



Tutor Channel on Tour

ภาษาอังกฤษ

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Review of Errors Commonly Found

Verb Errors

1. Errors in Verb Tense

Incorrect: When I came home, the children still don't finish dinner.

Correct: When I came home, the children still **hadn't finished** dinner.

Incorrect: As we ate dinner, the phone rang.

Correct : As we **were eating** dinner, the phone rang.

In Reported Speech, check that the rule of sequence of tenses has been observed

Incorrect: She promised she will come

Correct : She promised she **would come**.

Incorrect: She said she doesn't know his phone number.

Correct: She said she **didn't know** his phone number.

Incorrect: She claimed she has never been there.

Correct: She claimed she **had never been** there.

2. Errors in Tense Formation

Incorrect : He threwed it out of the window.

Correct : He **threw** it out of the window.

Incorrect: Having just drank some water, I wasn't thirsty.

Correct: **Having just drunk** some water, I wasn't thirsty.

3. Errors in Subject-Verb Agreement

Incorrect: There is many reasons why I can't help you.

Correct: There **are many reasons** why I can't help you.

Incorrect: Sir, Lloyd, accompanied by his wife, were at the party.

Incorrect: Sir, Lloyd, accompanied by his wife, **was** at the party.

Incorrect : His master of several language and the social graces make him a sought after dinner quest.

Correct : His master of several language and the social graces **makes** him a sought after dinner quest.

4. Errors in Conditional sentences

Here are the correct conditional forms:

Future: If I **have** time, I **will do** it tomorrow.

Present: If I **had** time, I **would do** it now.

Past : If I **had had** time, I **would have done** it yesterday.

Incorrect: If I would have known, I wouldn't have gone.

Correct: If **had known**, I wouldn't have gone.

Incorrect : You wouldn't be so tired if you weren't going to bed so late.

Corcect : You wouldn't be so tired if you **didn't go** to bed so late.

Incorrect: Call me the moment you will get home.

Correct: Call me the moment you **get** home.

Incorrect: We could go to the beach if it wasn't so hot.

Correct: We could go to the beach if it **weren't** so hot.

5. Errors in Expressions of Desire

Unfulfilled desires are expressed by the form "...had hoped that.....would(or could, or might) do....."

I had hoped that I would pass the exam.

Expression with "wish" are formed as follows:

Present: I wish I **knew** him.

Future: I wish you **could (would) come**.

Past : I wish he had come. (**or could have come, would have come, might have come**)

Incorrect: I wish I heard that story about him before I met him.

Correct: I wish I **had heard/ could have heard/ would have heard** that story about him before I met him.

6. Errors in Verbs Followed by Verb Words

The following words are followed by " Infinitive without "to"

Ask prefer requirement demand recommend

Suggest desire recommend suggestinsist

Recommendation suggestion urge

It is essential/ imperative/ important/ necessary that.....

Incorrect: She ignored the doctor's recommendation that she stops smoking.

Correct: She ignored the doctor's recommendation that she **stop** smoking.

Incorrect: It is essential that you are on time.

Correct: It is essential that you **be** on time.

7. Errors in Negative Imperatives

Incorrect: Would you please don't smoke here.

Correct: Please **don't smoke** here.

8. Errors in Affirmative and Negative Agreement or Verbs

- a. I am an American and so is she.
- b. I am an American and she is too.
- c. Mary likes Bach and so does John.
- d. Mary likes Bach and John does too.
- e. My father won't be there and my mother won't either.
- f. My father won't be there and neither will my mother.

Incorrect: I haven't seen the film and she hasn't neither.

Correct: I haven't seen the film and she hasn't either./ neither has she.

9. Errors in Infinitives or Gerunds in the Complement of Verbs

Incorrect: I intend learning French next semester.

Correct: I intend to learn French next semester.

10. Errors in Verbs Requiring How in the Complement

The verbs Know, Teach, Learn, and Show require the word How before an infinitive in the complement.

Incorrect: She knows to drive.

Correct: She knows how to drive.

11. Errors in Tag Endings

Incorrect: She's been there before, isn't she?

Correct: She's been there before, hasn't she?

Incorrect : You'd rather go yourself, hadn't you?

Correct : You'd rather go yourself, wouldn't you?

