

英文法錯誤類例
A CLASSIFIED COLLECTION OF COMMON
ERRORS IN ENGLISH GRAMMAR

WITH
RULES & HINTS FOR CORRECTION

By
Jonson S. Han

韓時俊 著

臺灣開明書店印行

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PREFACE

It is indeed my great pleasure to be given the honor and privilege of writing a few words to "A Classified Collection of Common Errors in English Grammar".

Mr. Jonson S. Han, the author of this book, has taught English for a good many years in middle schools. His good knowledge of the language, his long experience in teaching and his remarkable ability will certainly enable him to produce a book of great merit. Such a book can, I am sure, lessen the difficulties of Chinese students in the study of English that may confront them from time to time.

In recent years a great many English textbooks have been compiled by teachers of English. There is, however, a great need of a book teaching the uses of grammatical rules by actual practice rather than by theory. The author has supplied in this book what was wanted in a better way than it has ever been supplied before.

I do hope that a book of such value will meet with wide circulation which it deserves.

Harry S. Hou

NANKING UNIVERSITY MIDDLE SCHOOL.
Jan. 12, 1934.

TO THE READER

This little book is written to meet the requirements of the pupils in Junior third and Senior first year of the middle school course; for at this stage of their work, they have learned some grammar at least but are still far from mastering it. The aim of this book is to teach them to learn by actual practice and example rather than by theory. In other words, the students should first know why the sentences are wrong and then discover by themselves how the various words and forms are correctly used.

The whole book is divided into chapters and sections. At the beginning of each section, there are some very common rules and at the end, some more hints consisting of explanations and examples which will help the students to correct the sentences more easily. Hence, the book may be used either as a classroom textbook or as a supplementary book for self-taught students.

In the preparation of this book, the author has received from his friends, Messrs. Harry S. Hou, Teacher of Nanking University Middle School, and C. C. Yu, Teacher of the Government Girls' Normal School, many valuable suggestions for which he wishes to express his indebtedness. Special thanks are due to Miss Lois Young, the Principal of Mary Stevens Girls' Middle School and Mrs. E. H. Hamilton, Teacher of English in the same institution who

carefully revised the whole of the manuscript. The author will welcome any suggestion from teachers and readers after they have used the book.

Jonson S. Han

GOVERNMENT GIRLS' NORMAL SCHOOL,
SÜCHOWFU, *July* 29, 1933.

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CHAPTER I

PARTS OF SPEECH

Words are divided into different kinds or classes according to their use in the sentence. The different kinds of words are called PARTS OF SPEECH. They are eight in number: Nouns, Pronouns, Adjectives, Verbs, Adverbs, Prepositions, Conjunctions, and Interjections.

1. A NOUN is the name of a person, place, or thing; as, *James, Soochow, book*, etc.

2. A PRONOUN is a word used instead of a noun; as, *I, you, he*, etc.

3. An ADJECTIVE is a word used to modify the meaning of a noun or pronoun; as, *white, long, this*, etc.

4. A VERB is a word used to say something about a person or thing; as, *The dog runs. The man works.*

5. An ADVERB is a word used to modify the meaning of a verb, an adjective, or another adverb; as, *The dog runs quickly. The man works hard.*

6. A PREPOSITION is a word placed before a noun or pronoun to show its relation to some other word in the sentence; as, *We live in Süchowfu. I give the book to you.*

7. A CONJUNCTION is a word used to join words, phrases, or clauses together; as, *I study Chinese and English. I study but you play.*

8. An INTERJECTION is a word or sound thrown into a sentence to express some feeling of the mind; as, *alas!*, *oh!*, etc.

CHAPTER II

NOUNS

SECTION 1

The Kinds of Nouns

Noun defined—A NOUN is a word used as a name.

Classification—Nouns are of five different kinds:

1. Proper Nouns
2. Common Nouns
3. Collective Nouns
4. Material Nouns
5. Abstract Nouns

A PROPER NOUN is the name of a particular person, place, or thing; as, *Confucius*, *Süchowfu*, etc.

A COMMON NOUN is the name applied to any person, place, or thing of the same class; as, *sage*, *city*, etc.

