



Permission Verbs Common Mistakes



We are suppose to meet on
Friday

Suppose actually means “assume” or “guess”. It’s a regular present simple verb. In this sentence, we need the modal verb “be supposed to”, meaning “expected to” or “required to”.



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Suppose means “to assume” or “to guess”.

*They suppose I'll pass the exam because I'm
the best in class.*

I suppose she isn't married.

With this meaning of suppose, the past tense is *supposed*.

We supposed she would pass the exam.

I supposed it wasn't possible given the complexity of the case.

We also have the expression “I suppose (so)”, meaning “I don’t want to but I have to”.
I expresses reluctance.

Are you coming to the concert? I suppose so.

I suppose we’ll meet at 4pm instead the?

Supposed is part of the modal verb “be supposed to”, meaning “expected to” or “required to”. I.e. a permission verb.

We are supposed to meet at 5pm.

She is supposed to be in a meeting now.

In this form, it's always written with a D at the end and it's the verb to be that changes tense to express past, present or future.

Supposed can also be used as an adjective. The pronunciation of ED is very prominent in this case. (səpəʊzɪd). This means “generally assumed but not necessarily true”.

The supposed cause of the accident was a deer.



She never let's me go to the cinema.

Let's is used to make a suggestion. *Lets*, without an apostrophe, expresses permission.



She never let's me go to
the cinema.



She never lets me go to the
cinema.



Let's is a contracted form of "let us". It provides a suggestion and must be followed by an infinitive verb.

Let's go to the cinema!

Let's drive me car!

Lets is the third person singular form of the verb “to let” in the present simple tense. It provides permission.

My mum lets me drive her car.

My dad lets me have sweets.

The infinitive form of the verb is let and it's typically followed by an object. The past forms are let - let.