



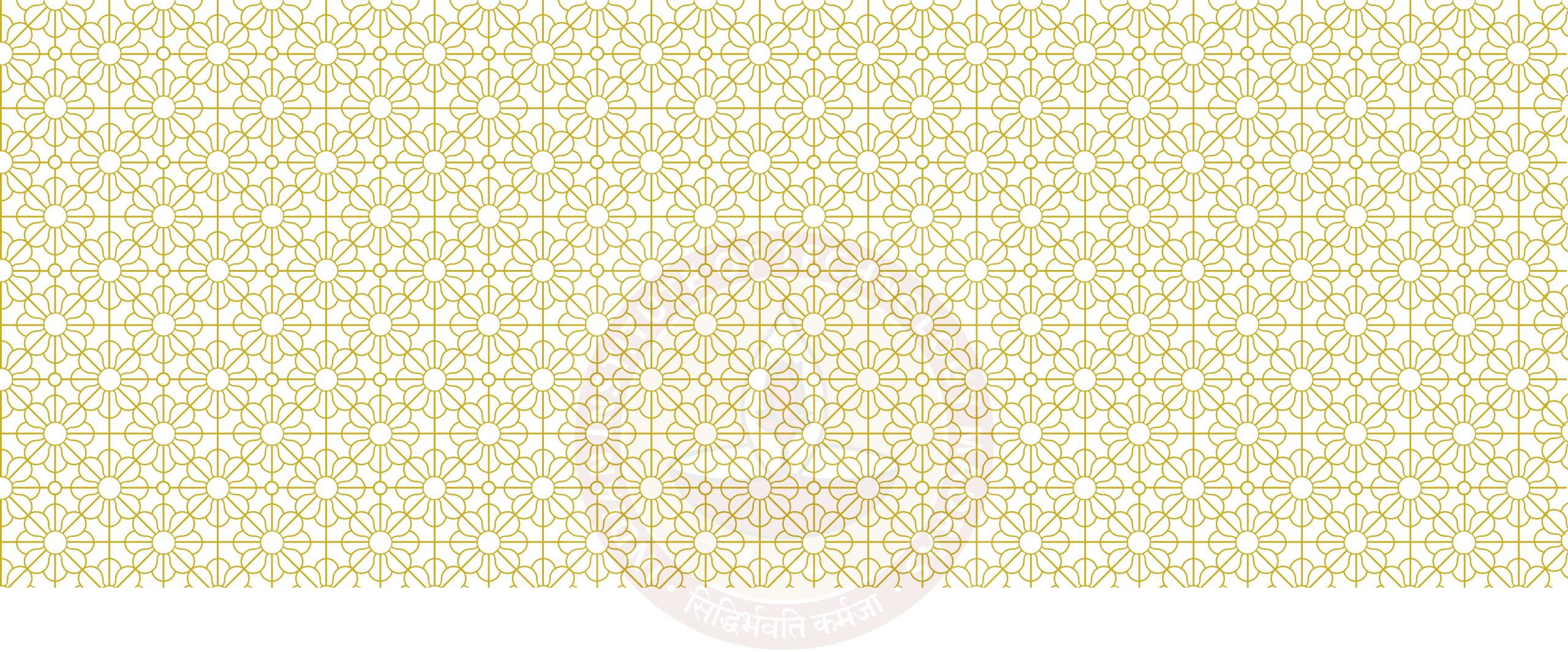
# IIT Madras

## BSc Degree

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# COMMON ERRORS IN ENGLISH- PART 3

KARTHIKA SATHYANATHAN

# ADJECTIVES

**1. Common Adjective Mistake #1:** I'm not interesting in the movie.

**Correction:** I'm not interested in the movie.

**2. Common Adjective Mistake #2:** That is a French white old house.

**Correction:** That is a old white French house.

(Determiner, opinion, size, age, shape, color, origin, material and purpose)

**3. Common Adjective Mistakes #3:** He's more stronger than his opponent.

**Correction:** He's stronger than his opponent.

# ADJECTIVES

**4. Common Adjective Mistakes #4:** You're the most perfect person I've ever seen.

**Correction:** You're the perfect person I've seen.

**Here are some examples of absolute adjectives:**

Supreme, Wonderful, Horrible, Brilliant, Final, Obvious, Unique, Absolute, Complete,  
Ideal, Preferable, Dead etc.