12. Errors in Idiomatic Verb Expressions

Following are a few commonly used idiomatic verb expressions. Notice whether they are followed by a verb word, a participle, an infinitive, or a gerund. Memorize a sample of each to check yourself when choosing an answer.

a. must have V3 = “ It is a logical conclusion”

They're late. They must have missed the bus.

There's no answer. They must have gone out.

b. had better + V1 = “It is advisable.”

It's getting cold. You had better take your coat.

He still has a fever. He **had better not go** out yet.

c. used to +V1

I **used to smoke** a pack of cigarettes a day, but I stopped.

d. to be used to + Ving = to be accustomed to/ to become used to

In America **you'll get used to hearing** only English all day long.

e. make someone do = “force someone to do”

have someone do = “cause someone to do”

let someone do = “allow someone to do”

My mother **made me take** my little sister with me to the movies.

The teacher **had us write** an essay instead of taking an exam.

The usher **didn't let us come** in until the intermission.

f. would rather = “would prefer”

I **would rather speak** to her myself.

I **would rather not speak** to her myself.

But if the preference is for someone other than the subject to do the action, use the

Past:

I **would rather** you **spoke** to her.

I **would rather** you **didn't speak** to her.

| |
|----------------------|
| Pronoun Error |
|----------------------|

1. Errors in Pronoun Subject-Object

Check if a pronoun is the SUBJECT of a verb or preposition.

Incorrect : All of us-Fred, Jane, Alice, and me-were late.

Correct : All of us-Fred, Jane, Alice, and I-were late.

Incorrect : How could she blame you and he for the accident?

Correct : How could she **blame** you and **him** for the accident?

2. Errors with WHO and WHOM

When in doubt correctness of WHO/WHOM, try substituting the subject/object of a simpler pronoun to clarify the meaning:

I don't know **who/whom** Sarah meant.

Try substituting he/hi; then rearrange the cause in its proper order :

he/him Sarah meant / Sarah meant **him**

Now it is clear that the pronoun is the object of the verb meant, so whom is called for.

Correct : I don't know **whom** Sarah meant.

Another Example :

There was a discussion as to **who/whom** was better suited.

Try substituting she/her :

She was better suited / **her** was better suited

Here the pronoun is the subject of the verb suited :

Correct : There was a discussion as to **who** was better suited.

3. Errors of Pronoun Subject-Verb Agreement

Check if the pronoun and its verb agree in number. Remember that the following are singular :

| | | | |
|----------|------------|---------|----------|
| Anyone | either | neither | what |
| Anything | everyone | no one | whatever |
| Each | everything | nothing | whoever |

These are plural :

| | | | |
|------|------|---------|--------|
| Both | many | several | others |
| Few | | | |

Incorrect : John is absent, but a few of the class is here.

Correct : John is absent, but **a few** of the class **are** here.

Incorrect : Everyone on the project have to come to the meeting.

Correct : **Everyone** on the project **has** to come to the meeting.

Incorrect : Either of those dresses are suitable for the party.

Correct : **Either** of those dresses **is** suitable for the party.

Incorrect : Neither of them are experts on the subject.

Correct : **Neither** of them **is an** experts on the subject.

Note: The forms “ either...or ” and “ neither...or ” are singular and take a singular verb.

For reasons of diction, however, if the noun immediately preceding the verb is plural, use a plural verb. An English speaker finds it difficult to pronounce a singular verb after a plural as in “...they is coming, even though “ they ” is preceded by “ Neither her nor...”

Either his parents or he is bringing it.

Either he or nor **his parents** are bringing it.

Neither his parents nor **he was** there.

Neither he nor **his parents were** there.

4. Errors of Possessive Pronoun Agreement

Check if possessive pronoun agree in person and number.

Incorrect : If anyone calls, take their name.

Correct : If **anyone** calls, take **his** name.

Incorrect : Those of us who care should write to their congressman.

Correct : Those of **us** who care should write to **our** congressman.

Incorrect : Some of you will have to come in their own cars.

Correct : Some of **you** will have to come in **your** own cars.

5. Errors in pronoun after the verb TO BE

TO BE is an intransitive verb and will always be followed by a subject pronoun.

Incorrect : It must have been her at the door.

Correct : It must have **been she** at the door.

Incorrect : I wish I were him!

Correct : I wish I **were he !**

Incorrect : He didn't know that it was me who did it.

Correct : He didn't know that it **was** me who did it.

