

Scientific Writing Resources

Words and phrases that can confuse

(a bit of grammatical help)

To check

To control





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To check

To control

To check/to control: These two verbs are often confused by non English people, in some languages the are translated with the same word. However, they are different and need to be used in the correct way. Let's see what they mean.

- To control = modify/change during
 - -limit/a standard of comparison
- To check = verify after
 - -lock/block/stop

Phrases

Self-control
Check in
Check up
Check out

Remote control
Control center
To lose control
Medical check

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To check

To control

- In difficult situations, you must stay in control.
 □ (Be able to change anything whenever you want)
- When you drive fast, you have to control the car.
 - ☐(Make sure the car goes where you want)
- "platelet activity was higher in patients with the disease than in the controls"
 - □(Used as a base line to see changes)
- The fire was under control.
 - ☐(It was managed well and can be stopped)
- These drugs are controlled substances.
 - □(Subject to modification for use)
- The English are known for their self-control.
 - ☐(They stay calm, they modify their temperament)
- Use the remote control to open the gate.
 - □(Wirelessly open/close)
- The team lost control of the ball.
 - ☐(They could do what they wanted; now, no)
- Here is the control center where we do everything.
 - ☐(Here we can change/modify everything)



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To check

To control

- The use of controlled substances must be checked.
 - (The controlled substances must be stopped/regulated)
- At the hotel, go to the reception and check-in.
 - (Verify your booking/name/passport)
- The doctor wanted to give me a check-up.
 - (Verify how your are from blood tests/examination)
- You need a medical check before you can attend a gym.
 - (A doctor makes sure you can attend the gym)
- At the supermarket, before you pay you go to the check-out.
 - (To verify what you have taken and pay)
- At the mechanics, he checks your oil.
 - (The mechanic will verify if you have enough oil)
- At the theatre, you can check-in your coat.

 ☐ (Someone will give you a ticket for your coat and hang it for you)