

UPKAR'S 

**CORRECT  
YOUR  
COMMON ERRORS  
IN  
ENGLISH**

**CCE**

*Jayanthi Dakshina Murthy*

## **DEDICATION**

This book is dedicated with reverence and gratefulness to the lord Sri Krishna Bhagavan from whom I have derived the excellent message that we have to do our duties and actions without expecting anything in particular.

—Jayanthi Dakshina Murthy

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

I should be glad to express my acknowledgements and thanks to the following :

1. To my mother Sri Jayanthi Savithri who has been with me in my success or failure.
2. To my friend Mr. U. Ramanagi Rao, B.Com. who has contributed a great deal for my success both as a writer and teacher.
3. To Miss Kumari and Miss Roopa whose names appear repeatedly throughout the book for their inspiration by showing a serious concern for my writing career.
4. To all the authors whose scholarship and brilliance have helped me a lot in shaping and moulding my writing career.
5. To my publishers who have shown their keen interest, encouragement and co-operation in the publication of the book.

—Author

## PREFACE

It gives me a great deal of pleasure and pride to place this new edition "Correct Your Common Errors in English" in the hands of the student community.

This book is not an ordinary grammar book that gives you a detailed description of each grammatical item in a traditional way and it is, on the other hand, a major reference book on common errors for learners and teachers of English as second or foreign language.

The reason why I have written this book is very simple. Long ago, I was shocked to find that I had noticed a large number of my students speaking English incorrectly without being aware of their mistakes. It was then that the idea of writing a standard reference book on common errors took shape in my mind. The very incident has inspired and prompted me to write this book.

The book primarily deals with common errors in English and all the errors in the book have been corrected by providing appropriate explanations.

The main objective in writing this book is to help the learners correct their spoken as well as written English. For this reason, I have developed a scientific approach in the treatment of the subject and the subject-matter has been explained in the form of a number of grammar rules with real examples taken from daily life and practical situations. This enables the learner to grasp the subject-matter very easily.

As the book is exclusively designed for students and scholars in India and abroad, I have taken into consideration the realities and challenges of national as well as international life while preparing the examples in the book. Moreover, the language used in the book is very simple, natural and lively. It provides the learner with an opportunity for understanding the subject independently and working out the problems (errors) by himself.

In this book, I have presented the subject-matter in forty six chapters with five sections. Each chapter in the book begins with an introduction and provides a large number of explanations followed by numerous errors with their corrected versions. At the

end of each chapter, a great deal of exercises have been given for the learner's practice.

In the second section, I have explained the various parts of speech very briefly and in the third section, a complete key to all the exercises in the book has been provided. In the fourth section, some of the university questions on common errors with answers have been given. The fifth section of the book contains one thousand miscellaneous common errors with answers.

I hope the book with its specific features will find favour with students as well as teachers.

If the book is useful for whom it is meant, I feel my labour will be amply rewarded.

I should be pleased to hear from students and scholars who come across omissions or faults in the book.

Please write to me.

—Author

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jayanthi Dakshina Murthy is a renowned scholar, teacher, writer and poet both in English and Telugu. He is also a well known grammarian who made extensive research and study on English.

He wrote a good number of short stories, poems and essays in English as well as Telugu. Besides, he has a great deal of experience in teaching English to students very skilfully and interestingly.

He hailed from a poor family in Vishakhapatnam and he was a physically handicapped person by birth. He received his preliminary education at home.

In spite of his physical deformity, he pursued his higher education by working hard with a strong determination and self-confidence. He was a graduate in English and Economics and a post-graduate in English Literature, political science and public administration respectively. He graduated twice and post-graduated thrice from Andhra University.

He began his career as a writer and teacher at the age of fifteen. He struggled with his poverty as well as his physical deformity and achieved tremendous success in the field of education. He made remarkable and outstanding contribution to student community as an educationist and teacher.

His first book on English grammar namely "Improve Your English Vocabulary" was published in 1997 by a reputed publication "Nava Ratna Book Centre" from Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh. His second book "Contemporary English Grammar" was published in 1998 by Book Palace, New Delhi. His third and fourth books "All About Prepositions" and "Top Impressive Letters for all Occasions" in 1997 by M. I. Publications, Agra.

He always looked upon teaching not as a profession but a dedication. He championed the cause of education and addressed himself to the service of students.

Jayanthi Dakshina Murthy is good at writing educational books and he has been teaching English Language and Grammar for a long time.

The present New edition "Correct Your Common Errors in English" is especially written for those who wish to speak and write good, idiomatic and correct English.

# CONTENTS

## SECTION-I

	<i>Pages</i>
1. Common Errors in the Agreement of Noun with Verb.....	3-9
2. Common Errors in the use of Nouns.....	10-19
3. Common Errors in the use of Gender.....	20-22
4. Common Errors in the use of Case.....	23-24
5. Common Errors in the use of Possessive Case.....	25-27
6. Common Errors in the Formation of Possessive Case.....	28-29
7. Common Errors in the Formation of Plurals.....	30-36
8. Common Errors in the use of Foreign Plurals.....	37-39
9. Common Errors in the use of Collective Nouns.....	40-41
10. Common Errors in the use of Nouns with Prepositions.....	42-61
11. Common Errors in the use of Noun Patterns.....	62-67
12. Common Errors in the use of Pronouns.....	68-82
13. Common Errors in the use of Articles.....	83-87
14. Common Errors in the Omission of Articles.....	88-93
15. Common Errors in the Repetition of Articles.....	94-96
16. Common Errors in the use of Adjectives.....	97-109
17. Common Errors in the use of Adjectives with Prepositions .....	110-134
18. Common Errors in the Agreement of the Verb with the Subject.....	135-145
19. Common Errors in the use of Verbs.....	146-154
20. Common Errors in the use of Infinitive.....	155-164
21. Common Errors in the use of Participle.....	165-168
22. Common Errors in the use of Gerund.....	169-177
23. Common Errors in the use of Irregular Verbs.....	178-187
24. Common Errors in the Formation of Tenses.....	188-195
25. Common Errors in the use of Tense.....	196-212



26. Common Errors in the use of Passive Voice.....	213–216
27. Common Errors in the use of Verb and Mood.....	217–220
28. Common Errors in the Sequence of Tense.....	221–223
29. Common Errors in the use of Conditional Tense.....	224–226
30. Common Errors in the use of Reported Speech.....	227–233
31. Common Errors in the use of Verbs with Prepositions.....	234–270
32. Common Errors in the use of Adverbs.....	271–289
33. Common Errors in the use of Prepositions.....	290–297
34. Common Errors in the use of Verbs with or without Prepositions.....	298–300
35. Common Errors in the use of Prepositions with words Similar in Form and Meaning.....	301–304
36. Common Errors in the use of same word with Different Prepositions.....	305–306
37. Common Errors in the use of some Specific Prepositions....	307–310
38. Common Errors in the use of Phrase Prepositions.....	311–321
39. Common Errors in the Wrong Omission of Prepositions.....	322–325
40. Common Errors in Using an Unnecessary Preposition.....	326–329
41. Common Errors in the use of Words with Prepositions.....	330–400
42. Common Errors in the use of Conjunctions.....	401–417
43. Common Errors Relating to the word-order in a Sentence...	418–421
44. Miscellaneous Errors and Indianisms.....	422–432
45. Common Errors in the use of question tags and Short Answers .....	433–436
46. Common Errors in the use of Wrong Vocabulary.....	437–458

## **SECTION–II**

- Parts of Speech : A Brief Survey..... 459–465

## **SECTION–III**

- Key to Exercises..... 466–504

## **SECTION–IV**

- Miscellaneous Common Errors with Answers..... 505–584

## INTRODUCTION

### **What is the aim of this book ?**

“Correct Your Common Errors in English” is a systematic, standard and genuine reference book for learners and teachers of English as a second or foreign language. Its main objective is to provide students and scholars with the instruction and information they need in order to correct their errors. Besides, the book also provides opportunities for correcting the errors independently.