6. Errors in position of Relative Pronouns

A relative pronoun refers to the word preceding it. If the meaning is unclear , the pronoun is in the wrong position.

Incorrect : He could park right in front of the door , which was very convenient.

Since it was not the door which was convenient, the “ which “ is illogical in this position. In order to correct the sentence, it is necessary to rewrite it completely :

Correct : His being allowed to park right in front of the door was very Convenient.

Incorrect : The traffic was very heavy , which made me late.

Correct : I was late because of the heavy traffic. OR

The heavy traffic made me late.

7. Errors in Parallelism of Impersonal Pronouns

In forms using impersonal pronouns, use either “ one...one's/his or her “ or “ you...your.”

Incorrect : One should take your duties seriously.

Correct : One should take one's/his or her duties seriously. OR

You should take your duties seriously.

Incorrect : One should have their blood pressure checked regularly.

Correct : One should have one's/his or her blood pressure checked regularly.

You should have your blood pressure checked regularly.

Adjective and Adverb Errors

1. Errors in the Use of Adjectives and Adverbs

Check if a word modifier is an ADVERB. Make sure the correct form has been used.

An ADJECTIVE describes a noun and answer the question, what' kind?

She is a good cook. (What kind of cook?)

An ADVERB describes either a verb or an adjective and answers the question, How?

She is **a good** cook. (What kind of cook?)

This exercise is **relatively easy**. (How easy?)

Most adverbs are formed by adding -ly to the adjective.

EXCEPTIONS :

| Adjective | Adverb |
|-----------|----------------------------------|
| Early | early |
| Fast | fast |
| Good | well |
| Hard | hard (hardly means almost not) |
| Late | late (lately means recently |

Incorrect : I sure wish I were rich !

Correct : I **surely** wish I were rich !

Incorrect : The young man writes bad.

Correct : The young man writes **badly**.

Incorrect : He's real good teacher.

Correct : He's **really** good teacher.

Error Identification

Directions: Choose the number that indicates the mistake in each item.

1. While everyone knows of Thailand's beautiful orchids, the country is also home to
a. b. c.
variety of roses, lotus blossoms and wild flowers.
d.
2. Males whose index finger are shorter than their ring fingers received more of the hormone
a.
during gestation, and show a greater tendency towards physical aggression as adults.
b. c. d.
3. For animals that spend most off their living and feeding on the ice-notably polar bears and
a. b.
ringed seals- the continuous loss of sea ice could be catastrophic.
c. d.
4. One by one, the islands of Hawaii was born from the volcano hot spot that still fires
a. b. c. d.
eruptions on the big island.
5. Since the new film's reclusive director does not give interviews, he is happy to let his movie
a. b.
to speak for itself.
c. d.
6. The idea of heat as a healing treatment does not surprise Chinese and Western medicine.
a. b. c. d.
7. Hurricane Katrina, a category 4 hurricane, was the big storm ever to hit New Orleans
a. b. c.
and the Gulf of Mexico.
d.
8. In the western countries, the birth of a girl welcome with an enthusiasm equal to that of a boy
a. b. c. d.
9. Poaching of elephants for ivory and meat remain a serious problem to many Asian countries.
a. b. c. d.

21. The community of Betchsda, Maryland, was previous known as Darcy's Store.
- a. b. c. d.
22. Alloys of gold and copper have been widely using in various types of coins.
- a. b. c. d.
23. J.H. Pratt used group therapy early in this century when he brought tuberculosis patient together to discuss its disease.
- a. b. c. d.
24. Irving Berlin wrote "Oh how I hate to Get Up in the Morning" while serving in a U.S. Army during World War I.
- a. b. c. d.
25. That water has a very high specific heat means that without a large temperature change water can add or lose a large number of heat.
- a. b. c. d.
26. The state seal still used in Massachusetts designed by Paul Revere, who also designed the first Continental currency.
- a. b. c. d.
27. No longer satisfied with the emphasis of the Denishawn School, Martha Graham has moved to the staff of the Eastman School in 1925.
- a. b. c. d.
28. Prior to extermination program earlier this century, alive wolves roamed across nearly all of North America.
- a. b. c. d.
29. During the 1960s the Berkeley campus of the University of California came to national attention as a result its radical political activity.
- a. b. c. d.

