

Common Errors

This chart contains some of the more common sentence-level errors that test takers make on the Writing Test. You may want to study this chart and watch for these mistakes in your own writing.

Error	Example	Correction
Parallel form	She said it's supposed to rain or snowing this evening.	She said it's supposed to rain or snow this evening.
Verb tense	I move to this city about five years ago.	I moved to this city about five years ago.
Run-on	Victoria is the capital of BC Vancouver is the larger city.	Victoria is the capital of BC, but Vancouver is the larger city.
Wrong article	The summer heat is often less intense in a morning .	The summer heat is often less intense in the morning .
Missing article	My tooth was aching, so I went to dentist.	My tooth was aching, so I went to the dentist.
Subject-verb agreement	A few of my friends wants to try out that new restaurant.	A few of my friends want to try out that new restaurant.
Wrong preposition	What are you going to do in the weekend?	What are you going to do on the weekend?
Missing preposition	I would like to travel many countries.	I would like to travel to many countries.
Word choice	I think I'll just have a taxi downtown.	I think I'll just take a taxi downtown.
Missing comma	I like that idea! However I think we should do some more planning first.	I like that idea! However, I think we should do some more planning first.
Capitalization	Unfortunately, I'm busy next saturday .	Unfortunately, I'm busy next Saturday .
Missing word	If have any questions, just let me know.	If you have any questions, just let me know.