

## 15 Common Errors Quiz 3 Answers

*Each item properly corrected counts for one mark.*

1. Because we did so well on the first quiz, we were rewarded with an A.  
or  
We did so well on the first quiz.

See AOW 550, sentence fragment.

2. Avril Lavigne played to a sold-out house last night; however, plenty of seats are still available today.

See AOW 551, comma splice.

3. The seriousness of these errors in grammar has to be recognized.

See AOW 552, subject-verb agreement problem

4. Marj told Helen that Marj's daughter was not coming to the party.  
or perhaps  
Marj told Helen that Helen's daughter was not coming to the party.

See AOW 553, unclear pronoun reference

5. Paddling to the next portage, we could see a bear in the distance.

See AOW 554, dangling participle.

6. They have time for only two more plays.

See AOW 555, misplaced modifier.

7. John and I took the first train to the coast.

See AOW 555, pronoun case problem.

8. When you have finished the quiz, please wait for further instructions.

See AOW 557, comma after introductory clause (CE 8A).

9. Two major features of poor writing are misuse of the colon and misuse of the semicolon.

See AOW 558, misuse of the colon and semicolon.

10. In “Thanks for the Ride,” Lois speaks little to Dick, but somehow her silences speak volumes.

See AOW 559, tense problems. (Use literary present when referring to events in fiction.)

11. Reading and revising your friend’s essays is a good way to see errors in your own.

See AOW 560, mixed construction.

12. That book is interesting, controversial, and at times funny.

See AOW 561, parallel structure required.

13. The cat licks its tail, then hears a noise and decides it's time to scamper away.

See AOW 562, apostrophe problems.

14. The early bird will catch the worm.

See AOW 563, overuse of passive voice.

15. A knowledge of English grammar, which can help you in most subjects, is critical for success in English.

See AOW 564, confusion over restrictive and non-restrictive qualifiers.

My mark out of 15: \_\_\_\_\_