

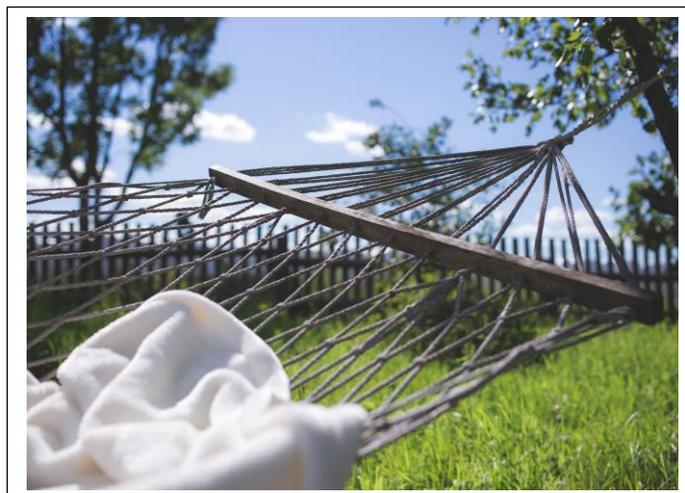
## Easily Confused Words: Lie vs. Lay

### Forms and Meanings

<b>LIE</b> (intransitive = has no object)	<b>LAY</b> (transitive = takes an object)
be in a flat position	put something in a flat position
<b>lie</b> I need to lie down.	<b>lay</b> Please lay your pencil on the desk when you're done with the test.
<b>lay</b> I was tired, so I lay down.	<b>laid</b> I feel asleep soon after I laid my head on the soft pillow.
<b>lain</b> Have you ever lain in the grass and looked up at the clouds?	<b>laid</b> My parents never laid a hand on me in anger.
<b>lying</b> The woman was lying on blanket with a book in her hands.	<b>laying</b> The workers have been laying carpets on every bedroom floor.

### TASK A. Find and correct any errors.

Have you ever laid in a hammock? It's really a wonderful sensation. It's like lying on a cloud because you feel like you're floating. As soon as you lay down in one, you begin to swing gently. It's even more comfortable if you lie your head on a pillow. Some people enjoy laying in a hammock for hours. I do. If it gets cool around sunset, ask someone to lay a light blanket on you.



## ***Easily Confused Words: Lie vs. Lay***

TASK B. Describe each photo in detail. Use at least one of the verbs in [brackets].



[lie, lay]

1.  
What  
makes this  
table  
setting  
special?



[lie, lay]

2.  
What is on  
the bed?

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## ***Easily Confused Words: Lie vs. Lay***

### **TASK A. Answers.**

Have you ever **lain** in a hammock? It's really a wonderful sensation. It's like lying on a cloud because you feel like you're floating. As soon as you **lie** down in one, you begin to swing gently. It's even more comfortable if you **lay** your head on a pillow. Some people enjoy **lying** in a hammock for hours. I do. If it gets cool around sunset, ask someone to lay a light blanket on you.

### **TASK A. Possible answers.**

1. There's a big gold plate on the bottom, and three fancy smaller plates are lying on top. A pretty linen napkin is lying between the gold plate and the stack of smaller plates. Someone carefully laid utensils next to the plates.
2. There's a beige blanket lying on the bed. It wasn't folded nicely. It's lying there like someone threw it on the bed. The same person laid a book on the bed. It's still open because they probably plan to come back soon.