30. Artist Gutzon Borglum designed the Mount Rushmore Memorial and worked on project
 a. b.
 from 1925 until his death in 1941.
 c. d.
31. It is proving less costly and more profitably for drugmakers to market directly to patients.
 a. b. c. d.
32. Banks, savings and loans and finance companies have recently been doing home equity
 a. b.
 loans with greater frequency than ever before.
 c. d.
33. Aristotle believed that everything in the universe were composed of four basic elements:
 a. b. c.
 earth, water, air, and fire.
 d.
34. Antelope are gregarious animals that travel in herds ranging in amount from a few
 a. b. c.
 to several thousand.
 d.
35. In 1821, Emma Willard opened officially the doors of the first school in the United States
 a. b.
 to offer college-level courses for women.
 c. d.
36. A bimetallic thermometer relies the different rates of expansion of two types of metal,
 a. b. c.
usually brass and copper.
 d.
37. Tremendous flooding during the summer of 1993 left 8 million acres of nine Midwestern
 a. b.
 states inundated and proved both expensively and deadly.
 c. d.

38. The Internal Revenue Service uses computers to check tax return computations, to determine

a. b.

the reasonableness of deductions, and for verifying the accuracy of reported income.

c. d.

39. The type of jazz known as “Swing” was introduced by Duke Ellington when he wrote

a. b. c.

and records “It Don’t Mean a Thing if It Ain’t Got that Swing.”

d.

40. The bones of mammals, not alike those of other vertebrates, show a high degree of differentiation.

a. b. c. d.

41. The United States receives a large amount of revenue from taxation of a tobacco products.

a. b. c. d.

42. The capital of the Confederacy was originally in Mobile, but they were moved to Richmond.

a. b. c. d.

43. A pearl develops when a tiny grain of sand or some another irritant accidentally enters into

a. b. c. d.

the shell of a pearl oyster.

44. In the Milk Way galaxy, the most recent observed supernova appeared in 1604.

a. b. c. d.

45. Although the name suggests otherwise, the ship known as *Old Ironsides* was built of oak

a. b. c.

and cedar rather than it was built of iron.

d.

46. Never in the history of humanity there have been more people living on this relatively

a. b. c. d.

small planet.

47. For five years after the Civil War, Robert E. Lee served to president of Washington College,

a. b.

which later was called Washington and Lee.

c. d.

48. In lobster, like many crustaceans, can cost off a damaging appendage and regenerate
 a. b. c.
 a new appendage to nearly normal size.
 d.
49. The curricula of American public schools are set in individual states; they do not determine
 a. b. c. d.
 by the federal government.
50. The fact that the sophisticated technology has become part of revolution in travel
 a. b.
delivery systems has not made travel schedules less hectic.
 c. d.
51. Alike a bar magnet, the earth has two magnetic poles.
 a. b. c. d.
52. In general, the cells of large animals and plants are only slightly larger, if at all,
 a. b. c.
 than smaller plants and animals.
 d.
53. There are more than eighty-four million specimens in the National Museum of Natural History's
 a. b.
collection of biological, geological, archeological, and anthropology treasures.
 c. d.
54. The Betataken House Ruins at Navajo National Monument is among the largest
 a. b.
 and most elaborate cliff dwellings in the country.
 c. d.
55. The number of wild horses on Assateague are increasing lately, resulting in
 a. b. c.
overgrazed marsh and dune grasses.
 d.
56. The newsreels of Hearst Metronome News, which formed part of every moviegoer's experience
 a.
 in the era before television, offer an unique record of the events of the 1930s.
 b. c. d.

57. Dwight David Eisenhower, military officer and thirty-fourth president of the
 a.
 United States, lived in the White House and of least thirty-seven other residences.
 b. c. d.
58. Edward MacDowell remembers as the composer of such perennial favorites as
 a. b. c. d.
 “To a Wild Rose” and “To a Water Lily”.
49. Animism is the belief that objects and natural phenomena such as rivers, rocks
 a. b.
 and wind are live and have feelings.
 c. d.
60. Newtonian physics accounts for the observing orbits of the planets and the moons.
 a. b. c. d.
61. Having been beaten by the police for striking an officer, the man will cry out.
 a. b. c. d.
62. This table is not sturdy enough to support a television, and that one probably isn't neither.
 a. b. c. d.
63. The Board of Realtors doesn't have any informations about the increase in rent for this area.
 a. b. c. d.
64. There were so much people trying to leave the burning building that the police had
 a. b. c. d.
 a great deal of trouble controlling them.
65. The officials objects to them wearing long dresses for the inaugural dance at the country club.
 a. b. c. d.
66. Each of the students in the accounting class has to type their own research paper this semester.
 a. b. c. d.
67. She wishes that we didn't send her the candy yesterday because she's on a diet.
 a. b. c. d.
68. Today was such beautiful day that I couldn't bring myself to complete all my chores.
 a. b. c. d.
69. While they were away at the beach, they allowed their neighbors use their barbeque grill.
 a. b. c. d.

