The journal, ledger, and trial balance are interconnected components of the accounting system that allow businesses to record and summarize their financial transactions. The journal is the book of original entry where transactions are first recorded in chronological order. The information from the journal is then posted into the ledger accounts, which is organized by specific accounts. The ledger provides an ongoing balance for each account. The trial balance is prepared using the ledger account balances to validate that debits equal credits in the accounting system. If the trial balance does not balance, it indicates an error has been made. Common trial balance errors include posting amounts to the wrong account, posting amounts on the wrong side, incorrect calculations, and omissions. To identify and correct errors, I would trace from the trial balance, back to the ledger, and then to the original journal entry. The error likely occurred at the point where the amounts no longer agree. After identifying the erroneous transaction, I can pass correcting journal entries and update the ledger accounts and trial balance accordingly to ensure the accounts balance and the financial records are accurate.

Reference:

Franklin, M. Graybeal, P. & Cooper, D. (2020). Principles of accounting, volume 1: Financial accounting. Open Stax Rice University.

https://openstax.org/details/books/principles-financial-accounting.