

英語寫讀指導

# 英語寫讀指謬

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## COMMON ERRORS IN WRITING AND SPEAKING ENGLISH

*S. W. Wang*

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Common Errors  
in  
Writing and Speaking English

BY  
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# I. ERRORS OF GRAMMAR

## a. Nouns

1. 當兩個所有格名詞連在一起時,如所有物爲兩者共有,則所有格符號(即's)只加於最後一字即可;如爲兩者各個所有時,則所有格符號須分別加於兩者之後。

例 *Chang and Wang's* house now came in sight.

(此屋爲張與王所共有。)

I picked up somebody's hat, either *Fanny's or Jenny's*.

(此帽爲芳妮或仁妮各個所有。)

2. 當兩同位名詞(Noun in Apposition)用於所有格時,所有格符號只加於後一字;兩字俱加或加於前一字者係錯誤。

例 John married my *friend Philip's* sister.

誤例 It is his *brother's Edward's* pencil.

誤例 I love my *teacher's Mr. Cheng* new novel.

3. 當一由動詞變來之名詞(verbal noun)前面冠有“the”或“a”時,後面必須緊隨“of”;反之,此種名詞後面隨有“of”時,前面必須加 **動詞**。

例: *The building of it* is beginning

誤例: *The building it* is beginning.

*Building of it* is beginning.

例： I could not help *doing it*.

誤例： I could not help *doing of it*.

I could not help *the doing it*.

4. 當一含意普泛之名詞，用於一複數所有格代名詞之後時，即令其一般意義可屬於數人或數物，此名詞依然只用單數。

例： We were having our *fun*. (不用 *our funs*.)

We took our *part* in the proceedings, each according to his own ability. (不用 *our parts*.)

5. 表示空間，時間或重量之名詞，有莊嚴偉大性之名詞，俱可於字尾加所有格符號，其他無生命事物之名詞則不可。

例： Three day's journey; a month's holiday; two week's absence; ——時間。

A hand's breadth; a boat's length; a stone's throw; ——空間。

A pound's weight; a ton's weight: ——重量。

Heaven's will; nature's work; the court's decree; ——有莊嚴偉大性之名詞。

6. 幾個字當作一個名稱用時，末尾可加所有格符號。

例： The *Duke of Wellington's* palace; *William the Conqueror's* bible.

## b. Pronouns

1. 在“to be”，“seem”，“become”，“appear”等動詞之後，所用之代名詞應為主格。

例: It is *I*. (It is *me* 誤。)

It is *she*. (It is *her* 誤。)

It appeared to be *he*. (“to be *him*” 誤。)

2. 作前置詞之賓詞的代名詞,必須是賓格。

例: There can be no trouble between *you* and *me*.

There can be no trouble between *you* and *I*. (誤)

It is a matter for *you* or *him*.

It is a matter for *you* or *he*. (誤)

*Whom* will the paper be read by?

*Who* will the paper be read by? (誤)

3. 作無定時動詞 (infinitive) 之句主的代名詞須爲賓格。

例: Let *you* and *me* go to the postoffice.

誤例: Let *you* and *I* go to the postoffice.

4. 當代名詞用於 “as”, “such” 等附屬連詞 (subordinating conjunction) 之後時,其爲主格或賓格,須視其爲省去動詞之句主或賓詞而定。可常將省去之動詞補出以決其究應爲何格。

例: There is no one who can run so fast as *he* (can).

There was no one handsomer than *he* (was).

She liked no one better than (she liked) *him*

5. 無定時動詞之句主爲賓格,故此種動詞之敘述補充字 (predicate complement) 亦必須爲賓格。

例: They believed it to be *him*.

誤例: They believed it to be *he*

6. 代名詞必須與其先行詞 (antecedent) 同“人稱”並同“數”。

例: Each of them has *his* own way of doing it.

誤例: Each of them has *their* own way of doing it.

例: Every man, woman and child bowed *his* head.

誤例: Every man, woman and child bowed *their* heads.

例: I, who *am* above you, sacrifice myself for you (此句中“who”係第一人稱,故動詞用“am”。)

Thou, who *art* my shield, and my protector, wilt never fail me. (此句中“who”係第二人稱,故動詞用“art”。)

7. 先行詞為兩單數名詞被一“and”連之者,代名詞應為複數;被一“or”連之者,應為單數。

例: *Jane and Mary* will be found at *their* home in the country, where *they* have gone for *their* vacations.  
*Jane or Mary* called *her* mother.

