionary, "confusing" means causing a lack of clarity or understanding. Pros: Identifies areas of ambiguity or complexity effectively. Encourages proactive efforts to seek clarification and improve understanding. Cons: May indicate shortcomings in communication or presentation that require addressing. Can lead to frustration or disengagement if not resolved promptly and effectively. Tips: When describing something that appears confusing, focus on providing specific examples or details to illustrate the areas where confusion is unavoidable due to the complexity or novelty of the subject matter, requiring additional support or resources to facilitate comprehension. Definitions: Confusing (adjective): Causing a lack of clarity or understanding. Subject: Request for Clarification on New Software Interface Dear [Recipient], I hope this email finds you well. I wanted to reach out regarding the recent updates to the software interface, as I've noticed that some aspects appear confusing to users, including myself. Specifically, the navigation seems less intuitive than previous versions, and there are areas where the instructions are unclear or difficult to follow. As our team relies heavily on the software for our daily tasks, it's essential for us to ensure that everyone can navigate and utilize it effectively. I'm reaching out to request further clarification or guidance on how we can address these challenges and improve the usability of the software interface. Additionally, I'm open to scheduling a meeting or discussion to brainstorm potential solutions and ensure that everyone feels confident using the updated interface. Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your insights and recommendations for moving forward. Best regards, [Your Name] When something lacks clarity, it means that it doesn't have clear or understandable meaning. This phrase is often used when describing information or communication that is ambiguous or difficult to interpret. Scenario: Imagine receiving a written explanation from a colleague that lacks clarity due to vague language or unclear instructions. This can lead to misunderstandings and delays in completing tasks effectively. Example Sentence: "The instructions for completing the project lack clarity, making it difficult to understand the roles and responsibilities." Variations: Colleagues: "I've reviewed the instructions, but I'm still unclear on certain points. Could you provide more detail?" Friends: "I tried following the recipe, but it lacks clarity on when to use certain ingredients. Can you clarify?" Mentor-Mentee: "When providing instructions to others, it's important to ensure they are clear and concise. Otherwise, it may lead to confusion and frustration." Grammar/Usage Rule: When using "lacks clarity," it's important to specify what aspects of the communication or information are unclear. This helps to pinpoint areas that require clarification or revision. Dictionary Insight: According to the Cambridge Dictionary, "clarity" refers to the quality of being easy to understand or the quality of being expressed clearly. Pros: Identifies areas of ambiguity or confusion effectively. Encourages proactive efforts to improve communication or information. Cons: Indicates potential shortcomings in communication that require addressing. Can lead to misunderstandings or inefficiencies if not resolved promptly and effectively. Tips: When communicating with others, strive to provide clear and concise information to avoid confusion. Encourage feedback and open dialogue to address any areas where clarity may be lacking and improve communication overall. Related Grammar/Usage Rule: In formal writing, clarity is essential to ensure that the message is conveyed accurately and effectively to the intended audience. Exceptions: There may be instances where achieving clarity is challenging due to the complexity or sensitivity of the subject matter, requiring additional effort and resources to ensure understanding. Definitions: Clarity (noun): The quality of being easy to understand or expressed clearly. Subject: Request for Clarity on Project Instructions Dear [Recipient], I hope this email finds you well. I wanted to reach out regarding the instructions provided for the upcoming project, as I've noticed that they lack clarity in certain areas. Specifically, there are sections of the instructions that seem ambiguous or open to interpretation, making it difficult for team members to understand their roles and responsibilities. As we approach the project deadline, it's essential for us to ensure that everyone is clear on what is expected of them. I'm reaching out to request clarification or guidance on the instructions that are unclear or need further clarification. Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your insights and recommendations for clarifying the project instructions. Best regards, [Your Name] When something makes no sense, it indicates that the information or logic is unclear or difficult to understand. This phrase is often used when trying to describe a situation or information that is confusing or nonsensical. Scenario: Picture a conversation where someone presents a theory that makes no sense given the available evidence or logic. This can lead to skepticism and the need for further explanation or clarification. Example Sentence: "The proposal to invest in that risky venture makes no sense, considering the current market conditions and financial projections." Variations: Colleagues: "I'm struggling to understand the rationale behind the decision—it just makes no sense to me. Can you shed some light on the thought process behind it?" Friends: "I heard about their latest plan, and honestly, it makes no sense to me. Why would they do