

confuse[kən'fju:z] *v*

1. смущать, приводить в замешательство
to confuse a pupil by difficult questions - смутить ученика трудными вопросами
2. смешивать, спутывать
to confuse two authors of the same name - спутать двух писателей с одинаковой фамилией
to confuse two words of similar spelling - спутать два слова с одинаковым написанием
to confuse money with happiness - отождествлять богатство и счастье
3. запутывать, усложнять
stop confusing the issue - перестаньте запутывать вопрос

confuse

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

con·fuse [confuse confuses confused confusing] *BrE* [kən'fju:z] *NAmE*[kən'fju:z] *verb*

1. ~ **sb** to make sb unable to think clearly or understand sth
 - They confused me with conflicting accounts of what happened.
2. ~ **A and/with B** to think wrongly that sb/sth is sb/sth else

Syn: mix up

- People often confuse me and my twin sister.
 - Be careful not to confuse quantity with quality.
3. ~ **sth** to make a subject more difficult to understand
 - His comments only served to confuse the issue further.

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we /they	confuse
	<i>BrE</i> /kən'fju:z/
	<i>NAmE</i> /kən'fju:z/
he / she /it	confuses
	<i>BrE</i> /kən'fju:zɪz/
	<i>NAmE</i> /kən'fju:zɪz/
past simple, past participle	confused
	<i>BrE</i> /kən'fju:zɪd/
	<i>NAmE</i> /kən'fju:zɪd/
-ing form	confusing
	<i>BrE</i> /kən'fju:zɪŋ/
	<i>NAmE</i> /kən'fju:zɪŋ/

Word Origin:

Middle English (in the sense 'rout, bring to ruin'): from Old French **confus**, from Latin **confusus**, past participle of **confundere** 'mingle together'. Originally all senses of the verb were passive, and therefore appeared only as the past participle confused; the active voice occurred rarely until the 19th cent. when it began to replace confound.

Thesaurus:**confuse** *verb*

1. **T**
 - Doctors love to confuse us with obscure Latin terms.

puzzle • • **baffle** • • **bewilder** • • **mystify** • • **perplex** • • **defeat** • |informal **stump** • • **beat** •

It puzzles/baffles/beats **me how/why** ...

It puzzles/baffles **me that** ...

What puzzles/baffles/mystifies/beats **me is** ...

2. **T**
 - People often confuse me and my twin sister.

mistake sb/sth for sb/sth • • **take** • |especially spoken **mix sb/sth up** •

Opp: distinguish

confuse sb/sth/mix sb/sth up **with** sb/sth

mistake/take sb/sth **for** sb/sth

be **easily** confused with/mistaken for sb/sth

3. **T**
 - Just to confuse matters, all the street names have changed.

complicate • • **cloud** • • **blur** •

Opp: clarify

confuse/complicate/cloud **the issue**

confuse/complicate **matters/things/the situation**

Confuse or complicate? Something **complicates** a situation by being an additional problem. With **confuse** the emphasis is on the fact that it is difficult to recognize or understand what needs to be done.

Example Bank:

- I sometimes confuse Jane with her sister.
- I will try to be brief and avoid further confusing the issue.
- Seeing the two of them together totally confused me.
- The condition can sometimes be confused for influenza.

- They have deliberately confused the general public with their claims.
- You can easily confuse the two paintings.
- An apology for something should not be confused with genuine remorse.
- Doctors love to confuse us with obscure Latin names and terms.
- His latest comments only serve to confuse the issue further.
- Just to confuse matters, they have decided to give all the streets new names.
- The Tasmanian wolf is not to be confused with the dingo.
- There are too many different rules confusing the situation.
- These instructions confused everyone.

confuse

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

confuse /kən'fju:z/ *BrE* ^ˈ *AmE* ^ˈ verb [transitive]

[Word Family: **adverb**: ↑confusedly, ↑confusingly; **adjective**: ↑confused, ↑confusing; **verb**: ↑confuse; **noun**: ↑confusion]

[Date: 1800-1900; Origin: confused]

1. to make someone feel that they cannot think clearly or do not understand:

" I understand the text but the diagrams are confusing me.

2. to think wrongly that a person or thing is someone or something else:

" People might well confuse the two products.

confuse somebody/something with somebody/something

" I always confuse you with your sister – you look so alike.

" Donald Regan, not to be confused with former President Ronald Reagan

3. **confuse the issue/matter/argument etc** to make it even more difficult to think clearly about a situation or problem or to deal with it:

" He kept asking unnecessary questions which only confused the issue.

confuse

Freakuency Pack

12500 **2857**^{MCW}

15000 **1607**^{COCA}

RANGE: **2k CONFUSE** 24935

confuse 1736

confusing 3831

confusingly 78

confuses 329

confused 10068

confusion 8893

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

1256 **17660**¹³²⁶ *vvi*

388 **35712**⁴¹⁰ *vv0*