

# Error Correction



Look at the errors in **red** and check the underlined correction. Read the explanation and example under each sentence.

1. He's the one **which** who/that has the blue tie on.

**We use the relative pronoun which to refer to things. To refer to people, we use who or that. In formal writing, who is a better choice.**

Example:

He was the one who/that recommended this solution.

2. We like **very much** the new secretary very much.

**We don't normally place an adverb between a verb and its object.**

Example:

I like sports a lot.

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3 Could you tell me how **can I** I can get in touch with Mr. Yamamoto?

*After expressions like **Do you know...**, **Could you tell me,..** and **I was wondering if...** we do not invert the subject and the verb. These are called indirect questions.*

Example:

I was wondering if you could help me with something.

4. We're not sure he is **enough experienced** experienced enough for the position.

***Enough** goes after an adjective or before a noun.*

Example:

Do we have enough food?

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5. She's very sick and has been **at** in the hospital for two weeks.

**To communicate that someone is a patient at the hospital, we say *in the hospital*. If someone is not a patient, we use *at the hospital*.**

Example:

The surgery went well. She was only in the hospital for two days.

6. We talked **during** for three hours this morning.

**We use *for* to communicate a duration a time. We use *during* to communicate over what period of time something happened.**

Example:

I slept for three hours, and I woke up just in time for dinner.

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7. We're using all the information**s** we have to make an informed decision.

*Information* is a non-count noun. There is no plural form of *information*. Other non-count nouns students frequently misuse include *evidence*, *advice*, *stuff*, and *furniture*. There is no plural form of these words.

8. They often change **often** our seats at work.

We put adverbs of frequency (*always*, *usually*, *never*, etc.) before the main verb or after the verb *to be*.

Example:

Mike never talks about his ex-wife.

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9. They don't let us **to** send our clients gifts without getting approval from management first.

**After *let, help, make, and have* (when *have* communicates that someone is being told to do something), we use the base infinitive of the second verb, not the infinitive form.**

Example:

He had his secretary reserve a table for two.

10. Do we have **some** any coffee or tea to offer our guests?

**In general, we use *some* with affirmative statements and *any* with questions and negative statements.**

Example:

We've had some difficulty getting approval.

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11. I called Kate this morning and she told me **she'll** she would (or she'd) call me back in a half an hour.

**When reporting what someone said, *will* becomes *would* and *won't* becomes *wouldn't*. We can leave it as *will* if it's something that is still going to take place in the future.**

Example:

Before the election, both candidates promised they wouldn't raise taxes.

12. We regularly conduct emergency drills **for ensuring** to ensure that we are prepared for an emergency.

**To describe the purpose of something, we can use the gerund. To describe the purpose of someone, we use the infinitive.**

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13. Brad is 32 now. He **completes** turns 33 **years** in October.

To communicate the someone is becoming a year older, we use *turn*, not *complete*. Also, we do not say *years* after the number unless we say *years old*.

Example:

Let's have a big party when you turn 40.

14. These are the **most cheap** cheapest gas prices I have seen in my life.

To form the superlative form of most one-syllable adjectives, we add "est" to the end of the word.

Example:

Are you sure this is the newest release?



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15. Yesterday, I **must sent** had to send a very important email to a client.

**We don't use *must* to communicate a past obligation or necessity. Instead, we use *had* or *needed*.**

Examples:

To travel to Indonesia, I had to get a visa.

16. We knew there was a gas leak because it smelled really **badly** bad inside the house.

**We use *bad*, not *badly* to modify states of being (*look, smell, taste, feel, etc.*). Similarly, we use *good*, not *well* to modify states of being.**

Examples:

This coffee tastes bad.

17. My parents always told me that it's important **being** to be positive.

**The correct form is *It's + adjective + infinitive*. We can add *for + object* before the infinitive.**

Examples:

It's impossible for us to complete this on time.