A COLLECTIVE NOUN is the name for a group of similar persons or things, taken as one whole; as, *army*, *class*, etc.

A MATERIAL NOUN is a word denoting the matter or substance of which things are made; as, *gold* *wood*, etc.

AN ABSTRACT NOUN is the name of some quality, state, or action which can only be imagined, but

cannot be seen, heard, etc. as an object of sense; as, *knowledge, youth, etc.*

Correct the following sentences:

1. I saw james and frank walking in the garden.
2. Alfred the great was a king of England.
3. Some years ago, there lived in England a famous scientist whose name was the Sir Isaac Newton.
4. Mr. P'u is Newton of today.
5. Shanghai is New York of China.
6. United States of America is the richest nation in the world.
7. Mediterranean Sea is located between the Europe and the Africa.
8. Manila is the chief city in Philippine Islands.
9. Confucius wrote Four Books.
10. The people is divided into several parties.
11. All the crew of the wrecked steamer was saved by a fisherman.
12. No man can live without the air.
13. Books are made of papers.
14. The thirsty boy drank three cup teas.
15. John, fetch me some chalks.
16. A justice is a noble quality.
17. The love is a good virtue.
18. She is beauty among all the ladies.
19. Love of money is the root of all evil.
20. He is justice of the peace.

HINTS

A proper noun should always be commenced with a capital letter; as, *James, China*, etc.

A proper noun should not be preceded by the article "the" except in the following cases:

- (a) Names of rivers and other bodies of water except lakes; as, *the Yangtze*, etc.
- (b) Names of groups of islands; as, *the Philippines*, etc.
- (c) Names of ranges of mountains; as, *the Alps*, etc.
- (d) Names of books; as, *the Bible*, etc.
- (e) When used as common nouns; as, *Socrates was the Confucius of the West*.

A collective noun may be followed by a verb in the singular or the plural number according to sense; as, *My family is in this city. My family are all well.*

A material noun can only be measured but not counted; as, *I can drink much water.* (not: many waters)

Both abstract and material nouns should not be preceded by articles unless they are used as common nouns; as, *The water in the well is clean (material) The love of money is the root of all evil (abstract)*

* * *

SECTION 2

Gender

Nouns have inflections of Gender, Number and Case.

Gender defined—GENDER is that form of a noun which shows the difference of sex.

There are four genders, namely, (1) Masculine, (2) Feminine, (3) Common, and (4) Neuter.

Names of males are in the MASCULINE GENDER; as, *boy, father*, etc.

Names of females are in the FEMININE GENDER; as, *girl, mother*, etc.

Names that do not indicate sex are said to be in the COMMON GENDER; as, *teacher, friend*, etc.

Names of things without sex are in the NEUTER GENDER; as, *plant, desk*, etc.

Correct the following sentences:

1. Take the boy to its mother.
2. A widow is a man whose husband is dead.
3. China is an old country; it extends over one fourth of Asia.
4. "The Empress of Japan" is a Canadian ship; he is one of the largest on the Pacific.
5. Fortune came down the road; he had a purse of gold in his hand.
6. The Moon looks like the king of all the stars; and his sister is the Sun.
7. John helped Mary find his dog.
8. The bridegroom went out to meet her bride.
9. The plant is in his full growth.
10. My aunt is sewing for his children in his room.
11. The baby fell and hurt his arm.
12. The baby was crying for her mother.

13. Joan of Arc was honored by the French as a national heroess.
14. Miss Ma still remains a bachelor.
15. Elizabeth and Victoria were two famous kings in England.
16. Hera, the wife of Zeus is supposed to be the god of all the gods in Greek Mythology.
17. His wife being dead, he is a widow.
18. Miss Ping Hsing is a well-known poet in China.
19. Our English teacher, Miss Yuan is a kind man.
20. He who brings the rarest gift shall have my niece, the prince as his wife.

HINTS

There are three different ways by which a masculine noun is distinguished from a feminine:

1. By a change of word; as, *boy, girl; king, queen*, etc.
2. By adding "ess" or other suffixes to the masculine; as, *poet, poetess; hero, heroine*, etc.
3. By adding a word; as, *grand-father, grand-mother; man-servant, maid-servant*, etc.