### **What do you find in this book ?**

This book deals with all types of grammatical errors that students make again and again. It covers a wide range or a variety of errors from simple to complex ones. The errors such as "I is in the room" instead of "I am in the room" and "I has received a letter from Miss Jayanthi" instead of "I have received a letter from Miss Jayanthi" may seem to be very unnatural for an advanced learner but at the same time, they are very serious errors for an ordinary learner.

In view of the above reason, the book presents both the major and minor errors with detailed explanations and answers.

The book contains common errors. A common error is one that is made repeatedly by learners of various language skills and backgrounds.

The errors presented in the book have been written by the author himself and the author's long teaching experience in English has helped him create errors of various levels and standards. Some of the errors in the book appear amazingly elementary (*e.g.*, 'we played with they') instead of 'we played with them' and 'I presented a watch her' instead of 'I presented her a watch'). It should however be observed that even advanced learners may frequently make basic mistakes.

The model of correct usage adopted in the book is Standard British English. But no attempt has been made in the book to explain the differences between the British English and the American English.

## **How do you find the information you need ?**

When you want to know the information about an error, you can find it in the book at the relevant chapter. For this purpose, the book is divided into forty six chapters. For example, If you have no idea of whether to say "There is no Indian but does not know Gandhi" or "There is no Indian but knows Gandhi", you just refer to the chapter "Common errors in the use of pronouns. In the same way, if you don't know whether to say "My uncle reads Bible daily" or "My uncle reads the Bible daily" you can refer to the chapter "Common errors in the omission of the article".

The chapters dealing with various grammatical errors such as parts of speech, subject-verb agreement, tense use, formation of tense, formation of plurals, the use of foreign plurals, sequence of tense, conditional tense, word order in the sentence, passive voice, reported speech, question tags and short answers including the use of wrong vocabulary have been arranged systematically. For example, imagine that you have made a mistake in the use of present perfect continuous tense ("I am working in the college for the last five years" instead of "I have been working in the college for the last five years"). In the book "Correct Your Common Errors in English", you will find the explanation you need at the chapter "Common errors in the use of tense".

If you try to use an ordinary grammar book for the purpose of correcting your errors, you have to encounter a number of difficulties. The major problem is that you generally do not know where to look for an appropriate explanation. For example, in the case "Aristotle said that man was a social animal". The correct explanation will probably be shown in the chapter dealing with the sequence of tense. However, if you know that the explanation you need is to be found in this chapter. It is uncertain whether you have made the mistake in first place. The arrangement of incorrect sentence with the correct sentence preceded by an explanation in the book gives you a better chance of finding the explanation you need and finding it quickly. When you make an error in the use of a particular grammatical item, you just refer to the relevant chapter.

Before you begin to use this book, it is suggested that you should spend a few minutes looking at the list of the chapters in the book. This list shows you at a glance all the major catagories of errors including their names and where to find them. At the same time, once you have started using the book, you will discover that the chapters in the book are closely related to the errors.

### **What do the chapters contain ?**

Although “Correct Your Common Errors in English” is a major reference book, it also provides opportunities for correcting the errors independently. For this reason, the arrangement of the incorrect sentence with the correct sentence preceded by an explanation has been adopted. The chapters in the book begin with an introduction listing a number of both the incorrect and the correct examples preceded by appropriate explanations. Each pair of sentences contains a type of error which you are expected to correct carefully comparing the error with the correction. If you succeed in correcting the error without taking help from your teacher, what you have learned with great effort is more likely to be remembered.

A key to all the exercises in the book has been provided to help the learner work out the problems by himself.

—Author

---

# 1

## COMMON ERRORS IN THE AGREEMENT OF NOUN WITH VERB

---

*Whether to use a singular verb or a plural verb after certain nouns is a major problem for Indian students. The simple rule is that if the noun is singular, a singular verb is used and if, on the other hand, the noun is plural, a plural verb is used. But it is not so easy as we think. In English, certain nouns can be used both as singular and plural whereas some other nouns are always used as singular. Some nouns have no plural forms. They have same form in the singular and plural. Some nouns appear to be plural in form but they are, in reality, singular.*

*It may be pointed out that both material and abstract nouns can never be used as plurals but when they are used as plurals, they have a different meaning. Collective nouns can be used both as singular and plural.*

*In this chapter, an attempt has been made to help the learner to show the correct use of verbs after nouns.*

### 1. THE VERB MUST AGREE WITH THE NOUN (SUBJECT) IN NUMBER AND PERSON.

*Incorrect* : I is in the room.

*Correct* : I am in the room.

*Incorrect* : You is in the garden.

*Correct* : You are in the garden.

*Incorrect* : Padma are beautiful.

*Correct* : Padma is beautiful.

*Incorrect* : My sisters is not married.

*Correct* : My sisters are not married.

*Incorrect* : They was afraid of snakes.

*Correct* : They were afraid of snakes.

*Incorrect* : I has a good memory.

*Correct* : I have a good memory.

*Incorrect* : We has a lot of money in the bank.

*Correct* : We have a lot of money in the bank.

*The word 'case' in grammar is used to talk about the different forms of nouns and pronouns which are used as subjects and objects. The difference between I and me, we and us, he and him, she and her, they and them is often expressed by case. The possessive is used to talk about possession or ownership.*

**1. NOMINATIVE ANSWERS THE QUESTION WHO OR WHAT.**

Padma wrote a letter.

[Who wrote a letter ? Answer : Padma]

Hard work brings success.

[What brings success ? Answer : Hard work]

**2. THE ACCUSATIVE ANSWERS THE QUESTION WHOM OR WHAT.**

I loved Madhavi.

[Whom did I love ? Answer : Madhavi]

We enjoy poetry.

[What do we enjoy ? Answer : Poetry]

**3. THE NOUN OR PRONOUN USED AFTER A PREPOSITION MUST BE IN THE ACCUSATIVE (OBJECTIVE CASE).**

*Incorrect* : She is angry with I.

*Correct* : She is angry with me.

*Incorrect* : We played with they.

*Correct* : We played with them.

**4. NOMINATIVE CASE IS USED BEFORE THE VERB AND ACCUSATIVE AFTER THE VERB.**

*Incorrect* : I saw she.

*Correct* : I saw her.

*Incorrect* : She liked I.

*Correct* : She liked me.

*Incorrect* : They played Cricket with we.

*Correct* : They played Cricket with us.

