

15 Common Grammar Mistakes in Written and Oral Work

6. Sentences are long, rambling and repetitive:

- a) I wake up at 7 o'clock and have a shower and brush my hair and get dressed.
- b) We learnt about grammar and some of the students said they didn't like it, but I think it is a good subject for me because ...

Advice: Use short sentences with one or two phrases in each:

- a) I wake up at 7 o'clock and have a shower. Then I brush my hair and get dressed.
- b) We learnt about grammar and some of the students said they didn't like it. I think it is a good subject because ...

7. The words in the sentence are in the wrong order:

- a) Which programmes you don't like?
- b) I can go home now, please?

Advice: Check that words in each sentence are in the right order:

- a) Which programmes don't you like?
- b) Can I go home now, please?

8. There is incorrect punctuation:

- a) My sisters name is Zafreen, she lives with our parents in Leicester.
- b) What. is. your. favourite. colour.

Advice: Use punctuation correctly:

- a) My sister's name is Zafreen. She lives with our parents in Leicester.
- b) What is your favourite colour?

9. The answer is not relevant to the question, e.g. 'Describe a good friend':

- a) My name is Sandeep Singh. My address is 54 Park Lane, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, WB12 4RW. I have two brothers and two sisters ...

Advice: Make sure that your answer is relevant to the question:

- a) I want to write about my friend Ahmed. I have known him for a long time. He is tall with brown hair, and he wears glasses ...

10. There is incorrect use of plural forms:

- a) We can do it ourself.
- b) Do you want a toast?

Advice: Learn and use plural forms and their determiners:

- a) We can do it ourselves.
- b) Do you want some toast?

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