

## Common Grammar Errors for English Language Learners

These are some examples of common grammar errors for you to reference and practice. If a rule doesn't make sense, work with a tutor or research the grammar rule on your own. After you've practiced, check your paper for similar errors. Keep in mind that this is only a partial list.

### Subject-Verb Agreement Error:

*The verb form doesn't match in number with the subject of the sentence or clause.*

1. Incorrect: She eat eggs for breakfast.  
Correct: She eats eggs for breakfast.
2. Incorrect: We is going to the beach.  
Correct: We are going to the beach.
3. Incorrect: Ms. Smith, a high school teacher, teach biology.  
Correct: \_\_\_\_\_

### Verb Tense Error:

*The verb tense inappropriately shifts within a piece of writing.*

1. Incorrect: After I went to the gym, I feel sore.  
Correct: After I went to the gym, I felt sore.
2. Incorrect: While most students study in the library, Jasmine studied on the beach.  
Correct: \_\_\_\_\_

*The incorrect verb tense is used.*

1. Incorrect: We know her since we were kids.  
Correct: We have known her since we were kids.
2. Incorrect: Even though I have always loved milk, I have been allergic to it.  
Correct: \_\_\_\_\_

### Verb Form Error:

*An irregular verb has been formed incorrectly.*

1. Incorrect: He teached us how to swim.  
Correct: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Incorrect: We swimed in the ocean all afternoon.  
Correct: \_\_\_\_\_

*A multi-part verb has been formed incorrectly.*

1. Incorrect: We have been drove all night long.  
Correct: We have been driving all night long.
2. Incorrect: John going to the concert tonight.  
Correct: \_\_\_\_\_

## Singular/Plural Noun Endings Error:

*A countable noun has been made singular when it should be plural.*

1. Incorrect: Person think that animal feel the same way they do.  
Correct: People think that animals feel the same way they do.
2. Incorrect: To save the planet we need to protect our forest and ocean.  
Correct: \_\_\_\_\_

*A non-countable noun has been made plural.*

1. Incorrect: Janice never does her homeworks.  
Correct: Janice never does her homework.
2. Incorrect: If you have a problem, you should ask someone you trust for advices.  
Correct: \_\_\_\_\_

## Sentence Structure:

*The verb "to be" is missing.*

1. Incorrect: The members of Congress probably bad negotiators, since they haven't been able to pass any laws.  
Correct: The members of Congress are probably bad negotiators, since they haven't been able to pass any laws.
2. Incorrect: Being valedictorian, the high school graduate ready to go to college.  
Correct: \_\_\_\_\_

*The subject of a sentence has been repeated.*

1. Incorrect: My mom she works, takes care of the house and kids, and volunteers.  
Correct: My mom works, takes care of the house and kids, and volunteers.
2. Incorrect: The clock that is on this wall it does not work.  
Correct: \_\_\_\_\_

*Two clauses or a clause and a phrase have been combined incorrectly.*

1. Incorrect: In the article "5 Reasons to go to College" by John Smith, says that college helps students learn what they are passionate about.  
Correct: In the article "5 Reasons to go to College," John Smith says that college helps students learn what they are passionate about.
2. Incorrect: Although people need to use electricity, but they should try to use as little as possible to reduce greenhouse gasses.  
Correct: \_\_\_\_\_  
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