**5. THE POSSESSIVE ANSWERS THE QUESTION WHOSE.**

This is Raju's house.

[Whose house is this ? Answer : Raju's house]

*The possessive case is used when we are talking about possession or ownership and it is also used to indicate authorship, origin and kind. The use of possessive case is restricted to living things and personified objects. It can be used with certain idiomatic phrases.*

**1. POSSESSIVE CASE IS USED WITH LIVING THINGS.**

*Incorrect* : We entered the den of tiger.

*Correct* : We entered the tiger's den.

*Incorrect* : I was impressed with the beauty of Roopa.

*Correct* : I was impressed with Roopa's beauty.

**2. THE POSSESSIVE IS USED WITH PERSONIFIED OBJECTS.**

*Incorrect* : My uncle is waiting for the call of death.

*Correct* : My uncle is waiting for death's call.

**3. THE POSSESSIVE IS ALSO USED WITH NOUNS DENOTING TIME / SPACE/WEIGHT.**

*Incorrect* : We did not get the income of a year.

*Correct* : We did not get a year's income.

*Incorrect* : They finished the work of a day.

*Correct* : They finished a day's work.

*Incorrect* : I gave the salary of a month to the flood victims.

*Correct* : I gave a month's salary to the flood victims.

**4. THE POSSESSIVE CASE IS USED WITH THE NAMES OF BUILDINGS.**

*Incorrect* : I shall go to the house of my aunt.

*Correct* : I shall go to my aunt's (house).

*Incorrect* : She was married at the Church of St. Paul.

*Correct* : She was married at St. Paul's (Church).

**5. THE POSSESSIVE CASE IS USED WITH SOME IDIOMATIC PHRASES.**

1. At his finger's ends.

2. For mercy's sake.

3. To his heart's content.

4. At his wit's end.

English noun has two different forms namely singular and plural number. When a noun Refers to only one person or thing, it is said to be in the singular number and when it refers to more than one person or thing, it is considered to be in the plural number. The ways of forming plurals in English are easy to explain. The plurals of most nouns are formed by adding 's' to the singular nouns. Some of the nouns ending with "ch, sh, x, s and ss" form their plurals by adding 'es'. A few nouns ending with 'y' form their plural by removing 'y' and adding 'ies'. Some other nouns ending with 'f' or 'fe' form their plural by removing 'f' or 'fe' and adding 'ves' to the singular nouns. By adopting a change in inside vowels, singulars are turned plural.

**1. THE PLURALS OF MOST NOUNS IN ENGLISH ARE FORMED BY SIMPLY ADDING 'S' TO THE SINGULAR NOUNS.**

- Incorrect* : Bankers play a vital role in a nation's economy.  
*Correct* : Banks play a vital role in a nation's economy.
- Incorrect* : Tigeres are ferocious animals.  
*Correct* : Tigers are ferocious animals.
- Incorrect* : I drank three cupes of tea.  
*Correct* : I drank three cups of tea.
- Incorrect* : He repaired all the lockes of the stadium.  
*Correct* : He repaired all the locks of the stadium.
- Incorrect* : The Government decided to open some more high schooles in villages.  
*Correct* : The Government decided to open some more high schools in villages.
- Incorrect* : I gave him five penciles.  
*Correct* : I gave him five pencils.
- Incorrect* : They stored a hundred bages of rice.  
*Correct* : They stored a hundred bags of rice.
- Incorrect* : I examined the answer paperes very closely.  
*Correct* : I examined the answer papers very closely.
- Incorrect* : There are several windowes in the house.  
*Correct* : There are several windows in the house.



*A collective noun can be used with a singular or plural verb. But when a collective noun is considered as a single unit, it is used with a singular verb and when it is treated as separate individuals, it is used with a plural verb.*

*Incorrect* : The Indian team are playing well.

*Correct* : The Indian team is playing well.

*Incorrect* : Some audience in the theatre has thrown flowers at the screen.

*Correct* : Some audience in the theatre have thrown flowers at the screen.

*Incorrect* : Some of the class has no interest in the lesson.

*Correct* : Some of the class have no interest in the lesson.

*Incorrect* : The committee has disputed with one another on the main issue.

*Correct* : The committee have disputed with one another on the main issue.

*Incorrect* : The crew were drowned in the deep sea.

*Correct* : The crew was drowned in the deep sea.

*Incorrect* : The B.P.L. company have taken up a joint venture with Japan.

*Correct* : The B.P.L. company has taken up a joint venture with Japan.

*Incorrect* : The crowd was burning the city bus.

*Correct* : The crowd were burning the city bus.

*Incorrect* : Most of my family is keen at purchasing a colour television.

*Correct* : Most of my family are keen at purchasing a colour television.

*Incorrect* : The gang was checking the Railway track.

*Correct* : The gang were checking the Railway track.

*Incorrect* : The Government have started new schemes for the poor.

*Correct* : The Government has started new schemes for the poor.

*A large number or a wide range of patterns are possible with nouns. A to infinitive can be used as an adjunct to a noun. The nouns used in this pattern can be replaced by their corresponding verbs or adjectives. It is however noted here that some nouns have no corresponding verbs or adjectives which may be replaced.*

*Certain other nouns can be used with that clauses and that clauses are very common after nouns in English.*

*Most of the nouns are very often used with prepositions and the correct collocation of noun and preposition can be learnt by study and practice. The preposition in this pattern is sometimes obligatory and the noun and the preposition form a unit. The preposition before a dependent question introduced by whether and after the noun 'question' is often optional.*

**1. SOME NOUNS ARE USED WITH TO INFINITIVE THEY MAY ALSO BE USED WITH EQUIVALENT VERBS OR ADJECTIVES.**

*Incorrect* : Her attempt of learning music was a big failure.

*Correct* : Her attempt to learn music was a big failure.

*Incorrect* : His decision for contesting the elections was supported by his friends.

*Correct* : His decision to contest the elections was supported by his friends.

*Incorrect* : Ramya's refusal of marrying him shocked her parents.

*Correct* : Ramya's refusal to marry him shocked her parents.

*Incorrect* : They realised the need for having their own children.

*Correct* : They realised the need to have their own children.

*Incorrect* : Raju did not keep his promise about helping me.

*Correct* : Raju did not keep his promise to help me.

*Incorrect* : Murthy did not express his intention of marrying Madhavi to anyone.

*Correct* : Murthy did not express his intention to marry Madhavi to anyone.

*Incorrect* : I have a desire for visiting America.

*Correct* : I have a desire to visit America.

*Pronouns, technically speaking, are simple words such as “I, we, you, they, he, she, it” which are used for nouns to avoid repetition in speech or writing. Since pronouns are used in place of nouns, they must be in the same number, gender and person for which they stand. Collective nouns may be used with a singular or plural pronoun according to the context.*

*A phrase with two singular nouns requires a plural pronoun but when it refers to the same person or thing, a singular pronoun is required. A phrase begins with each and every is always used with a singular pronoun. When nouns in singular number are joined by or, either-or, neither-nor, the pronoun must be singular.*

*In the same way, reflexive pronouns cannot be used either as subjects or objects. In respect of the words such as anybody, everybody, everyone, anyone and each, the pronouns he or she may be used. Relative pronouns must be in agreement with their antecedents in number, person, gender and case. The three words “who, whom and whose” are used in the nominative accusative, possessive cases respectively.*

**1. THE PRONOUN MUST BE IN THE SAME NUMBER, GENDER AND PERSON OF THE NOUN FOR WHICH IT STANDS.**

*Incorrect* : Rasi is a noted surgeon and and he studied in America.

