



10 SPANISH TRANSLATION MISTAKES...

Here are the answers and some grammar information to explain why:

1. I listen **to** the radio every morning.

The verb **listen** is followed by **to** when there is an object named. Other verbs that have this pattern are: **talk/speak/explain to** + a person.

2. My boss is used **to** working late.

The verb **BE + used to** is followed by a **verb-ing**. This is because the 'to' is a preposition and all prepositions in English must be followed by a *noun* or a *verb-ing* (which is 'acting' like a noun)

3. I'm not sure how much money my co-workers ~~win~~ **earn**.

We **earn** money (a salary, or wages) but we *win* games or competitions (we can only *win* money when we are **gambling** for example, at a casino)

4. My fathers **parents** live in the countryside, but I have a lot of **parents relatives** in the city.

In English, your parents are your mother and father together (you can have one parent but you can't identify from this which one it is!) Your **relatives** are your extended family – aunts, uncles, cousins etc. It is easy to confuse the Spanish word *parientes* for 'parents'.

5. I will ask ~~to~~ my friend about my problem. I know he will tell ~~to~~ me some good advice.

The verbs **ask** and **tell** are NOT followed by **to**. However, we have to add *the person* (my friend) or personal object *pronoun* (me/you/him/her/us/them) after the verb.

6. The shops in the town are open since **from** 9am to 6pm.

We say **from** (a time) **to** (a time) to show the regular *duration* of a activity or timetable.

7. I'd like to present what ~~is~~ the business **is** about.

When introducing a topic with a sentence starter followed by **what** we continue the sentence with a **statement form** NOT a question form.

8. I need to ~~put my~~ **pay** attention to this presentation.

We can **pay attention to** something when we need to focus on it carefully.

9. I am late because I ~~lost~~ **missed** the bus this morning.

The verb **miss** is used in English when talking about public transport to show that we were unable to **catch** the bus/train/plane that we wanted to go on.

10. How long ~~are~~ **have you been** working in your company?

We use the **present perfect continuous/progressive form** to show *duration* of an action that started in the past and continues into the *present*. The question usually starts with '**how long**' to indicate 'length of time'.