

## notice vs. realize vs. recognize

1. **Notice** means to become visually aware of something or someone, by using one's eyes:

- I **noticed** she had gotten her hair cut.
- When I **noticed** she was tired, I suggested going back home.
- I didn't **notice** her even though she was sitting in front of me at the theater.

2. **Realize** means to understand a situation clearly, by using one's mind and other senses.

- I **realized** the building was on fire when I smelled the smoke.
- I **realized** my mistake and apologized to her at once.
- After several hours of trying to understand the problem, I **realized** it was too difficult for me to fix.

3. **Recognize** means to identify something or someone based on having previous experience with that thing or person:

- Even though I haven't seen her in five years, I **recognized** her right away at the airport.
- Movie stars wear dark sunglasses so that nobody will **recognize** them.
- I didn't **recognize** my teacher because I saw her in the supermarket and she wasn't wearing glasses.