*Correct* : Rasi is a noted surgeon and she studied in America.

*Incorrect* : She has three children and we are playing in the garden.

*Correct* : She has three children and they are playing in the garden.

**2. A PRONOUN STANDING FOR A COLLECTIVE NOUN MUST BE SINGULAR WHEN IT IS VIEWED AS A WHOLE.**

*Incorrect* : The army suffered much in their march.

*Correct* : The army suffered much in its march.

*Incorrect* : The crew did not pay any heed to their captain’s words.

*Correct* : The crew did not pay any heed to its captain’s words.

*Incorrect* : The Board of Directors has taken their decision on the major problem.

*Correct* : The Board of Directors has taken its decision on the major problem.

---

**1. THE INDEFINITE ARTICLE 'AN' IS USED BEFORE A WORD BEGINNING WITH A VOWEL SOUND.**

*Incorrect* : A ass is a hard-working animal.

*Correct* : An ass is a hard-working animal.

*Incorrect* : We should love even a enemy.

*Correct* : We should love even an enemy.

*Incorrect* : My little sister has requested me to buy her a ink-stand.

*Correct* : My little sister has requested me to buy her an ink-stand.

*Incorrect* : My aunt eats a orange daily.

*Correct* : My aunt eats an orange daily.

*Incorrect* : Why don't you take a umbrella with you ?

*Correct* : Why don't you take an umbrella with you ?

*Incorrect* : I waited a hour for the bus.

*Correct* : I waited an hour for the bus.

*Incorrect* : A honest man is always respected in society.

*Correct* : An honest man is always respected in society.

*Incorrect* : She is a heir to her uncle's property.

*Correct* : She is an heir to her uncle's property.

- **Note**—The words hour, honest, heir begin with a vowel sound the initial 'h' is silent.

**2. THE INDEFINITE ARTICLE A IS USED BEFORE A WORD BEGINNING WITH A CONSONANT.**

*Incorrect* : I saw an boy in the street.

*Correct* : I saw a boy in the street.

*Incorrect* : He married an woman.

*Correct* : He married a woman.

*Incorrect* : He walked an yard.

*Correct* : He walked a yard.

*Incorrect* : My uncle does not know how to ride an horse.

*Correct* : My uncle does not know how to ride a horse.

*Incorrect* : A snake crept into an hole.

*Correct* : A snake crept into a hole.

*Incorrect* : She wanted to study in an university.

*Correct* : She wanted to study in a university.

**1. TWO ADJECTIVES QUALIFYING THE SAME NOUN WHICH ARE CONNECTED BY AND MUST BE USED WITH A SINGLE ARTICLE.**

*Incorrect* : I liked the blue and the yellow saree.

*Correct* : I liked the blue and yellow saree.

*Incorrect* : He is a great and a famous writer.

*Correct* : He is a great and famous writer.

**2. ADJECTIVES QUALIFYING DIFFERENT NOUNS MUST BE USED WITH TWO ARTICLES.**

*Incorrect* : The great scholar and reputed politician are taking part in the seminar.

*Correct* : The great scholar and the reputed politician are taking part in the seminar.

*Incorrect* : A popular film actress and noted physician are donating a lot of money to the flood victims.

*Correct* : A popular film actress and a noted physician are donating a lot of money to the flood victims.

**3. THE REPETITION OF THE ARTICLE MAY BE AVOIDED BY USING A PLURAL NOUN.**

*Incorrect* : The Prime Minister met the foreign and the Indian delegates.

*Correct* : The Prime Minister met the foreign and Indian delegates.

*Incorrect* : I learnt the English and the Hindi languages.

*Correct* : I learnt the English and Hindi languages.

**4. TWO NOUNS REFERRING TO THE SAME PERSON OR THING MUST BE USED WITH A SINGLE ARTICLE.**

*Incorrect* : I met the editor and the journalist.

*Correct* : I met the editor and journalist.

*Incorrect* : I interviewed the social worker and the school teacher.

*Correct* : I interviewed the social worker and school teacher.

**5. TWO NOUNS REFERRING TO DIFFERENT PERSONS OR THINGS MUST BE USED WITH TWO ARTICLES.**

*Incorrect* : I met the editor and journalist.

*Correct* : I met the editor and the journalist.

---

1. **SOME VERBS ARE ALWAYS USED WITH ADJECTIVES EXPRESSING THE QUALITY OF THE SUBJECT NOT WITH ADVERBS.**

Smell	Seem	Remain	Sound
Look	Emerge	Taste	Become
Prove	Feel	Turn	Appear
Grew			

*Incorrect* : The flower smells sweetly.

*Correct* : The flower smells sweet.

*Incorrect* : The book sounds interestingly.

*Correct* : The book sounds interesting.

*Incorrect* : The food tastes deliciously.

*Correct* : The food tastes delicious.

*Incorrect* : I feel happily.

*Correct* : I feel happy.

*Incorrect* : She appears angrily.

*Correct* : She appears angry.

*Incorrect* : He seems intelligently.

*Correct* : He seems intelligent.

*Incorrect* : Miss Roopa looks attractively.

*Correct* : Miss Roopa looks attractive.

*Incorrect* : Padma became beautifully.

*Correct* : Padma became beautiful.

*Incorrect* : The coffee turned coldly.

*Correct* : The coffee turned cold.

*Incorrect* : He proved faithfully.

*Correct* : He proved faithful.

*Incorrect* : My wife grew suspiciously.

*Correct* : My wife grew suspicious.

*Incorrect* : Kumari remained silently.

*Correct* : Kumari remained silent.

*Incorrect* : Mr. Murthy emerged successfully.

*Correct* : Mr. Murthy emerged successful.

- **Note**—Most of the above verbs may be used with adverbs with a different meaning.

- Incorrect* : The streets of Delhi are wider than Chennai.  
*Correct* : The streets of Delhi are wider than those of Chennai.  
*Incorrect* : The army of India is braver than Pakistan.  
*Correct* : The army of India is braver than that of Pakistan.

**9. DOUBLE COMPARATIVES AND SPERLATIVES MUST BE AVOIDED.**

- Incorrect* : Rajiv Gandhi is more better than all other leaders.  
*Correct* : Rajiv Gandhi is better than all other leaders.  
*Incorrect* : He is the most bravest of all brothers in the family.  
*Correct* : He is the bravest of all brothers in the family.  
*Incorrect* : Mother Teresa is more kindlier than any other woman in the world.  
*Correct* : Mother Teresa is kindlier than any other woman in the world.  
*Incorrect* : Murthy is more cleverer than any other boy in the class.  
*Correct* : Murthy is cleverer than any other boy in the class.  
*Incorrect* : John Keats is the most best of all English poets.  
*Correct* : John Keats is the best of all English poets.  
*Incorrect* : My father's memory is more worse than my uncle's.  
*Correct* : My father's memory is worse than my uncle's.  
*Incorrect* : The streets of Delhi are more wider than those of Chennai.  
*Correct* : The streets of Delhi are wider than those of Chennai.  
*Incorrect* : The army of India is more braver than that of Pakistan.  
*Correct* : The army of India is braver than that of Pakistan.

