

*The Only Grammar Book You'll Ever Need.*

**Agreement error.**

Either subject-verb or subject-pronoun agreement are wrong.

Check for number (singular/plural) and person (third person especially)

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**Awkward wording/phrasing.**

Your phrasing does not sound like a natural English sentence

Simplify to subject-verb-object structure. Make one claim at a time.

Arrange claims or information in logical order. Consider what the reader needs to learn first.

**Choppy prose**

Too many short declarative sentences in a row. Does not flow.

Consider joining some sentences with the appropriate connectors; extend sentences

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**Citation required**

Citation is missing

Quotes and summaries require parenthetical citation in MLA format.

**Avoid clichés and truisms**

The expression or idea is commonplace and worn out; unoriginal.

Change claim or delete

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### Colloquial

Too close to spoken English. Acceptable in informal conversatio, but not in formal writing. Make more formal by choosing different vocabulary or by eliminating or substituting colloquial expressions.

[http://www.wikihow.com/Avoid-Colloquial-\(Informal\)-Writing](http://www.wikihow.com/Avoid-Colloquial-(Informal)-Writing)

[http://www2.ivcc.edu/rambo/tip\\_formal\\_writing\\_voice.htm](http://www2.ivcc.edu/rambo/tip_formal_writing_voice.htm)

### Contraction

Avoid contractions in formal writing. It's => it is ; won't => will not etc...

### Parallelism in Writing/Parallelism error

A Lists or sequence of words, phrases, or clauses do not follow the same grammatical structure  
Make the list/sequence follow the same grammatical structure (all nouns, all adjectives, all verbs...)

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[https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general\\_writing/mechanics/parallel\\_structure.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/mechanics/parallel_structure.html)

### Plural

Word should be in plural form

### Singular

Word is not in the singular form

Use singular form

### Spelling mistake

Incorrect spelling

Check and correct spelling. Some words, when misspelled, change meaning.

### Abrupt transition from one topic or issue to another.

Transition from topic to topic is too abrupt

You should signal the reader that something new is coming. A brief introductory explanation is necessary.