Common Errors in Tense

1.Incorrect: If I would live in a hill station, I would be much healthier.

Correct:If I lived in a hill station,I would be much healthier.

Explanation: When one talks about present or future, while imagining something that is unlikely or untrue, one uses past tense in the if clause. would is not used in such cases.

2.Incorrect: I am studying Economics since 2000.

Correct: I have been studying Economics since 2000.

Explanation: An action that began in the past and still continuing in the present refers to present perfect continuous tense.

3.Incorrect:At first I was not understanding anything.

Correct:At first I didn't understand anything.

Explanation: The verb understand is a state verb, so it is never used in progressive tense.

4.Incorrect:Let me know immediately she will arrive.

Correct:Let me know immediately she arrives.

Explanation: When one action in future depends upon another simple present tense is used to denote the supposed first action.

5.Incorrect: I am writing in reply to your letter that I have received two days ago.

Correct: I am writing in reply to your letter that I received two days ago.

Explanation: The adverb ago is collocated with a verb in the simple past tense to show how far in the past some action happened.

6.Incorrect: when my uncle came to India I passed M.A.

Correct:When my uncle came to India I had passed M.A.

Explanation: Past perfect tense is used when a sentence refers to two past actions and one of them occurs earlier than the other.

7.Incorrect:I often laughed at him.

Correct: I often laugh at him.

Explanation: words like usually, generally, often whenever are used in present indefinite tense.

ERRORS IN THE USE OF ADJECTIVES

1.Incorrect:My most favourite game is cricket.

Correct: My favourite game is cricket

Explanation; The adjective favourite means most preferred. so, It can not be collocated with the determiner most

2.Incorrect: It will be more funny to go by train.

Correct: It will be more fun to go by train.

Explanation: The adjective funny means someone or something that makes one laugh. when we refer to someone or something that gives one pleasure or enjoyment we use the word fun.

3.Incorrect:If there were less cars on the roads, there would be less accidents.

Correct:If there were fewer cars on the roads, there would be fewer accidents.

Explanation:Less is used with an uncountable noun whereas fewer is used with the plural form of a countable noun.

4.Incorrect:My job at the office is very bored.

Correct: My job at the office is very boring.

Explanation:bored refers to the state of being tired and impatient because of losing interest. Boring refers to something which is not interesting

5.Incorrect:She likes reading historical novels.

Correct:She likes reading historic novels.

Explanation: Historic is generally used to describe some place or thing that is likely to be remembered, To describe something that is connected with past or history, historical is used.

6.Incorrect:The traffic jams are very terrible.

Correct: The traffic jams are terrible.

Explanation: The adverb very is not used with adjectives which already have strong meaning.

7.Incorrect:These children are very sensible.

Correct: These children are very sensitive.

Explanation:sensible means someone who makes good decisions and sensitive refers to someone who is easily upset or offended.

8.Incorrect:We would be very pleasant if you could attend.

Correct:We would be very pleased if you could attend.

Explanation:pleased refers to happy or satisfied.

Common errors in the use of article

Incorrect: Climbing the Mount Everest in winter can be dangerous.

Correct:Climbing Mount Everest in winter can be dangerous

Explanation: The article the is not used with the name of a mountain unless the name of group of mountains like the Himalayas

Incorrect: These bones are a proof that animals really existed

Correct: These bones are proof that animals really existed.

Explanation:proof is an uncountable noun and does not take article

Incorrect: The dinner was same as usual.

Correct: The dinner was the same as usual.

Explanation: the word same is usually preceded by the.

Incorrect:He served his nation for over quarter of a century.

Correct:He served his nation for over a quarter of a century.

Explanation: the word quarter is generally preceded by a.

Incorrect:Such a behaviour can easily cause offence.

correct:Such behaviour can easily cause offence.

Explanation: an uncountable noun does not take article.

Incorrect: The hotel is suitable for disabled.

Correct: The hotel is suitable for the disabled.

Explanation: disabled stands for all the people who are disabled.

Incorrect: I have the degree in engineering.

Correct: I have a degree in engineering.

Explanation: the word degree is preceded by a

Incorrect:We went to cinema to see stuart line

Correct:we went to the cinema to see start line.