70. The athlete, together with his coach and several relatives, are traveling to the Olympic Games.
- a. b. c. d.
71. The town we visited was a four-days journey from our hotel, so we took
- a. b. c.
- the train instead of the bus.
- d.
72. The harder he tried, the worst he danced before the large audience.
- a. b. c. d.
73. While searching for the wreckage of a unidentified aircraft, the Coast Guard
- a. b. c.
- encountered severe squalls at sea.
- d.
74. Although a number of police officers was guarding the priceless treasures in
- a. b.
- the museum, the director worried that someone would try to steal them.
- c. d.
75. Since it was so difficult for American Indians to negotiate a peace treaty or declare war
- a. b.
- in their native language, they used a universal understood form of sign language.
- c. d.
76. Louise Braille designed a form of communication enabling people to convey and preserve
- a. b.
- their thoughts to incorporate a series of dots which were read by the finger tips.
- c. d.
77. While verbalization is the most common form of language in existence, humans
- a. b.
- make use of many other system and techniques to express their thoughts and feelings.
- c. d.
78. They are planning on attending the convention next month, and so I am.
- a. b. c. d.

79. It is well-known that long hours of hard work require to reach the top in business.
- a. b.
- Probably most people assume that this hard work is the means to an end, to success.
- c. d.
80. Armed with new technique, thousands of job seekers are finding new position—
- a. b.
- not just any job, but the right job, the one that will give them enjoyment and personally satisfied.
- c. d.
81. Newspapers metropolitan that pride themselves on the quality of their opinion
- a. b. c.
- articles often have large staffs to write and edit the editorial page.
- d.
82. Scientists are worried what the continued use of certain gases may damage
- a. b. c.
- the earth's ozone layer.
- d.
83. The administration urges the lawmakers to adopt legislation requiring all
- a. b.
- passengers of motor vehicles which are driven in the city to wear seat belts.
- c. d.
84. If the resources of forest and water power were more fully developed, the
- a. b.
- economy would not have been so dependent on imports.
- c. d.
85. Trucks and containers loaded with everything from drinking water to mobile toilets
- a.
- were headed for the fair to begin tomorrow, caused a traffic jam along the route to the fair.
- b. c. d.
86. Diarrhea disease is the biggest killer of children under five in the world. However,
- a. b.
- it isn't diarrhea itself that kills these children but the dehydration is caused by it.
- c. d.

94. Not only is it tragic that in many parts of the globe children must forfeit their
 a. b.
 education in order to work, but many of them work in brutal, slave-alike conditions.
 c. d.
95. Australia is set to embark on a US.72 million publicity campaign to persuade wealthy
 Asian tourists that the country is not a cultural desert with a “rock in the centre,”
 a.
but that it has a rich artist landscape worth seeing.
 b. c. d.
96. Under a law that will become effective next month, those of whom traffic in drugs
 a. b.
may face a life sentence in prison
 c. d.
97. Asian semiconductor demand is forecast to grow by an average rate of 21.5% a year between
 a.
 1993 and 1998 with Taiwan and China are taking the lead in the exploding market.
 b. c. d.
98. Rugby star Well Carling has attacked newspaper speculation about his friendship
 a.
 with Princess Diana and said he was consulting his lawyers over whose action to take.
 b. c. d.
99. Thai-owned Myanmar Cedar Manufacturing officially established last month on
 a. b.
 six rai in Thin Gun Gyum township, suburban Rangoon. The company pays 1.5
 c.
 million baht a month to rent a government factory for 30 years.
 d.
100. The next few weeks are seen as a critical turning point by American farmers
 a.
anxiously awaiting a break in the worst drought in living memory which for years
 b.
have devastated crops and crippled live stock.
 c. d.