

| Try to avoid | Why? | Try to use phrases like |
|---|--|--|
| Successful suicide Completed suicide | We never want to view loss by suicide as a success It implies that suicide is a good thing or a “check box” | Died by suicide |
| Unsuccessful suicide Failed suicide | Think of the sense of accomplishment you feel when you “complete” a big project. Then think of the disappointment you feel when you don’t. | They survived their attempt |
| Committed suicide | It implies that suicide is a crime or sin | Died by suicide Took their own life |
| “Sally” is suicidal | There is more to “Sally” than her thoughts | “Sally” has or had suicidal thoughts |