**5. Common Adjective Mistakes #5:** Which is the shortest of these two routes?

**Correction:** Which is the shorter of these two routes?

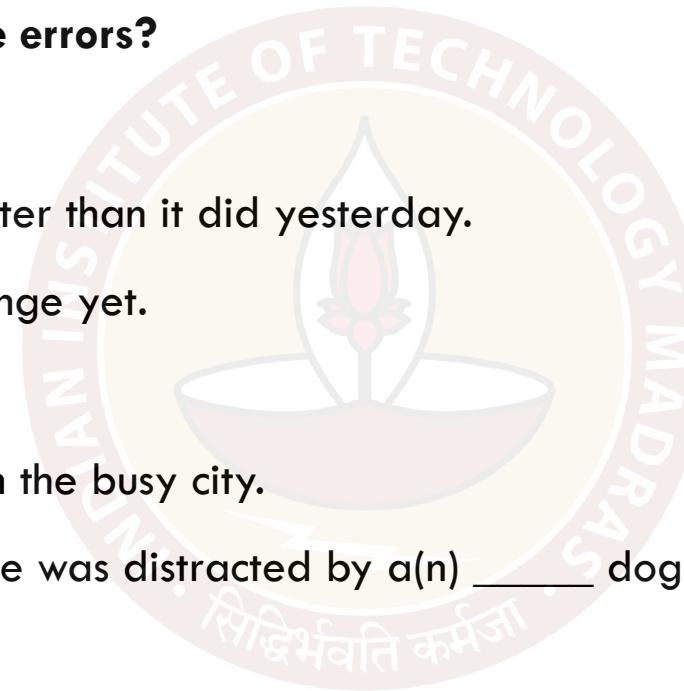
# PRACTISE EXERCISE

**Can you fix the following adjective errors?**

1. The pizza today tastes more better than it did yesterday.
2. That's the most impossible challenge yet.
3. Your voice is very unique.
4. I want a simplistic life away from the busy city.
5. He walked into a pole because he was distracted by a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ dog. Choose the right option.  
adorable, tiny, brown

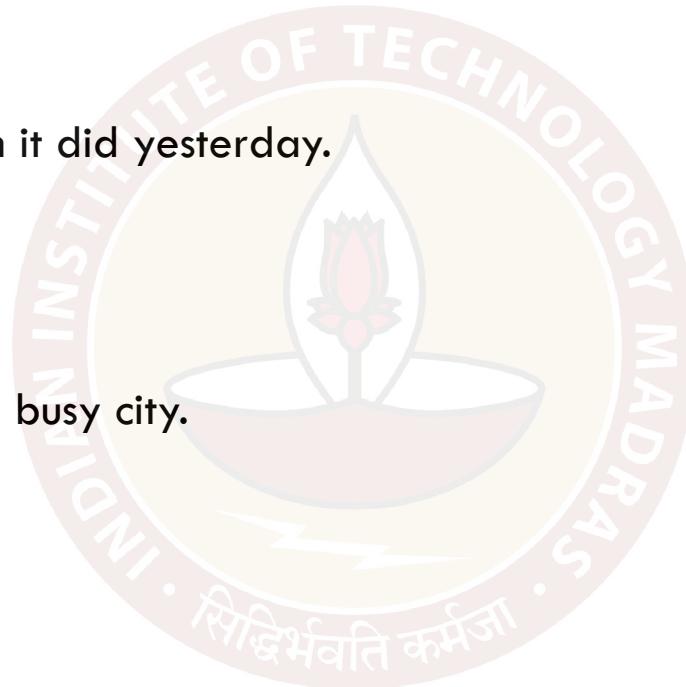
tiny, adorable, brown

tiny, brown, adorable



# ANSWERS

1. The pizza today tastes better than it did yesterday.
2. That's an impossible challenge.
3. Your voice is unique.
4. I want a simple life away from the busy city.
5. Adorably, tiny, brown



