

## Instead of / Rather than

### Sentence Pattern:

*A instead of B*

*A rather than B*

***Instead of and rather than mean “in place of”.***

- My wife wanted to buy a new car, but I decided to buy a used car.  
→ I bought a used car **instead of** a new car.  
→ I bought a used car **rather than** a new car.
- Everyone ordered chicken at the restaurant, but because I had chicken for dinner last night, I decided to order the fish.  
→ I ordered the fish **instead of** the chicken.  
→ I ordered the fish **rather than** the chicken.
- It's a nice day today, so I didn't drive my car. I walked to work.  
→ I walked to work **instead of** driving.  
→ I walked to work **rather than** driving.

**Note: If “A” and “B” are verbs, you must add “-ing” to the verb after instead of/rather than:**

- **Wrong:** I went running instead of ride a bike. (x)
- **Right:** I went running instead of riding a bike.
- **Right:** I went running rather than riding a bike.
  
- **Wrong:** John decided to play video games rather than do his homework. (x)
- **Right:** John decided to play video games rather than doing his homework.
- **Right:** John decided to play video games instead of doing his homework.