

TOP 10



IELI
Intensive English
Language Institute

MOST COMMON ERRORS MADE IN ENGLISH

NUMBER 1: WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MOST & MOST OF?

? CAN YOU FIND THE MISTAKE?

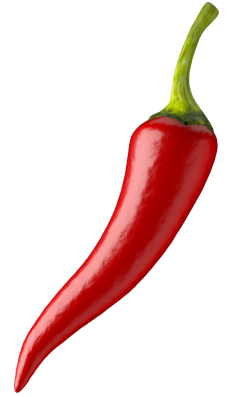
This is one of the most common mistakes in written and spoken English. Can you find it?

Most of children do not like spicy food.

> ANSWER

The corrected version is ...

Most ~~of~~ children do not like spicy food.



> WHEN TO USE MOST OR MOST OF

It depends on whether you are talking about children 'in general' or some 'specific' children.

children in general ...

Most children do not like spicy food.

some specific children ...

Most of the children in my family do not like spicy food.



> MORE EXAMPLES

Most of + the + plural noun + descriptive/restrictive phrase + verb

Most of the people in my class are from Europe.

Most of the books that I bought were cheap.

Most of the apples on that tree are red.

Sometimes, the determiner and descriptive/restrictive phrase are replaced with another determiner like **my** or **them**. For example...

Most of my friends like video games.

I have a collection of old records. Most of them are soul or funk.

Use the same pattern with other determiners like:

General:	Some	All	No
Specific:	Some of	All of	None of

> REMEMBER!

Use **most** if you are talking about a general group.

Use **most of** if you are talking about a specific group, and add a determiner like **the**, **my** or **them**.

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