that?" Mentor-Mentee: "When evaluating different options, it's important to critically assess whether they align with your goals and values. If something makes no sense, it's worth seeking clarification before proceeding." Grammar/Usage Rule: When using "makes no sense," it's important to provide context or evidence to support your assertion. This helps to clarify why you believe the situation or statement lacks logical coherence. Dictionary Insight: According to the Cambridge Dictionary, "makes no sense" means that something is not reasonable or possible to understand. Pros: Clearly conveys disbelief or confusion at a situation or statement. Prompts further explanation or clarification to address any misunderstandings. Cons: Indicates potential flaws or inconsistencies that require attention. Can lead to skepticism or distrust if not addressed promptly and transparently. Tips: When expressing that something makes no sense, focus on providing specific reasons or examples to support your assessment. Encourage open dialogue and collaboration to address any misunderstandings or discrepancies in investigation or consideration. Definitions: Makes No Sense (phrase): Lacks rationality or logical coherence. Subject: Request for Clarification on Recent Proposal Dear [Recipient], I hope this email finds you well. I wanted to discuss the recent proposal put forward during the meeting, as I'm struggling to understand the rationale behind it. Specifically, the proposal to invest in [mention details of the proposal] makes no sense to me given the current market conditions and financial projections. I believe it's essential for us to thoroughly evaluate the potential risks and benefits before making any decisions that could impact our company's future. I'm reaching out to request further clarification or insight into the thought process behind the proposal. Additionally, I'm open to scheduling a meeting or discussion to explore alternative options or address any concerns that may arise. Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your response. Best regards, [Your Name] When something isn't rational, it means it doesn't adhere to logical reasoning or sound judgment. This phrase is often used when describing decisions or actions that seem illogical or unreasonable. Scenario: Imagine a scenario where a colleague proposes a course of action that isn't rational based on the available data or facts. This can lead to skepticism and the need for further discussion or evaluation. Example Sentence: "The decision to implement a new policy without consulting stakeholders isn't rational, as it may lead to backlash and negative consequences." Variations: Colleagues: "I'm concerned that the proposed strategy isn't rational given the potential risks involved. Have we thoroughly assessed all the implications?" Friends: "I understand where they're coming from, but their decision isn't rational considering the circumstances. Don't you agree?" Mentor-Mentee: "When faced with difficult decisions, it's important to consider the rationality behind each option and weigh the potential risks and benefits carefully." Grammar/Usage Rule: When using "isn't rational," it's important to provide context or evidence to support your assertion. This helps to clarify why you believe the decision or action is irrational or unreasonable. Dictionary Insight: According to the Cambridge Dictionary, "defies logic" means to go against the principles of reason or rationality. Pros: Clearly conveys disbelief or incredulity at a situation or action that lacks rationality. Prompts further discussion or evaluation to address any inconsistencies or contradictions. Cons: May indicate a lack of understanding or a need for more information. Related Grammar/Usage Rule: In formal writing, it's important to ensure that arguments are grounded in logical reasoning and evidence to maintain credibility and persuasiveness. Exceptions: There may be instances where decisions or actions that initially appear irrational are justified by external factors or long-term considerations, requiring further explanation or context. Definitions: Rational (adjective): Based on clear thought and reason. Subject: Concerns Regarding Proposed Policy Change Dear [Recipient], I hope this email finds you well. I wanted to express some concerns I have regarding the proposed policy change discussed during the recent meeting. Specifically, I believe that implementing the new policy without consulting stakeholders isn't rational, as it may lead to unintended consequences and undermine our efforts to foster a collaborative work environment. I'm reaching out to request further discussion or evaluation of the proposed policy change to ensure that it aligns with our company's values and objectives. Additionally, I'm open to exploring alternative approaches or solutions that address the underlying concerns without disrupting our operations. Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your insights and recommendations for moving forward. Best regards, [Your Name] When something feels incomprehensible, it seems impossible to understand or grasp. This phrase is often used when describing complex or abstract concepts that are difficult to make sense of. Scenario: Imagine reading a technical document filled with jargon and complex terms that you're struggling to understand. This can lead to frustration and a need for further clarification or assistance. Example Sentence: "The technical documentation provided for the new software is completely incomprehensible to me. I'm having a difficult time understanding what the instructions are trying to convey." Variations: Colleagues: "I've been trying to make sense of the new software, but some of the terminology feels incomprehensible to me. Can you provide some clarification?" Friends: "I tried reading the article, but some parts felt incomprehensible to me. Do you think you could help me understand it better?" Mentor-Mentee: "When learning new concepts, it's natural to encounter material that feels incomprehensible at first. Don't hesitate to ask questions and seek clarification to deepen your understanding." Grammar/Usage Rule: When using "feels incomprehensible," it's important to provide specific examples or descriptions of the aspects that are difficult to understand. This helps to pinpoint areas that require further explanation or simplification. Dictionary Insight: According to the Cambridge Dictionary, "incomprehensible" means impossible to understand. Pros: Clearly communicates the difficulty of understanding complex or abstract concepts. Encourages seeking clarification or simplification to improve comprehension. Cons: Indicates potential shortcomings in communication or presentation that require addressing. Can lead to feelings of inadequacy or frustration if not addressed empathetically. Tips: When describing something as incomprehensible, focus on providing specific examples or descriptions of the aspects that are challenging to understand. Encourage open dialogue and collaboration to address any misunderstandings or difficulties encountered. Related Grammar/Usage Rule: In formal writing, it's important to ensure that information is presented clearly and concisely to facilitate understanding and comprehension. Exceptions: There may be instances where material initially feels incomprehensible due to its complexity or novelty but becomes clearer with further study or explanation. Definitions: Incomprehensible (adjective): Impossible to understand. Subject: Request for Clarification on Technical Documentation Dear [Recipient], I hope this email finds you well. I wanted to reach out regarding the technical documentation provided for the new software, as I find it completely incomprehensible. I'm having a difficult time understanding what the instructions are trying to convey, and I'm struggling to figure out how to proceed. I'm reaching out to request assistance in simplifying the technical language used in the documentation to improve accessibility for users like myself. Additionally, I'm open to scheduling a training session or discussion to address any questions or concerns that may arise. Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your assistance in enhancing the usability of the technical documentation. Best regards, [Your Name] When something defies logic, it goes against the principles of reason or rationality. This phrase is commonly used when describing situations or actions that seem absurd or nonsensical. Scenario: Imagine encountering a proposal that defies logic, such as suggesting that gravity no longer applies in a certain area. This notion goes against fundamental principles of physics and is immediately dismissed as illogical. Example Sentence: "The sudden change in policy defies logic and reason, as it contradicts our company's stated values and objectives." Variations: Colleagues: "I'm struggling to understand the rationale behind the decision—it completely defies logic. Can you shed some light on the thought process behind it?" Friends: "I heard about their latest plan, and honestly, it defies logic to me. How could they think that's a good idea?" Mentor-Mentee: "When evaluating different options, it's crucial to consider whether they align with logical reasoning. If something defies logic, it's worth questioning its validity and exploring alternative approaches." Grammar/Usage Rule: When using "defies logic," it's essential to provide specific reasons or evidence to support your assertion. This helps to clarify why you believe the situation or action is irrational or unreasonable. Dictionary Insight: According to the Cambridge Dictionary, "defies logic" means to go against the principles of reason or logic. Pros: Clearly conveys disbelief or incredulity at a situation or action that lacks rationality. Prompts further discussion or evaluation to address any inconsistencies or contradictions. Cons: May indicate a lack of understanding or a need for more information. Related Grammar/Usage Rule: In formal writing, it's important to ensure that arguments are grounded in logical reasoning and evidence to maintain credibility and persuasiveness. Exceptions: There may be instances where decisions or actions that initially appear irrational are justified by external factors or long-term considerations, requiring further explanation or context. Definitions: Defies Logic (phrase): Goes against the principles of reason or rationality. Subject: Concerns Regarding Recent Policy Change Dear [Recipient], I hope this email finds you well. I wanted to express some concerns I have regarding the recent policy change announced by the management team. Specifically, the sudden change in policy regarding [mention details of the policy change] defies logic and reason, as it contradicts our company's stated values and objectives. I believe it's essential for us to thoroughly evaluate the implications of this decision and consider alternative approaches that align more closely with our overarching goals. I'm reaching out to request further discussion or evaluation of the policy change to ensure that it reflects the best interests of our company and its stakeholders. Additionally, I'm open to exploring alternative solutions or compromises that address any concerns or objections raised by the team. Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your insights and recommendations for moving forward. Best regards, [Your Name] When something defies explanation, it means it is impossible to clarify or make sense of. This phrase is often used when describing phenomena or occurrences that cannot be understood or rationalized. Scenario: Imagine witnessing a sudden disappearance of an object or a phenomenon that defies explanation, as there are no signs of tampering or unauthorized access to the system. Example Sentence: "The sudden disappearance of the data defies explanation, as there are no signs of tampering or unauthorized access to the system." Variations: Colleagues: "I've been trying to make sense of the data, but the sudden disappearance defies explanation. Do you have any theories on what might be causing it?" Friends: "I heard about their latest plan, and honestly, it defies logic to me. How could they think that's a good idea?" Mentor-Mentee: "When evaluating different options, it's crucial to consider whether they align with logical reasoning. If something defies logic, it's worth questioning its validity and exploring alternative approaches." Grammar/Usage Rule: When using "defies explanation," it's essential to provide context or evidence to support your assertion. 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Related Grammar/Usage Rule: In formal writing, it's important to acknowledge limitations in understanding or knowledge while remaining open to new insights or discoveries. Exceptions: There may be instances where phenomena initially defy explanation but are later understood through further research or analysis, requiring patience and perseverance in seeking answers. Definitions: Defies Explanation (phrase): Impossible to understand or explain. Subject: Request for Investigation into Anomalous Events Dear [Recipient], I hope this email finds you well. I wanted to bring to your attention some anomalies I've observed in the recent data analysis. Specifically, I've noticed several unexplained lights in the sky. These occurrences challenge our understanding of the world and leave me searching for answers. Example Sentence: "The sudden disappearance of the data defies explanation, as there are no signs of tampering or unauthorized access to the system." Variations: Colleagues: "I've been trying to make sense of the data, but the sudden disappearance defies explanation. Do you have any theories on what might be causing it?" Friends: "I heard about their latest plan, and honestly, it defies logic to me. How could they think that's a good idea?" Mentor-Mentee: "When evaluating different options, it's crucial to consider whether they align with logical reasoning. If something defies logic, it's worth questioning its validity and exploring alternative approaches." Grammar/Usage Rule: When using "defies explanation," it's essential to provide context or evidence to support your assertion. This helps to clarify why you believe the situation or occurrence cannot be rationalized. Dictionary Insight: According to the Cambridge Dictionary, "defies explanation" means to be impossible to understand or explain. Pros: Clearly communicates the difficulty of understanding or rationalizing a situation or occurrence. 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Could we review that section together? Thanks,[Your Name] Best Use: When addressing a specific point that needs clarification. Additional Note: This phrase keeps the conversation open-ended rather than critical. This phrase expresses curiosity and willingness to learn rather than just pointing out confusion. Scenario Example: Subject: Understanding the New Policy Update Hi [Name], The new policy update sounds interesting! I'd love to understand this better - could you share more details on how it affects our daily workflow? Thanks in advance!Best,[Your Name] Best Use: When showing enthusiasm about learning more. Additional Note: This is a great way to encourage a more in-depth explanation while keeping the tone positive. This phrase ensures alignment rather than implying confusion. Scenario Example: Subject: Verifying the Next Steps for the Project Hi [Name], Just to make sure we're on the same page, we're finalizing the draft by Friday and sending it for approval next Monday, correct? Let me know if I missed anything!Best,[Your Name] Best Use: When confirming details to avoid miscommunication. Additional Note: This is a polite way to ask for verification while keeping the conversation productive. When something is too complex, asking for a simpler explanation helps clarify things without making the other person feel like they were unclear. Scenario Example: Subject: Understanding Technical Specifications Hi [Name], The specs look great, but can you simplify that for me, especially the integration part? I want to make sure I understand it fully before we move forward. Thanks!Best,[Your Name] Best Use: When dealing with highly technical or complex topics. Additional Note: This phrase helps break down complicated concepts without making it seem like you weren't paying attention. If you need a full recap, this phrase lets you request it respectfully and collaboratively. Scenario Example: Subject: Reviewing Project Deliverables Hi [Name], Before we finalize everything, let's go over this one more time to ensure we've covered all key points. Would you be available for a quick meeting tomorrow? Best,[Your Name] Best Use: When reviewing important information before taking action. Additional Note: This phrase is particularly useful in team discussions and final checks before decisions. Conclusion Choosing the right words when something "doesn't make sense" can make a significant difference in communication. By using more thoughtful phrases, you keep conversations open, constructive, and professional. Whether you're in a business meeting, emailing a client, or discussing something with a colleague, the way you express confusion matters.