Personified things remarkable for strength, greatness, etc., are regarded as males; as *Sun, Thunder*, etc.

States or qualities expressed by abstract nouns and some particular words, when personified, are regarded as females; as, *Spring, Moon, ship, train, nation*, etc.

"It" and "its" are often used in referring to very young children; as, Take the child to *its* mother.

SECTION 3

Number

Nouns have two numbers: Singular and Plural.

SINGULAR means one; PLURAL means more than one; as *hand, hands; house, houses*, etc.

Correct the following sentences:

1. My mother gave me two silver boxs.
2. My eyes are poor so I wear glass.
3. Flys are very dirty insects.
4. Shakespeare wrote many wonderful plaies.
5. These men are unkind to their wives.
6. They went home on feet.
7. I brush my tooth with a teeth-brush.
8. They went to see their son-in-laws.
9. Those peoples in our room are Chinese.
10. The boy was tending some sheeps in the field.
11. We bought three dozens tennis balls.
12. The soldiers killed many five-years-old boys.
13. I give you a five-dollars bill.
14. Give us your advices.
15. It will do you some goods.
16. I wish to buy some good with your monies.
17. The people in America fought against England for their freedoms.
18. I wish to sell all my old furnitures.
19. Bad news spread far and wide.

20. We study physic and politic.
21. We delivered him out of his danger by this mean.
22. Be careful about your "ps" and "qs".
23. You have omitted all your "ands" and "buts" in your composition.
24. Mathematics give me much trouble.
25. I can eat five breads at a time.
26. How many brethren and sisters have you?
27. The German are clever and skilful people.
28. England was once conquered by the Normen.

HINTS

If a noun ends in *s*, *x*, *sh*, or *ch*, the plural is formed by adding *es* to the singular; as, *box*, *boxes*; *glass*, *glasses*, etc.

If a noun ends in *y* preceded by a consonant, the plural is formed by changing the *y* into *ies*; as, *fly*, *flies*; *lady*, *ladies*, etc.

But if the final *y* is preceded by a vowel (as in *ay*, *ey*, or *oy*) the plural is formed by simply adding *s* to the singular; as, *play*, *plays*; *boy*, *boys*, etc.

If a noun ends in *f* or *fe*, the plural is generally formed by changing *f* or *fe* into *ves*; as, *wife*, *wives*; *life*, *lives*, etc.

There are some nouns which form the plural by a change of the inside vowel; as, *foot*, *feet*; *man*, *men* (but, *German*, *Norman*, etc. are exceptions), etc.

A compound noun generally forms the plural by adding *s* to the principal word; as, *father-in-law*; *fathers-in-law*; *commander-in-chief*, *commanders-in-chief*, etc.

There are some nouns, singular in form, which are used in a plural sense; as, *people*, *cattle*, etc.

There are some nouns which have the same form for the plural as for the singular; as, *sheep*, *dog*, etc.

Some nouns, which take the plural form at ordinary times, retain the singular form to express some specific quantity or number; as, *a three-foot rule, twelve-pound weight*, etc.

Some nouns have different meanings in different numbers; as, *advice* (counsel), *advices* (information); *good* (benefit), *goods* (property), etc.

Some nouns have no singular; as, *trousers, politics*, etc.

Some nouns have the plural form, but are used as singular; as, *news, means*, etc.

Letters of the alphabet, figures, and words, when regarded merely as things spoken or written, add 's in the plural; as,
a's, p's, 3's and's, etc.

* * *

SECTION 4

Case

Case defined—CASE is that form of a noun which shows its relation to some other word in the sentence.

There are three cases in English: (1) Nominative, (2) Possessive, (3) Objective. Only the possessive is now indicated by a change of form.

The subject of a verb is in the NOMINATIVE CASE; as, *Rain falls*.

The object of a verb or preposition is in the OBJECTIVE CASE; as, *The man killed a rat. I give a book to him.*

The POSSESSIVE CASE denotes ownership or possession; as, *The girl's face is beautiful.*