

Common Mistakes in Writing

When writing an essay, it is important that your style is easy to follow and understand. It is essential to verify for any mistakes present in your final version of a paper. This means searching for any misspellings that may be lingering in your draft. However, these are not the only types of errors that can happen while writing. In order to avoid these problems, here are some tips on what to search for when correcting your essay.

WATCH OUT FOR:

POORLY INTEGRATED ELEMENTS

One of the frequent mistakes students make is not integrating citations in the correct format. Always check:

1. You have followed the format required for your paper (MLA, APA, Chicago, etc.).
2. The citation is not a standalone item (Analyze and expand it).



INCORRECT WORDING

It is important to consider the **CHOICE** of vocabulary for your essay, particularly your descriptive words. While some verbs may be synonyms, that does not necessarily mean they may be interchanged without considering the context:

- ✓ The woman had a youthful appearance.
- ✗ The woman had a juvenile experience.

RUN-ON SENTENCES

While providing context or elaborating more on a subject is great for extending the page count of your essay, **BEWARE** of writing a sentence that seems like it is never going to end.

- ✓ The results of the study were inconclusive, therefore more research needs to be done on the topic.
- ✗ The results of the study were inclusive because the results were incomplete, research needs to be done to elaborate more.



MISSING ELEMENTS

Verify that you have included:

- a subject for every verb.
The essay won a prize because (it) was so well researched
- Missing word to achieve coherence
Fans (around) the world gather for the final event.
- Missing commas

- ✓ Punctuation can be tricky, yet it is worth the effort to learn it.
- ✗ Punctuation can be tricky yet it is worth the effort to learn it.



Good Luck

