



# Common Grammar Concerns

CLUE Writing Center

ENTER



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# Disclaimer!

This is not a comprehensive list of all possible grammar mistakes, but mainly that of ones that steadily appear in writing.



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Purpose and objective of  
this resource

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## IDENTIFYING

Identifying grammar  
issues

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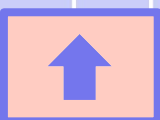
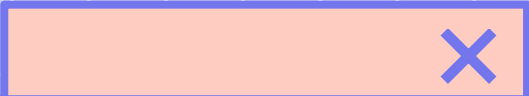
Actual examples and how  
to fix them



## FURTHER SOURCES

Here you'll find other  
great tips and resources!





# 01. INTRODUCTION

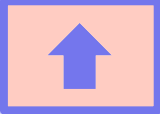


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The main point of this resource is not to say what is wrong or what is right in grammar, but rather to help you identify recurring grammar issues within your own writing.

**—OBJECTIVE**



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# Grammar can be stressful!



These are things that we as tutors also struggle with! Grammar can be confusing and tricky to understand, hopefully this can be a resource to help those concerns you may have with it!



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# 02.

# IDENTIFYING

Giving a name and definition to common grammar issues that are seen in writing



# Definitions



01

**Sentence Fragments**  
Incomplete sentences that lack a complete verb, subject, or both - oftentimes sentence fragments depend on the preceding or proceeding sentence to make sense

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**Excessive Usage of Commas**

Using commas where they aren't necessary - oftentimes used within the same idea or clause

**Run on Sentences**

When two main clauses have no punctuation - there is no break between ideas

**Sentence Structure**

Words are left out or an extra word is added; word order is incorrect; or clauses that don't belong together are punctuated as one sentence.

**Subject-Verb Agreement**

When writing, the subject and verb must be in agreement - if the subject is plural, the verb must also be plural

**Verb Tense**

When incorrect time is used within writing - a past verb with one in present tense



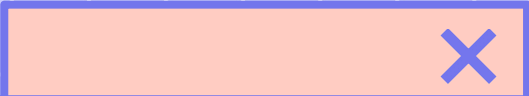


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# 03. EXAMPLES

Quick examples to showcase the issue with each one and how it is resolved



# QUICK EXAMPLES



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## SENTENCE FRAGMENTS



1. He gave his mother and extravagant gift gift after the argument. **In spite of everything.**
2. **In spite of everything,** he gave his mother an extravagant gift after the argument.

## RUN ON SENTENCES



1. She tried to sneak out of the house her mother saw her leaving.
2. She tried to sneak out of the house, **but** her mother saw her leaving.

## SUBJECT-VERB AGREEMENT



1. An important part of my life **have** been the people who stood by me.
2. An important part of my life **has** been the people who stood by me.

**First sentence is incorrect and second sentence is corrected. Words in bold are additions to make sentence grammatically correct**



## QUICK EXAMPLES PT2



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### EXCESSIVE USAGE OF COMMAS



1. The bouquet of flowers on the table, belongs to Mary.
2. The bouquet of flowers on the table belongs to Mary

### SENTENCE STRUCTURE



1. "To be" verb is left out
2. Duplicate subject is used

### VERB TENSE



1. I **was** working on my paper since 6:00 A.M.
2. I **have been** working on my paper since 6:00 A.M.

First sentence is incorrect and second sentence is corrected. Words in bold are additions to make sentence grammatically correct



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# 04.

## FURTHER SOURCES

More resources and also helpful tips!



# TIPS



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## READING



Reading for fun can be really helpful in getting used to different writing styles and for helping you develop your own writing as well! It can also be helpful to get used to what “looks right” when it comes to grammar.

## SAT PRACTICE



Although it has been awhile since taking the test, the Reading portion is still helpful as it includes a lot of grammar questions and even explanations to go along with it!

## TUTORING



For further help feel free to come to tutoring if you feel that you would like extra help with grammar! We'd be happy to help!



## SOURCES USED



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1. [https://owl.purdue.edu/writinglab/faculty/documents/Writing\\_Lab\\_ESL\\_Faculty\\_Guide\\_2017.pdf](https://owl.purdue.edu/writinglab/faculty/documents/Writing_Lab_ESL_Faculty_Guide_2017.pdf)
  - a. ESL writers: A guide for writing center tutors, Cynthia Linville (2009)
2. <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sample-questions/writing/2>
3. <https://authority.pub/common-grammar-mistakes/>



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# THANKS!

Please refer to the sources listed for more information!

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