Common Grammar Concerns

CLUE Writing Center

ENTER
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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01.

INTRODUCTION
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
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!
IDENTIFYING

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

**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.

**Run on Sentences**
When two main clauses have no punctuation - there is no break between ideas.

**Subject-Verb Agreement**
When writing, the subject and verb must be in agreement - if the subject is plural, the verb must also be plural.

**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.

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

**Excessive Usage of Commas**
Using commas where they aren’t necessary - oftentimes used within the same idea or clause.
Quick examples to showcase the issue with each one and how it is resolved
First sentence is incorrect and second sentence is corrected. Words in bold are additions to make sentence grammatically correct.
### QUICK EXAMPLES PT2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXCESSIVE USAGE OF COMMAS</th>
<th>SENTENCE STRUCTURE</th>
<th>VERB TENSE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The bouquet of flowers on the table, belongs to Mary. 2. The bouquet of flowers on the table belongs to Mary</td>
<td>1. “To be” verb is left out 2. Duplicate subject is used</td>
<td>1. I <strong>was</strong> working on my paper since 6:00 A.M. 2. I <strong>have been</strong> working on my paper since 6:00 A.M.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

First sentence is incorrect and second sentence is corrected. Words in bold are additions to make sentence grammatically correct.
04.

FURTHER SOURCES

More resources and also helpful tips!
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.

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!

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!
2. https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sample-questions/writing/2
THANKS!

Please refer to the sources listed for more information!

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