# PREPOSITIONS

**1. Common Preposition Mistake #1 :** My birthday is on July!

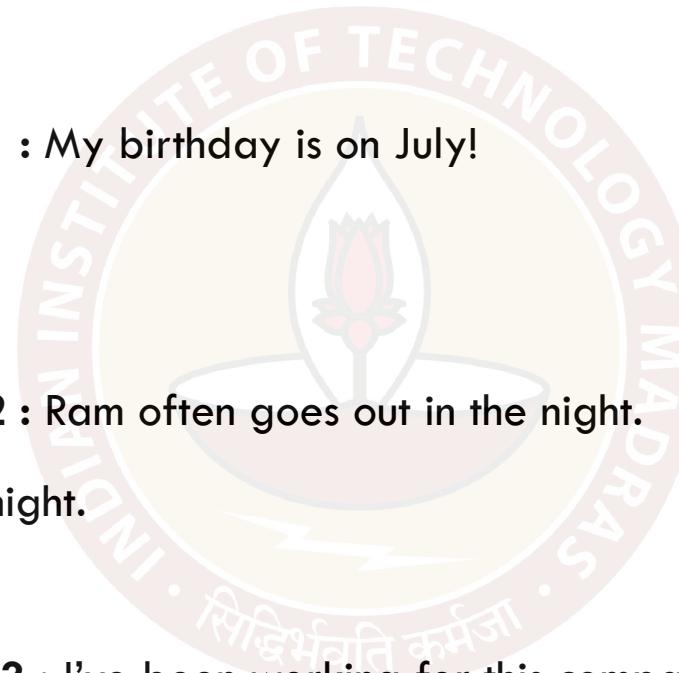
**Correction:** My birthday is in July!

**2. Common Preposition Mistake #2 :** Ram often goes out in the night.

**Correction:** Ram often goes out at night.

**3. Common Preposition Mistake #3 :** I've been working for this company since three years.

**Correction:** I've been working for this company for three years.



# PREPOSITIONS

**4. Common Preposition Mistake #4 :** Ram is married with Sita.

**Correction:** Ram is married to Sita.

**5. Common Preposition Mistake # 5 :** Where is my phone at?

**Correction:** Where is my phone?

**6. Common Preposition Mistake # 6 :** She looked like she was tired.

**Correction:** She looked as though she was tired.

# PREPOSITIONS

**6. Common Preposition Mistake # 6 :** They arrived *to* the school.

**Correction:** They arrived *at* the school.

**7. Common Preposition Mistake # 7 :** We went *at* the mall.

**Correction:** We went *to* the mall.

**8. Common Preposition Mistake # 8 : Incorrect:** I am afraid sharks.

**Correction:** I am afraid *of* sharks.

# PREPOSITIONS

**9. Common Preposition Mistake # 9 :** I made sure to study my exam.

**Correction:** I made sure to study for my exam

**10. Common Preposition Mistake # 10:** I slept before run.

**Correction:** I slept before running.

# PRACTISE EXERCISE

Can you fix the following prepositional errors?

1. For her daughter's birthday, she made a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ doll house.

cute, wooden, yellow

wooden, yellow, cute

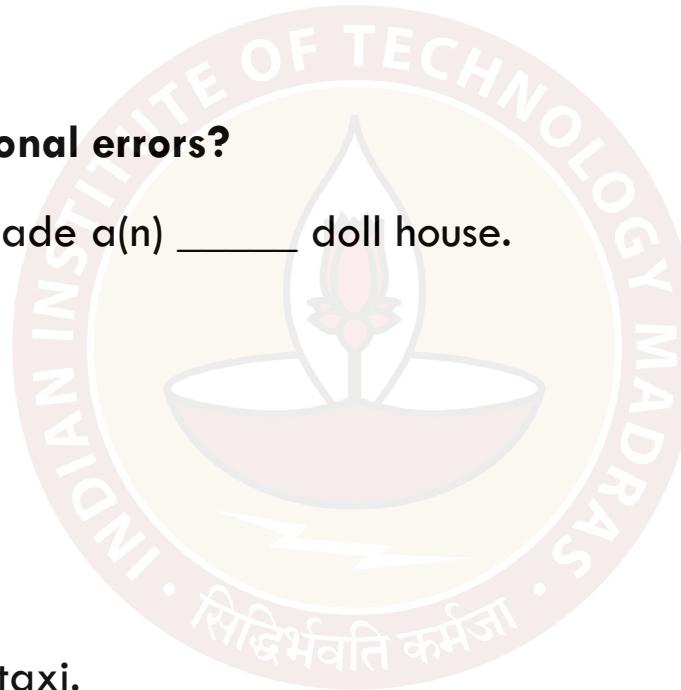
cute, yellow, wooden

2. His car is superior **than** mine.

3. John was just **on** time to catch the taxi.

4. Meet the board members **in** the office.

5. The player died **from** leukemia.



# ANSWERS

1. Cute, yellow, wooden
2. His car is superior **to** mine.
3. John was just **in** time to catch the taxi.
4. Meet the board members **at** the office.
5. The player died **of** leukemia.