**10. THE WORD PREFERABLE IS NOT USED WITH MORE OR THAN BUT WITH TO.**

- Incorrect* : Love is more preferable to me.  
*Correct* : Love is preferable to me.  
*Incorrect* : Honesty is preferable than money.  
*Correct* : Honesty is preferable to money.

**11. NO LESS THAN IS USED FOR QUANTITY AND NO FEWER THAN FOR NUMBER.**

- Incorrect* : I ate no fewer than half bread.  
*Correct* : I ate no less than half bread.  
*Incorrect* : No less than two teachers are appointed.  
*Correct* : No fewer than two teachers are appointed.

**12. SOME ADJECTIVES ARE NOT USED IN COMPARATIVE OR SUPERLATIVE DEGREE. THEY, BROADLY SPEAKING, HAVE LOST THEIR COMPARISON. BECAUSE THEIR MEANING IS ALREADY SUPERLATIVE.**

Unique	Ideal	Perfect	Complete
Universal	Entire	Extreme	Chief
Full	Square	Round	

**1. WHEN THE SUBJECT IS IN THE THIRD PERSON AND SINGULAR  
NUMBER, THE VERB IN THE PRESENT TENSE TAKES 'S' OR 'ES'.**

*Incorrect* : Padmaja go to temple daily.

*Correct* : Padmaja goes to temple daily.

*Incorrect* : Murthy do the work with interest.

*Correct* : Murthy does the work with interest.

*Incorrect* : He speak English well.

*Correct* : He speaks English well.

*Incorrect* : I goes to office by bus.

*Correct* : I go to office by bus.

*Incorrect* : I speaks Telugu at home.

*Correct* : I speak Telugu at home.

*Incorrect* : I does not know her name.

*Correct* : I do not know her name.

*Incorrect* : We drinks tea in the morning.

*Correct* : We drink tea in the morning.

*Incorrect* : We does not play Chess.

*Correct* : We do not play Chess.

*Incorrect* : You likes reading books.

*Correct* : You like reading books.

*Incorrect* : You doesn't love children.

*Correct* : You don't love children.

*Incorrect* : He go to Delhi every year.

*Correct* : He goes to Delhi every year.

*Incorrect* : He don't know my difficulty.

*Correct* : He doesn't know my difficulty.

*Incorrect* : Miss Roopa enjoy teaching.

*Correct* : Miss Roopa enjoys teaching.

*Incorrect* : Kumari don't try to understand my feelings.

*Correct* : Kumari doesn't try to understand my feelings.

*Incorrect* : It seem very clear that she has no interest in marriage.

*Correct* : It seems very clear that she has no interest in marriage.

*Incorrect* : The sky appear dark today.

*Correct* : The sky appears dark today.



---

**1. WE SHOULD NOT BEGIN A SENTENCE WITH AN INFINITIVE BUT IT MUST BE INTRODUCED BY THE PRONOUN IT.**

*Incorrect* : To find fault with others is easy.

*Correct* : It is easy to find fault with others.

*Incorrect* : To think about marriage is very pleasant.

*Correct* : It is very pleasant to think about marriage.

*Incorrect* : To teach young kids is very difficult.

*Correct* : It is very difficult to teach young kids.

*Incorrect* : To obey our parents is our duty.

*Correct* : It is our duty to obey our parents.

*Incorrect* : To insult others is not a good thing.

*Correct* : It is not a good thing to insult others.

**2. THE INFINITIVE WITHOUT TO MAY BE USED WITH CERTAIN VERBS.**

*Incorrect* : Bid him to go there.

*Correct* : Bid him go there.

*Incorrect* : She bade me to go there.

*Correct* : She bade me go there.

*Incorrect* : Let him to smoke in the room.

*Correct* : Let him smoke in the room.

*Incorrect* : She did not let me to speak to her.

*Correct* : She did not let me speak to her.

*Incorrect* : I cannot make you to learn English.

*Correct* : I cannot make you learn English.

*Incorrect* : She made me to realise my mistakes.

*Correct* : She made me realise my mistakes.

*Incorrect* : You need not to teach me morals.

*Correct* : You need not teach me morals.

*Incorrect* : She need not to work for her family.

*Correct* : She need not work for her family.

*Incorrect* : You dare not to speak like that.

*Correct* : You dare not speak like that.

*Incorrect* : I saw Miss Roopa to go to college.

*Correct* : I saw Miss Roopa go to college.

*Incorrect* : I heard her to speak to her husband.

*Correct* : I heard her speak to her husband.

**3. THE INFINITIVE WITHOUT TO IS ALSO USED WITH THE FOLLOWING VERBS.**

Shall	Do	Should	May	Must	Could
Will	Did	Would	Might	Can	

*Incorrect* : I shall talked to her later.

*Correct* : I shall talk to her later.

*Incorrect* : We shall going to Delhi next week.

*Correct* : We shall go to Delhi next week.

*Incorrect* : Do you speaks Telugu at home ?

*Correct* : Do you speak Telugu at home ?

*Incorrect* : She did not spent all the money.

*Correct* : She did not spend all the money.

*Incorrect* : We should respected our parents.

*Correct* : We should respect our parents.

*Incorrect* : She would explained her problem to me.

*Correct* : She would explain her problem to me.

*Incorrect* : She may coming tomorrow.

*Correct* : She may come tomorrow.

*Incorrect* : He might helped you in the work.

*Correct* : He might help you in the work.

*Incorrect* : You must returned the money to me.

*Correct* : You must return the money to me.

*Incorrect* : You can told me you problem.

*Correct* : You can tell me your problem.

*Incorrect* : I could understood your difficulty.

*Correct* : I could understand your difficulty.

**4. THE INFINITIVE WITHOUT TO MAY BE USED WITH THE PHRASES HAD BETTER, HAD RATHER, WOULD RATHER, SOONER THAN AND RATHER THAN.**

*Incorrect* : You had better to apply for a bank loan.

*Correct* : You had better apply for a bank loan.

*Incorrect* : You had better to try once again.

*Correct* : You had better try once again.

*Incorrect* : I had rather to write than teach.

*Correct* : I had rather write than teach.

*Incorrect* : I would rather to fight than suffer.

*Correct* : I would rather fight than suffer.

**6. A GERUND MAY BE USED AS THE OBJECT OF A TRANSITIVE VERB.**

I like reading books.  
She enjoys watching T.V. series.  
We prefer taking a hot bath.  
Teach me singing.

**7. A GERUND MAY BE USED AS THE OBJECT OF A PREPOSITION.**

I am tired of walking.  
She is afraid of speaking to strangers.  
We were stopped from entering the room.  
She is good at typing letters.

**8. A GERUND MAY BE USED AS THE COMPLEMENT OF A VERB.**

My aim in life is becoming a writer.  
What she likes much is teaching.  
The problem is getting money for the scheme.

