

Language Skills



SPOTTING ERRORS

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OUTLINE



- Spotting errors
- Article usage
- Use of “The” before two nouns
- Simple present tense
- Present perfect tense (For/ Since)
- Verbs when not used in Continuous tense
- Use of If..be.. Could
- Proposition
- Fixing errors

Language Skills – Spotting Errors



- Mary goes to the church daily.
- Mary goes to church daily.

Ans: Article is not used before places visited for primary purpose: school, college, church, market, bed etc.

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- The secretary and the correspondent is in the office.
- The secretary and the correspondent are in the office.

Ans: When two nouns refer to different persons, the is used before both the nouns,

- if they refer to the same person, the is used before the first noun only.
- Eg: The secretary and correspondent is in the office. (same person)

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- She is taking milk daily.
- She takes milk daily.

Ans: simple present tense is used to express a habit.

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- He lives in Vijayawada for five years.
- He has lived in Vijayawada for five years.

- They are working in our factory since 1990.
- They have been working in our factory since 1990.

Ans: The present perfect and the present perfect continuous are used with ‘for’ and ‘since’.

Language Skills – Spotting Errors



- The apple is tasting sweet.
- The apple tastes sweet.

- I am having a problem.
- I have a problem.

- This book is belonging to him.
- This book belongs to him.

Ans: Some verbs are not used in the continuous tense:
taste, hear, smell, feel,
love, like, shirk, have, own, possess, belong etc.

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- It is time they start.
- It is time they started.

Ans: Past tense is used after ‘it is time’.

Language Skills – Spotting Errors



- I shall inform you when my father will arrive here.
- I shall inform you when my father arrives here.
- Your father will punish you if you will misbehave again.
- Your father will punish you if you misbehave again.

Ans: In clauses of time and condition, the simple present is used for a future action.

Language Skills – Spotting Errors



- If I went to Hyderabad I would have brought you the book.
- If I went to Hyderabad I would bring you the book.

Ans: If the verb in the if clause is in the past tense, the verb in the main clause must be in the conditional tense.

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- If I had known of your arrival I would meet you.
- If I had known of your arrival I would have met you.

Ans: If the verb in the if clause is in the past perfect tense, the verb in the main clause must

- be in the perfect conditional tense.

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- He was late so he is scolded by the teacher.
- He was late so he was scolded by the teacher

- She said that she is going to Madras.
- She said that she was going to Madras.

Ans: If the verb in the main clause is in the past tense, the verb in the subordinate clause must

- be in the appropriate past tense.

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- As he was a good swimmer, he could swim ten miles in an hour.
- As he was a good swimmer he was able to swim ten miles in an hour.
- **Ans:** ‘Could’ shows capacity. ‘Was able to’ shows the actual performance.

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- Let them lay there.
- Let them lie there.

Ans: Lay means to place.

- (lay-laid-laid)
- Lie means to be in a resting position
- (lie-lay-lain)

Language Skills – Spotting Errors



- I avoid to speak to her.
- I avoid to speaking to her.

- We can't help to listen to them.
- We can't help listening to them.

- **Ans:** 'ing' form is used after certain verbs and phrases: avoid, imagine, enjoy, finish, miss, practise, can't bear, can't help, can't stand, with a view to, look forward to etc.

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- . The criminal was hung two days ago.
- The criminal was hanged two days ago.

Ans: Hanged means death punishment

- (hang–hanged–hanged)
- Hung means show publicly
- (hang–hung–hung)

Eg. Her paintings were hung in the room.

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- He wants that I should do it.
- He wants me to do it.

- They ordered me wait.
- They ordered me to wait.

Ans: To infinitive is used after certain verbs: allow, order, command, request, wish, want, permit, encourage, forbid.

Language Skills – Spotting Errors



- I let the boy to go.
- I let the boy go.

Ans: Plain infinitive is used after certain verbs: make, let, suggest, bid etc.

Language Skills – Spotting Errors



- When she will solve our problem?
- When will she solve our problem?

Ans: In interrogative sentences the verb is placed before the subject.

Language Skills – Spotting Errors



- They have lost the way, isn't it?
- They have lost the way, haven't they?

- He went to market, is he?
- He went to market, didn't he?

Ans: A tag question contains a verb and a pronoun.

- An affirmative statement takes a negative tag.
A negative statement takes an affirmative tag.

Language Skills – Spotting Errors



- Being a hot day, the old man did not go out.
- It being a hot day the old man did not go out.

Ans: The phrase ‘being a hot day’ is left unrelated. It has no subject.

- The subject of the main clause is different. So it must have its own subject. (absolute construction)

Language Skills – Spotting Errors



- He is not superior than you.
- He is not superior to you.

Ans: To is used after superior, inferior, senior, junior, elder.

Language Skills – Spotting Errors



- He is awaiting for you.
- He is waiting for you.

Ans: Preposition is not used after await.



- They entered into the room.
- They entered the room.

Ans: Preposition is not used after enter in the sense of 'go into.'

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- What kind of a woman is she?
- What kind of woman is she?

Ans: Article is not used before the noun following ‘kind of’.

Language Skills – Spotting Errors



- We consider him as a great leader.
- We consider him a great leader.

Ans: ‘As’ is not used after the following verbs in the pattern (subject+ verb+ object+ object complement)

- call, consider, select, elect, choose, name, appoint etc.

Language Skills – Spotting Errors



- He sat besides me.
- He sat beside me.

Ans: Beside means by the side of. Besides means in addition to.

Language Skills – Spotting Errors



- They will return in this month.
- They will return this month.

Ans: Time expressions beginning with this, that, next, last are used without a preposition.

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- The boy goes to college by walk.
- The boy goes to college on foot.

Ans: We go by bus, by train, by air or on foot.

Language Skills – Spotting Errors



- Sarala is suffering with fever.
- Sarala is suffering from fever.
- They started to Kurnool.
- They started for Kurnool.
- We got down the bus.
- We got down from the bus.
- Adams is good in English.
- Adams is good at English.
- I agree with your proposal.
- I agree to your proposal.
- They agree to him.
- They agree with him.
- **Ans:** Agree with a person. Agree to a thing.

Language Skills – Spotting Errors



- Gopal is angry on his brother.
- Gopal is angry with his brother.

- I am angry with her behaviour.
- I am angry at her behaviour.

Ans: Angry with a person, Angry at a thing.

Language Skills – Spotting Errors



- She gave a speech.
- She made a speech.

- The chief guest made an interesting lecture.
- The chief guest gave an interesting lecture.

Ans: Make a speech. Give a lecture.

Language Skills – Spotting Errors



- I ordered for coffee.
- I ordered coffee.

- John married with Mary in the church.
- John married Mary in the church.

Ans: Preposition is not used after certain verbs: order, describe, discuss, marry, meet, attend, tell, etc.

THANK YOU

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