# ARTICLES

**1. Common Article Mistake # 1:** I am doctor specialised in neurology.

**Correction:** I am a doctor specialised in neurology.

**Rule:** Always put a/an before a singular, common noun.

**2. Common Article Mistake # 2:** Ravi studies at an university.

**Correction:** Ravi studies at a university.

**Rule:** Use a before consonant sounds, an before vowel sounds

**3. Common Article Mistake # 3:** Savithri has best voice I have ever heard.

**Correction:** Savithri has the best voice I have ever heard.

**Rule:** Always put the before superlative degrees.

# ARTICLES

4. **Common Article Mistake # 4:** I need a advice from you about joining yoga class.

**Correction:** I need advice from you about joining yoga class.

**Rule :** Do not put a or an before uncountable nouns. (Idea- countable; advice- uncountable)

5. **Common Article Mistake # 5:** The teachers should not punish their students.

**Correction:** Teachers should not punish their students.

**Rule :** Use no article when generalizing with plurals.

# ARTICLES

**6. Common Article Mistake # 6:** Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world.

**Correction:** The Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world.

**Rule:** Use *the* with oceans, rivers, valleys, deserts, mountain ranges, points on globe

**Note : Do not use *the* with the following places:**

1. I'm going **home**.
2. She's at **work**.
3. He's in **jail**.
4. My kids went to **bed**.
5. My brother is in **high school**.
6. My sister is in **college**.

# ARTICLES

**Note: Use *the* with the following places:**

I went to **the bank**.

Let's go to **the movies**.

He gets home from **the office** around 7.

My grandfather is in **the hospital**.

I'll stop by **the post office** after lunch.

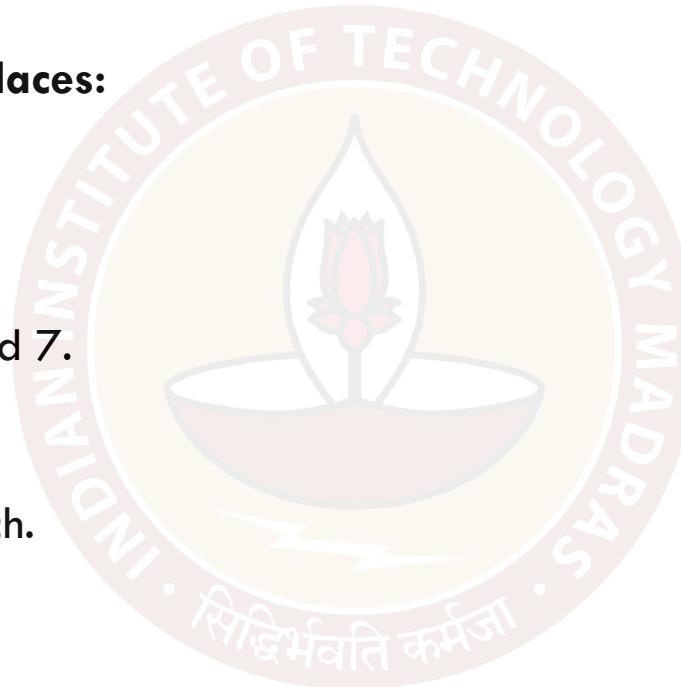
I got a taxi to **the airport**.

I'll pick you up at **the train station**.

We're waiting at **the bus stop**.

We took my son to **the doctor**.

I'm going to **the dentist** this afternoon.



# PRACTISE EXERCISE

**Can you fix the following errors?**

1. The spiders have eight legs.
2. We live in village.
3. She is fastest runner.
4. The Paris is a big city.
5. The iron is a useful metal.



# ANSWERS

1. Spiders have eight legs.
2. We live in a village.
3. She is the fastest runner.
4. Paris is a big city.
5. Iron is a useful metal.