**9. A GERUND MAY BE USED ABSOLUTELY.**

Walking in the street, I saw Miss Roopa.  
Speaking to my friend, I forgot to drink my tea.  
Stopping at the bus-stop, I greeted her.

**10. THE PRONOUN GOVERNING A GERUND MUST BE USED WITH THE POSSESSIVE CASE.**

*Incorrect* : My friends' success depends on him utilizing the opportunity.

*Correct* : My friends' success depends on his utilizing the opportunity.

*Incorrect* : What is the use of him working in such a job ?

*Correct* : What is the use of his working in such a job ?

*Incorrect* : It is no use of you trying for a job.

*Correct* : It is no use of your trying for a job.

*Incorrect* : Please excuse me disturbing you.

*Correct* : Please excuse my disturbing you.

**11. THE NOUN GOVERNING A GERUND MUST BE USED WITH THE POSSESSIVE CASE WITH 'S.**

*Incorrect* : I had no recollection of Miss Roopa talking to her mother about our marriage.

*Correct* : I had no recollection of Miss Roopa's talking to her mother about our marriage.

*Incorrect* : I was very sorry for Miss Kumari failing in the examination.

*Correct* : I was very sorry for Miss Kumari's failing in the examination.

*Incorrect* : There is no point in Mohan trying for the girl.

*Correct* : There is no point in Mohan's trying for the girl.

---

**1. WHEN THE SUBJECT IS IN THE THIRD PERSON AND SINGULAR NUMBER, THE VERB IN THE PRESENT TENSE TAKES 'S' OR 'ES'.**

- Incorrect* : Padmaja go to temple daily.  
*Correct* : Padmaja goes to temple daily.
- Incorrect* : Murthy do the work with interest.  
*Correct* : Murthy does the work with interest.
- Incorrect* : He speak English very well.  
*Correct* : He speaks English very well.
- Incorrect* : I goes to office by bus.  
*Correct* : I go to office by bus.
- Incorrect* : I speaks Telugu at home.  
*Correct* : I speak Telugu at home.
- Incorrect* : We drinks tea in the morning.  
*Correct* : We drink tea in the morning.
- Incorrect* : You likes reading books.  
*Correct* : You like reading books.
- Incorrect* : He go to Delhi every year.  
*Correct* : He goes to Delhi every year.
- Incorrect* : Miss Roopa enjoy teaching.  
*Correct* : Miss Roopa enjoys teaching.
- Incorrect* : It seem very clear that she has no interest in marriage.  
*Correct* : It seems very clear that she has no interest in marriage.
- Incorrect* : The sky appear dark today.  
*Correct* : The sky appears dark today.
- Incorrect* : They goes to Church every Sunday.  
*Correct* : They go to Church every Sunday.
- Incorrect* : The sun rise in the east.  
*Correct* : The sun rises in the east.
- Incorrect* : Books gives us knowledge and wisdom.  
*Correct* : Books give us knowledge and wisdom.
- Incorrect* : Children loves playing and eating.  
*Correct* : Children love playing and eating.

**33. THE FUTURE PERFECT TENSE IS USED TO INDICATE AN ACTION WHICH WILL BE COMPLETED AT SOME POINT IN FUTURE.**

*Incorrect* : I shall complete my diploma by next year.

*Correct* : I shall have completed my diploma by next year.

*Incorrect* : We shall send the application by Friday.

*Correct* : We shall have sent the application by Friday.

*Incorrect* : You will reach there by evening.

*Correct* : You will have reached there by evening.

*Incorrect* : They will sleep when you go home.

*Correct* : They will have slept when you go home.

*Incorrect* : He will get a job when I see him next.

*Correct* : He will have got a job when I see him next.

***Exercise 36***

*Correct the errors in the following sentences :*

1. Money is making many things.
2. Slow and steady is winning the race.
3. Fortune is favouring the brave.
4. The sun is rising in the east.
5. Early to bed and early to rise is making a man healthy, wealthy and wise.
6. The Earth is moving round the Sun.
7. She is never getting up early in the morning.
8. My sister is returning from office at 5 P.M.
9. My father is going to bed at 10 o'clock every night.
10. Miss Roopa is coming here daily.

***Exercise 37***

*Correct the errors in the following sentences :*

1. She is enjoying good health.
2. I am hoping to see my uncle again.
3. We are hating hunting the poor and innocent animals.
4. I am liking my mother very much.
5. I am feeling that Miss Roopa belongs to me.
6. Miss Roopa is wishing to marry me.
7. She is having three daughters.
8. The house is consisting of five rooms.
9. Miss Roopa is belonging to a rich family.
10. She is owning much property in the village.
11. I am wondering whether you can help me.
12. She is imagining that she is a beauty queen.
13. Are you remembering that honesty is the best policy.
14. My mother is knowing that I shall achieve success in life.
15. She is agreeing that she has no interest in marriage.

- Incorrect* : The advocate tampered at the evidence.  
*Correct* : The advocate tampered with the evidence.
- Incorrect* : The mango tastes with sugar.  
*Correct* : The mango tastes of sugar.
- Incorrect* : I asked him to tell on his personal life.  
*Correct* : I asked him to tell about his personal life.
- Incorrect* : Her courage and confidence testify for her character.  
*Correct* : Her courage and confidence testify to her character.
- Incorrect* : I thought for studying medicine in America.  
*Correct* : I thought of studying medicine in America.
- Incorrect* : I requested the bank manager to think about my loan.  
*Correct* : I requested the bank manager to think over my loan.
- Incorrect* : The police threatened him by an arrest.  
*Correct* : The police threatened him with an arrest.
- Incorrect* : They threw stones on the blind beggar.  
*Correct* : They threw stones at the blind beggar.
- Incorrect* : We sold our house to tide ourselves with our difficulty.  
*Correct* : We sold our house to tide ourselves over our difficulty.
- Incorrect* : The ship touched on the Bay of Bengal on its journey.  
*Correct* : The ship touched at the Bay of Bengal on its journey.
- Incorrect* : India trades against Japan in electronic goods.  
*Correct* : India trades with Japan in electronic goods.
- Incorrect* : She trembled in fear when she saw her father.  
*Correct* : She trembled with fear when she saw her father.
- Incorrect* : She trespassed with my privacy.  
*Correct* : She trespassed on my privacy.
- Incorrect* : Please don't trespass with the rules.  
*Correct* : Please don't trespass against the rules.
- Incorrect* : It is wrong of you to trifle at her feelings.  
*Correct* : It is wrong of you to trifle with her feelings.
- Incorrect* : She tried to triumph on obstacles in her path.  
*Correct* : She tried to triumph over obstacles in her path.
- Incorrect* : I always trust with Miss Roopa.  
*Correct* : I always trust in Miss Roopa.
- Incorrect* : We trust for his honesty.  
*Correct* : We trust to his honesty.
- Incorrect* : We trusted him for our money.  
*Correct* : We trusted him with our money.
- Incorrect* : I turned all the verses in the book in prose.  
*Correct* : I turned all the verses in the book into prose.

**CLOSE WITH = END.**

The bank closed (ended) with the company's dealings.

**9. CONSULT = TAKE THE AID OF.**

I consulted (took the aid of) the doctor.

**CONSULT WITH = TAKE ADVICE OF.**

I consulted (took the advice of) with the lawyer on the issue.

