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With Denyse Tessensohn

on 'Many a ...'

Reader Joanne Lau correctly points out that some people are unclear how "many a ..." should be used. They don't know whether it is followed by a singular or plural noun and verb.

For example, a common mistake today is "many a men do not ..." when the correct expression is "many a man does not ..."

Standard English: Many a man does not understand how the mind of a woman works.

We will answer some of your spoken English language questions in this column, and a book prize will be awarded weekly for the question, anecdote or suggestion most useful to our readers. Email us at sayitright@newstoday.com.sg