8. 當先行詞為一男一女而敘述又須用單數時,代名詞須用男性者。

例: Is it John or Mary who stands at the head of *his* class? (“*their class*”誤。)

Every man, woman and child raised *his* voice against the atrocious act. (“*their voice*”誤。)

Either Jenny, or John, or Mary has lost *his* pocketbook, for here it is. (“lost *their pocket-book*”誤。)

### c. Verbs

1. 每一全句中必須有一正式敘說的動詞

例：He *was* a magnificent man. Broad-Shouldered, straight as an arrow, a man who pierced you with his glance or crushed you with his contempt, who liked his little joke and his little glass. (在後面一句話中，正式動詞被遺忘了；所以我們當着意描寫人或物時，要小心在意，不要忘記在一句話中須有一正式動詞。)

2. 當一句話中的動詞隱含省去時，通常多半加一驚嘆號於句尾。

例：We drove as hard as we could, but we missed the train. A day lost! Five days to be made up on our journey! I knew it couldn't be done.

3. 每一動詞必須與其句主同人稱並同數。兩單數句主被“and”連接者動詞應為複數，被“or”連接者動詞應為單數。

例：Every one of those men *has* an iron helmet. (如用“have an iron helmet”則誤，因此句之句主為“one”而非“men”也。)

Mr. Lee and I *are going* to the theater.

Jack or Mary *has eaten* the cake which you hid in the box

4. 當數句主中間被“or”連接時，動詞之人稱與數須與其最接近之一句主相契合。

例：Philip or I *am going* to the ball. (“am”只與最接近之句主“I”相契合，Philip一字可以不顧。)

My wife or my sister or the *children* *have* told it.

(“have told” 只與最接近之句主 “children” 相契合, “wife” 與 “sister” 二字可以不顧)

5. 集合名詞作句主時, 動詞應為單數或複數, 視作者執筆時之命意如何而定; 如將此種名詞用為一羣人或物之意, 則動詞應為複數; 如用之以代表一結合的單體, 則動詞即為單數。

例: The company *is* going to raise our pay.

The factory *says* it hasn't got it. (以上二例中 “company” 與 “factory” 俱顯然為單數, 故動詞亦用單數。)

An army of men *was* filling the square.

An army of men *were* filling the square.

An army *is* encamped in the plain.

(以上三例, 一二相同兩句中, 動詞或用單數或用複數, 視作者把 “army” 一字當作 “一單體” 或當作 “許多人” 而定。在第三例中則 “army” 無疑地是單數。)

A few men *are* running across the campus.

A number of men *are* running across the campus.

A certain number of men *is* selected each year.

A large number of us *are* going to the picnic.

(在以上四例中, “a few” 永為複數, 故動詞用 “are”; 第二句中意義顯然為複數, 故 “number” 之動詞用 “are”; 第三句中之 “number” 顯然為單數, 第四句中之 “number” 則又顯然為複數。)

6. 兩單數名詞以“and”連之用作句主，如果此兩名詞事實上是連在一起代表一種意思，則動詞可用單數。

例： Love and Beauty is his theme through the book.

7. 動詞之過去分詞永不可用為獨立動詞。

例： He began to do it.

(He begun to do it. — 誤。)

He saw the man do it.

(He seen the man do it. — 誤。)

I did the job.

I done the job. — 誤。)

8. 過去時之動詞永不可作過去分詞用。

例： He has driven the cattle in.

(He has drove the cattle in. — 誤。)

He has drunk all the water.

(He has drank all the water. — 誤。)

The letter was written last week.

(The letter was wrote last week. — 誤。)

9. 動詞表示過去某一定時間者用過去時，表示自某時起以迄於今者用完成時 (perfect tense)，二者不可混用。

例： I saw him yesterday.

I was told after I left you.

(在以上二例中，“yesterday”與“after I left you”俱係過去某一定時間，故動詞用過去時。)

He has done it already.

I haven't heard about it since I saw you.

(在以上二例中, "already" 與 "since I saw you" 俱係自某時起以迄於今, 故動詞用完成時。)

10. 附屬全句或節句 (Phrase) 中之動詞, 其 tense 必須與主要動詞相呼應, 切當地表示所欲表示的時間。

例: It had happened before I saw him.

(It had happened before I had seen him. — 誤。)

After we had visited London, we returned home.

(After we visited London, we returned home. — 誤。)

His seasickness was so great that I often feared he would die before our arrival.

(此句中如用 "he would have died" 則誤。)

The doctor in his lecture said fever always produce thirst.

(此句中如用 "produced thirst" 則誤, 蓋 "fever always produce thirst" 一語係永久的真理, 而凡無論在過去與現在永為真實之真理, 照例總是用現在時。)

11. 假定式動詞 (subjunctive mode) 用於表示假定之情形與願望, 而不用於事實。

表示假定情形的例:—

If it be so, well and good.

Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him.

Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee.

表示願望的例：—

Would I were an angel.

I wish I were at home.

Long live the king.

表示事實者不用 subjunctive mode, 如下例：—

If Anna is here, she will be sure to find me.

If Jenny was on the train, he must have seen her.

12. 凡一句之前有一 participle phrase 如 “Having done all he could.” “While sitting on my doorstep” 之類，則此句之正式句主即應為此 participle phrase 之句主，不可另易。

例： Having done all he could, *he* ordered the freight agent to send the box ahead.

