

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Misused Verbs: Lie/Lay

No, in this case we are not talking about whether or not you are telling the truth. The question is: when you stretch out on your bed, do you **lie** or do you **lay**? The answer is: it depends when you are doing it.

Yes, this one is a little trickier than most. Read about the differences (and similarities) between **lie** and **lay**:



**Lay:** to lay means to place an object or objects down somewhere. **Lay** is the correct present tense form of the verb. **Laid** is the correct past tense form of the verb. This verb **to lay** always includes an item that is being put or placed.

The geese each **lay** three eggs per day.

Yesterday, the geese **laid** four eggs.

**Lie:** to lie means to recline your body. **Lie** is the correct present tense form of the verb. However, **lay** is the correct past tense form of the verb. That's right, **lay**. It's no wonder it gets confused with the verb above, since the past form is the same as that verb's present form.

I need to go **lie** on my bed.

Last night I **lay** on my bed, unable to sleep.



Choose "lie," "lay," or "laid" to complete each sentence.

1. Before I went to bed, I \_\_\_\_\_ (lie, lay, laid) my clothes out for tomorrow.
2. Every afternoon, we \_\_\_\_\_ (lie, lay, laid) on the bed for a nap.
3. When they're cold, they \_\_\_\_\_ (lie, lay, laid) a blanket on their legs.
4. All of last week I \_\_\_\_\_ (lie, lay, laid) in bed feeling sick.
5. Our pet dogs like to \_\_\_\_\_ (lie, lay, laid) under the table.
6. Yesterday, the boys \_\_\_\_\_ (lie, lay, laid) their backpacks outside.
7. While we meet, they \_\_\_\_\_ (lie, lay, laid) their purses on the couch.
8. Susanna and Maribel often \_\_\_\_\_ (lie, lay, laid) on the floor to make posters.
9. Last night we all \_\_\_\_\_ (lie, lay, laid) awake until midnight.
10. Yesterday, our teacher \_\_\_\_\_ (lie, lay, laid) on the ground, injured.