**10. COUNT = CALCULATE.**

I counted (calculated) the books in the library.

**COUNT ON = DEPEND ON.**

I counted on my friend for help.

**11. DEAL = DISTRIBUTE.**

She dealt (distributed) the books to children.

**DEAL IN = TRADE IN.**

He deals (trades in) in electronic goods.

**12. DISPENSE = MIX.**

He dispensed (mixed) the medicines.

**DISPENSE WITH = UTILIZE.**

We dispensed with her services.

**13. FEEL = EXPERIENCE OR SUFFER.**

I felt (experienced or suffered) a chest pain.

**FEEL FOR = TO HAVE SYMPATHY FOR.**

We must feel (to have sympathy) for the poor.

**14. GUARD = PROTECT.**

The soldiers guard (protect) the nation.

**GUARD FROM = KEEP SAFE FROM.**

We have to guard the nation (kept safe from) from foreign attack.

**15. INQUIRE = ASK.**

She inquired (asked) the reason.

**INQUIRE INTO = INVESTIGATE.**

The police inquired (investigated) into the matter.

**16. PREPARE = DRAFT.**

She prepared the agenda of the meeting.

**PREPARE FOR = GET READY FOR.**

He prepared (got ready for) for civil service examination.

**17. SEARCH = EXAMINE.**

The security men searched (examined) her thoroughly.

**SEARCH FOR = FIND OUT.**

I am searching (finding out) for a good wife.

**18. SEE = WATCH.**

I saw (watched) her at the meeting.

**SEE THROUGH = DETECT.**

We saw (detected) through her tricks.

### 9. IN AND INTO.

*In is used to refer to things at rest and into is used to refer to things in motion.*

*Incorrect* : She is into the room.

*Correct* : She is in the room.

*Incorrect* : She went to the theater.

*Correct* : She went into the theater.

*Incorrect* : He jumped in the water.

*Correct* : He jumped into the water.

*Incorrect* : They are into the waiting room.

*Correct* : They are in the waiting room.

### 10. ON AND UPON.

*On is used to talk about things at rest and upon is used to talk about things in motion.*

*Incorrect* : She sat upon a chair.

*Correct* : She sat on a chair.

*Incorrect* : The tiger sprang on the deer.

*Correct* : The tiger sprang upon the deer.

### 11. IN AND WITHIN

*In means at the end of a particular period and within means before the end of a particular period.*

*Incorrect* : We will sign the agreement within three days.

*Correct* : We will sign the agreement in three days.

*Incorrect* : We will deliver the goods in three weeks.

*Correct* : We will deliver the goods within three weeks.

*Incorrect* : I shall be back within three months.

*Correct* : I shall be back in three months.

*Incorrect* : You must return my money in two years.

*Correct* : You must return my money within two years.

## ***Exercise 57***

*Correct the following sentences :*

1. There is a bank besides our house.
2. Beside Hindi and Telugu, I can speak French.
3. My mother has been in the hospital for Monday.
4. I have been a lecturer in the college since six years.
5. There have been misunderstandings among the two sisters.
6. There was no co-operation between the party leaders.
7. The examinations will be held between 15th March to 30th March.





- Incorrect* : The police have no guess with the truth.  
*Correct* : The police have no guess at the truth.
- Incorrect* : You must maintain harmony for your wife.  
*Correct* : You must maintain harmony with your wife.
- Incorrect* : Don't develop hatred with the poor.  
*Correct* : Don't develop hatred for the poor.
- Incorrect* : She is a legal heir with her father's property.  
*Correct* : She is a legal heir to her father's property.
- Incorrect* : Poverty is a great hindrance in a nation's progress.  
*Correct* : Poverty is a great hindrance to a nation's progress.
- Incorrect* : He gave a hint to my success.  
*Correct* : He have a hint at my success.
- Incorrect* : We have much hope with our future.  
*Correct* : We have much hope for our future.
- Incorrect* : There is no point in showing hostility with our friends.  
*Correct* : There is no point in showing hostility to our friends.
- Incorrect* : Miss Roopa has a great deal of identity for her mother.  
*Correct* : Miss Roopa has a great deal of identity with her mother.
- Incorrect* : We saw her immersion into the river.  
*Correct* : We saw her immersion in the river.
- Incorrect* : Marriage is an impediment for a girl's education.  
*Correct* : Marriage is an impediment to a girl's education.
- Incorrect* : He has no incentive with his hard work.  
*Correct* : He has no incentive to his hard work.
- Incorrect* : She is showing much inclination with her career.  
*Correct* : She is showing much inclination to her career.
- Incorrect* : She wants independence from her parents.  
*Correct* : She wants independence of her parents.
- Incorrect* : She always shows indifference with marriage.  
*Correct* : She always shows indifference to marriage.
- Incorrect* : She has indulgence with drugs.  
*Correct* : She has indulgence in drugs.
- Incorrect* : I found it difficult to make an inference with the facts.  
*Correct* : I found it difficult to make an inference from the facts.
- Incorrect* : I have a lot of influence on my students.  
*Correct* : I have a lot of influence with my students.
- Incorrect* : The police made an inquiry with the murder.  
*Correct* : The police made an inquiry into the murder.
- Incorrect* : She has no insight with human nature.  
*Correct* : She has no insight into human nature.

8. We took him as a doctor.
9. The mango tastes with sugar.
10. India trades to Japan in electronic goods.
11. We trusted him to our money.
12. She upbraided me for ingratitude.
13. My mother warned me about the consequences in taking such a decision.
14. We are working to a moderate pay.
15. She advised me not to yield for any temptation.
16. He is not eligible to the post.
17. The company has embarked with a new project.
18. They are entrusted to the task of bringing up the child.
19. Miss Rasi is engaged for Mr. Murthy.
20. I am engaged with my script work.
21. He was enticed with bad habits by his friends.

### ***Exercise 69***

*Correct the following sentences :*

1. My mother advised me not to rely with others for help.
2. She reminded me about her sister.
3. I remonstrated with her on her cruelty towards children.
4. I rendered the Ramayana in English.
5. I repented for having wasted my money.
6. She reposed with her husband for everything.
7. My mother reprimanded me with my rudeness to strangers.
8. We resolved for starting computer education in our school.
9. His popularity rests with his simplicity and honesty.
10. The accident resulted in the neglect of the driver.
11. They retaliated against their enemies.
12. The terrorists revolted on the Government.
13. I was fully rewarded to what I have done to the company.
14. They robbed me with my belongings.
15. Many kings ruled on our country for a long time.
16. My sister runs for every young boy in the name of love.
17. I ran across my best friend yesterday at the bus-stop.
18. I tried to save the girl in danger.

### ***Exercise 70***

*Rewrite the following sentences correctly :*

1. He associated himself for the Congress party.
2. The President assented for the bill.
3. She is aspiring to a comfortable life.
4. I always attribute my success for my mother.
5. We arrived at Delhi two days ago.
6. She argued to me against male dominance.

