

Common Grammar Goofs

...and how to fix them.

Apostrophes

I'll meet you at Joe's Bar at 7
for our guys' night out.

Possessive
Plural noun

ME, MYSELF & I

James and I went to the store.
He gave the shopping list to me.
I bought myself a bunch of flowers.

ITS vs IT'S

It's too cold for my rosebush,
so its flowers won't last.

YOUR vs YOU'RE

You're about to receive your award.

WHO vs WHOM

Who is bringing the cake?
The cake is for whom?

Subject-Verb Agreement

SINGULAR NOUNS

The office has a shared kitchen.

PLURAL NOUNS

All offices have presentation rooms.

Misplaced & Dangling Modifiers

Misplaced modifiers are in the wrong part of the sentence. Dangling modifiers have nothing to modify.

Incorrect:

I heard that there had been a car crash on the radio.
Driving down the street, the snow was still falling.

Correct:

I heard on the radio that there had been a car crash.
Driving down the street, I could see that the snow was still falling.

FAULTY PARALLELISM

Incorrect:

Stacy likes dancing and to write music.

Correct:

Stacy likes dancing and writing music.
Stacy likes to dance and to write music.

Sentence

Fragments

A sentence must have a **subject**, a **verb** and a **complete thought**. When one is missing, you have a fragment.

Incorrect:

Flew over the city below.

Correct:

Our plane flew over the city below.

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