誤例： Having done all he could, *the box* was ordered sent ahead.

例： While sitting on my doorstep, *I* caught sight of a beautiful butterfly.

誤例： While sitting on my doorstep, a *butterfly* caught my sight.

例： By doing so *he* will clear the matter up.

誤例： By doing so the *matter* will be cleared up.

13. 如一 participle 在一前置詞之後用作 verbal noun, 而其邏輯上的句主又明白說出，則此句主應為所有格而非賓格。

例： I hardly knew what to make of that *man's* jumping

over the fence.

誤例： I hardly knew what to make of that *man jumping* over the fence.

例： What do you think of *my going* to town to-day?

誤例： What do you think of *me going* to town to-day?

例： I heartily approve the *church's acting* now.

誤例： I heartily approve of the *church acting* now.

#### d. Adjectives

1. 表示質量多寡之形容詞 (Quantitative adjective), 其後之名詞永爲單數, 且必須爲物質名詞或抽象名詞。

例： He ate much bread.

(He ate much breads. ——誤。)

She borrowed little rice from her neighbour

(She borrowed little rices from her neighbour. ——誤。)

He has got much pain.

(He has got much pains. ——誤。)

2. 形容詞之比較級與最高級 (comparative and superlative degrees), 在單音字與少數兩音字, 俱於字尾加 “er” 與 “est” 以形成之, 但多數兩音字與兩音以上之字, 則須於字前加 “more” 與 “most”。

例： I never saw a sweeter boy.

(I never saw a more sweet boy. ——誤。)

It was the most beautiful rose I ever saw.

(It was the beautifullest rose I ever saw. ——誤。)

3. “complete”, “perfect” 等形容詞不可有比較，因為牠們表示的是無可比較的性狀。

例： He has the most nearly complete collection of butterflies in the country.

(用 “the most complete” 則誤。)

This apple is the most nearly perfect one I ever saw. (用 “the most perfect one” 則誤。)

4. 區別形容詞 (demonstrative adjective) 用時須與其所限制之名詞同“數”。

例： I do not like that kind of apples.

(“those kind of apples” 誤。)

You have been playing these two hours.

(“this two hours” 誤。)

I can't tolerate that sort of people.

(“those sort of people” 誤。)

5. 兩者之間相比用比較級，兩者以上之多數比用最高級。

例： He was the wealthier man of the two.

(“the wealthiest” 誤。)

She was the youngest of the three sisters.

(“the younger of the three sisters” 誤。)

### e. Adverbs

1. 凡形容動詞(或 participle)，形容詞，或其他副詞之字，必須為副詞而非形容詞。

例： He does his work very *well*. (“very good” 誤。)

He was *exceedingly* kind to me.

(“exceeding kind” 誤。)

You acted *conformably* with the rules laid down.

(“conformable with the rules laid down” 誤。)

2. 如敘述語 (predicate) 中有一字事實上係形容主詞而非形容表示動作之動詞，則此字應視為一敘述形容詞 (predicate adjective) 而非副詞。

例： He looked *white*. (“He looked whitely” 誤。)

The coffee smells *good*.

(“The coffee smells well” 誤。)

That piano sounds *poor*.

(“That piano sounds poorly” 誤。)

The shutters are painted *green*.

(“The shutters are painted greenly” 誤。)

3. 當一 participle 之前用一形容詞時，其間必須用一 hyphen 連接之，否則即須用一副詞。

例： He was a good-looking boy.

It was a bad-tasting apple.

He was a well dressed fellow.

(在上例第三句中，“well”係一副詞，故與 participle “dressed” 之間不用 hyphen。)

4. 兩否定字樣並用於一句中，則該句即成為肯定語，用否定語時須注意。

例： I don't do anything of the kind.

(“I don't do nothing of the kind” 誤。)

He need not, and does not, lessen his operations on my account.

(“He need not, nor does not, lessen his operations on my account.” 誤。)

I have received no information, either from him or his friends. (用 “neither from him nor his friends” 則誤。)

5. 副詞與形容詞須置於貼近其所限制之字之處,否則意思或即不同矣。

例: He could see his way only by the help of a lantern.

(“He could only see his way by the help of a lantern.” 意義便有不同。)

I mentioned only one of the charges to him. (“I only mentioned one of the charges to him.” 意義亦微有改變。)

I remember scarcely ever to have had a harder time of it. (“I scarcely ever remember to have had a harder time of it” 意義便大不相同。)

6. 凡字尾有 “ly” 之副詞,即由形容詞變來之副詞,其比較級與最高級永遠在前面加 “more” 和 “most” 以作成之,於字尾加 “er” 和 “est” 則誤。

例: gently, more gently, most gently;

(gentlier, gentliest——誤。)

Happily, more happily, most happily;

(happilier, happiliest——誤。)