4. The Prime Minister digressed with the issue in his speech.
5. I differ from my father on our sister's marriage.
6. Don't try to deviate with your duties.
7. My mother deterred me in smoking.
8. I desisted my sister in reading Novels.
9. He deprived his wife from her freedom.
10. I never delight at wasting my time.
11. The Parliament is still deliberating over the issue.
12. The producer defrauded the actress from her remuneration.
13. He was debarred for appearing the examination.
14. This book deals about common errors in English.
15. Do you know how to deal in people.
16. The company deals with electronics.
17. My uncle dabbles at politics.
18. The doctor cured me from my fever.
19. I counted with my friend for help.



## PARTS OF SPEECH : A BRIEF SURVEY

---

*Words are used either for speaking or writing and so they should be studied properly. We all know that we cannot write or speak without words. Words are divided into eight classes on account of their functions.*

*They are —*

- |              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. Noun      | 5. Adverb       |
| 2. Pronoun   | 6. Preposition  |
| 3. Adjective | 7. Conjunction  |
| 4. Verb      | 8. Interjection |

### 1. NOUN

A noun is a word used as the name of a person, place or thing.

*Ex. : Bill Clinton, Mother Teresa, Shelly, Delhi, India, Computer, Photograph, Calculator.*

A noun can be used in many ways.

**[A] Subject of the verb.**

*Ex. : Miss Roopa is my girl friend.*

**[B] Object of a verb.**

*Ex. : I loved Miss Roopa.*

**[C] Complement of a subject.**

*Ex. : She became a teacher.*

**[D] Object of a preposition.**

*Ex. : She is afraid of her mother.*

**[E] In apposition to subject or object.**

*Ex. : Tagore, the author of Gitanjali, is an Indo-Anglian poet.*

*I met Miss Roopa, an M.B.A. student.*

### KINDS OF NOUNS :

**(i) Common noun**—A common noun is a name given in common to every person or thing of the same class or kind.

*Ex. : Boy, woman, city, country, teacher, doctor, mother, queen.*

**(ii) Proper noun**—A proper noun is the name of some particular person or place.

*Ex. : Tagore, Keats, Shelly, India, Japan, Hyderabad, Rajiv Gandhi.*

## KEY TO EXERCISES

---

### *Exercise 1*

1. I have received a letter from Jayanthi.
2. You have no common sense at all.
3. They have lived in Delhi for three years.
4. I go to office by bus.
5. I do not know her name.
6. You like books.
7. You don't love children.
8. Miss Roopa doesn't know my difficulty.
9. I think it doesn't rain today.
10. It seems very clear that she has no interest in marriage.
11. My watch doesn't keep good time.
12. They don't celebrate festivals.
13. The sun rises in the east.
14. Most people believe in god and ethical values.
15. The durability of goods is very important for the buyer.

### *Exercise 2*

1. The policies of the Government are the major concern for discussion.
2. Money and education are essential for all.
3. Beauty and intelligence are an additional qualification for a receptionist.
4. My sister and her friends are watching T.V.
5. My friend and writer has praised my book.
6. Time and tide waits for no man.
7. Bread and milk is my breakfast.
8. The book and cover is very attractive.
9. Coffee and tea is injurious to health.
10. The manager with all the workers was on strike.
11. My aunt as well as her five sons is educated at Oxford.
12. My brother as well as I am good at English.
13. Either the principal or teachers are good at teaching.
14. Neither my father nor my mother is educated.

### *Exercise 3*

1. Neither he nor his parents are thinking about the matter.
2. Either of the two books is interesting.
3. Neither of the two sisters is willing to marry him.
4. Everyone of my sisters is married.
5. Each of the students is given a text book.

## MISCELLANEOUS COMMON ERRORS WITH ANSWERS

---

Incorrect	Correct
● Two months have passed when I saw Kumari.	Two months have passed since I saw Kumari.
● She asked me that what I was doing in her room.	She asked me what I am doing in her room.
● Wait here until I don't come.	Wait here until I come.
● He not only killed his wife but also his sister.	He killed not only his wife but also his sister.
● I am not sure if she will return from Delhi.	I am not sure that she will return from Delhi.
● Supposing if Kumari doesn't marry, I shall remain a bachelor.	If Kumari doesn't marry, I shall remain a bachelor.
● I loved both Kumari as well as Madhura.	I loved both Kumari and Madhura.
● I had no sooner reached the bus-stop when it started raining.	I had no sooner reached the bus-stop than it started raining.
● Padma doesn't speak like I do.	Padma doesn't speak as I do.
● Though I tried hard but I failed in the examination.	Though I tried hard I failed in the examination.
● Madhavi worked hard lest she may fail in her attempt.	Madhavi worked hard lest she might fail in her attempt.
● Murthy did not write clearly and correctly.	Murthy wrote neither clearly nor correctly.
● My father is angry at the girl.	My father is angry with the girl.
● They are confident to win the lottery.	They are confident of winning the lottery.
● He is disqualified to contest in the election.	He is disqualified from contesting in the election.
● He excels to teach.	He excels in teaching.
● No one can prevent me to meet her.	No one can prevent me from meeting her.
● she persisted to marry Murthy.	She persisted in marrying Murthy.
● We succeeded to save the girl.	We succeeded in saving the girl.
● I am hopeful to see Kumari again.	I am hopeful of seeing Kumari again.

Incorrect	Correct
● Students are prohibited to bring their cycles in the college.	Students are prohibited from bringing their cycles in the college.
● Universities are the hopes to our national leaders.	Universities are the hopes of our national leaders.
● Murthy has a great thirst of knowledge.	Murthy has a great thirst for knowledge.
● Who is responsible to all the accidents.	Who is responsible for all the accidents.
● The house is built by bricks.	The house is built with bricks.
● He was called as a great person.	He was called a great person.
● Madhavi is suffering with fever since Sunday last.	Madhavi has been suffering from fever since Sunday last.
● I have hard any respect for her.	I have hardly any respect for her.
● She rarely is very kind to the poor.	She is rarely very kind to the poor.
● I speak to him rarely.	I rarely speak to him.
● My father only died last year.	My father died only last year.
● I have written a letter to her last week.	I wrote a letter to her last week.
● My brother advised me to work hardly for distinction.	My brother advised me to work hard for distinction.
● I saw her on last year.	I saw her last year.
● My aunt is arriving on tomorrow.	My aunt is arriving tomorrow.
● I told her to sincerely work hard for promotion.	I told her to work hard sincerely for promotion.
● You are advised to not insult the poor.	You are advised not to insult the poor.
● If I know English, I could get a better job.	If I knew English, I could get a better job.
● He would stay in America, if she marries him.	He would stay in America, if she married him.
● If I have money, I could lend you happily.	If I had money, I could lend you happily.
● If you are a doctor, you could cure her.	If you were a doctor, you could cure her.
● If I am you, I should help her.	If I were you, I should help her.
● My father said that books were very useful to students.	My father said that books are very useful to students.
● We said that we have a desire to visit Agra.	We said that we had a desire to visit Agra.
● She said that she will help me in the work.	she said that she would help me in the work.

UPKAR'S  
**CORRECT  
YOUR  
COMMON ERRORS  
IN  
ENGLISH**

**CC  
FINE**



**YOUR SUCCESS  
IS  
OUR AIM  
SURE SUCCESS  
WITH  
OUR NAME  
THAT IS  
UPKAR**

