

Correction Symbols: examples of errors

ab abbreviation

1. Many foreigners e.g. Turks have settled in Hamburg.
2. R.P. was thought to be more reliable than e.g. the lengthened vowels and diphthongs of Cockney.

Ag agreement

1. It were the English football fans that caused the extensive damage.
2. Thanks for returning my book. Please put him on that shelf.
3. Four month later I had already left Germany.
4. He removes his mask, and his voice and language changes.

coh cohesion (faulty connection of ideas and/or structures)

1. I moved to the next major city to serve my country - I worked with the handicapped for two years.
2. The National Trust runs 130 tearooms and restaurants as well as a chain of giftshops also selling publications and all sorts of odds and ends, a flourishing mail-order firm and its own holiday-home agency.
3. The joke is not only the addition of modern topics, but also the contrast to the well-known characters, for example, Little John talks of the latest form of dieting and all his friends, who are known for their glorious fights, gave it up and talk about non-violent protests.

det determiner

1. I have visited London several times and think that inhabitants are extremely friendly and courteous.
2. The world peace now seems in jeopardy.
3. We enjoyed a good weather during the trip.
4. The Everest is even suffering the indignity of waste products discarded by careless tourists.
5. The foreigner has the own extra problem.
6. The most people believe such utter nonsense.
7. The both students acknowledged their error.

E expression

1. Another point which use language for humour is the unusual talking of Little John. He speaks with a flat voice (range of pitch which is not usual for English people to talk).

foc focus/emphasis problem

1. I began to study law at Hamburg University and changed to economics later on.
2. Thus Daimlers have been built in Britain to this very day; the Mercedes originates from Stuttgart.
3. The National Trust gives a feeling of security to people.
4. On New Year's Eve we were in Berlin and walked up the Teufelsberg. At midnight there was shouting and singing; fireworks spat and crackled and champagne corks popped. Unluckily, it rained heavily and was bitterly cold so we went home soon.
5. In 1946 the British Museum re-opened some of its galleries, where the damage had been repaired meanwhile.

6. These pupils were simply foolish trouble-makers to him.
7. The National Trust runs 130 tearooms and restaurants as well as one chain of gift shops. (possible also **det.:** a chain)

Ger Germanism

1. There happened an accident here yesterday afternoon.
2. In the first time in Germany I had ...
3. ... great difficulties in getting used to the language.
4. I moved to the closest larger city to begin my studies.
5. When he inquires about the struggle against the Sheriff of Nottingham, he has to learn about collectives and round-table talks.
6. The waitress' appearance let me think of my sister.
7. The Mirror's headlines often let one believe the worst.
8. The National Trust today counts 2.2 million members.
9. Already a first slight change in perspective can be perceived.

Gr grammar incl. conditionals, adv/adj, U/C, Pro, faulty comparisons

1. Unless it doesn't snow we intend to cancel our ski holiday.
2. At Brunswick there were offered at best two language courses per term.
3. They attempt to communicate by means of literally translation from their own native tongue.
4. I intend to study French and Spanish that are particularly useful in this field of business.
5. Learning languages is a child's play.
6. I would be grateful if you could send me the following informations:...
7. Running down the hill a snake bit him.

M meaning is unclear and/or, in translation, inaccurate rendering of meaning of source text

1. Obviously, English is not the only medium to deal with two different languages.
2. Concerning private use, knowing the language that the culture of interest speaks is of great value.
3. The funny about the video sketch "Robin Hood".
4. As for the format it is the same with the content.
5. The next surprise is that nobody is who he pretends to be, all the men are muddled up next to that they are glad to live and fight in the old manner again.
6. Der Landmark Trust ist eine Stiftung, wie es sie wohl nur in Großbritannien gibt. The Landmark Trust is a foundation which can probably only be found in Great Britain.
7. Von hier aus tut sich ein weiter Blick auf über die selbst im späten Winter grüne Landschaft von Cornwall. Even in late winter there is a delightful view from here over Cornwall's green countryside. (long/panoramic)
8. Sir John Call hat schon gewußt, warum er den Tempel gerade an dieser Stelle errichten ließ. Sir John Call knew very well what he was doing when he erected the temple at this particular spot. (he had the temple erected...)

P punctuation

1. a long distance phone call
2. Hamburg University which has over 45,000 students is one of the largest in Germany.

3. I have already studied for one semester in another town_ namely Braunschweig/...
4. ... Brunswick_ where I grew up.
5. These aims are very simple_ everyone can understand them.

prep prepositions

1. I was lucky to be taught from native speakers!
2. He showed that he had a deep interest for Celtic literature.

ref lacking clarity of **reference** (e.g. of pronoun "it")

1. The joke is not only the addition of modern topics, but also the contrast to the well-known characters_ for example, Little John is talking of the latest form of dieting and all his friends, who are known for their glorious fights, gave it up and talk about non-violent protests.

reg **register**; formal/informal

1. The chances of his getting a job here are getting worse despite his superior qualifications in his special field. (register inconsistent with 2nd part of sentence)
2. The last sign on the British highway, the M45, just before one reaches Coventry reads "Shakespeare Country".

Rep **repetition**, lack of substitution

1. I chose to study at Hamburg University because Hamburg University is a large university and thus offers a wide range of courses. Hamburg University, however, is overcrowded and ...

s.a. **see above**

repeated identical mistakes

sp **spelling** and writing conventions

1. My application was on its official way for approvalment.
2. My goal is to improve my academical knowledge.
3. choosen, loosing, accomodation, standart, fifs, the houses of parliament, english, the sixtys

St **style**

1. These problems concerning my country of residence and my employment should be solved within the next two years. I hope so.
2. This wasn't the appropriate strategy to tackle a man of Lord Kinnon's credentials.
3. ... and it didn't serve our cause well.

T/Asp tense, aspect

1. I am born in Hamburg and was growing up here.
2. I arrived in Hamburg in January, 1991. Although I have never been to Hamburg before, moving here was far more important to me than gaining a place to study at the University of Hamburg.
3. When returning to Stuttgart, Gottlieb Daimler had already sold the trade-name Daimler to the British.

W **word**, lexis, incl. collocation

1. I decided to study English and began visiting Hamburg University in October, 1994.

2. The specific English syntax makes it possible to convey complex information in elegant, direct and simple ways.
3. The soft hills and valleys of Warwickshire evoke a sense of poetry.
4. The gentle hills and valleys give me an odour of poetry.
5. pearls of sweat.
6. Britain's stately houses.
7. The terrorists laid a bomb.
8. She's got a sugar tooth.
9. I'd like a neat coffee.

W+ **complementation.** Word choice correct but what follows is wrong.

1. Through my decision to study in Hamburg I have more or less committed myself to work here later.
2. She risked to make the worst mistake of her life.
3. I did not want that an accident should happen.
4. It was a sociology student that was accused to have triggered the violence.
5. I had difficulties to open the door.
6. I look forward to see you again.

WO **word order**

1. I decided to go for one year abroad.
2. It was a too difficult step to take.
3. Only by means of intensive private study you can develop a good command of English vocabulary.

It may not always be easy to categorize a mistake. For example, the following could be marked **Gr, ref** or **coh**:

- Lists will be published of companies polluting the environment, which will be available to customers.
- Walking along the road a brick fell on my head.
- Claire went shopping instead of attending school, that is why she has been summoned to the headmaster.

Rather than waste time debating the matter, it may be easier to put down all three symbols.

WF **word form**

1. My goal is to improve my academical knowledge.
2. My application was on its official way for approvement.
3. I have choosen to study in Hamburg because of the facilities the city offers.
4. All these topics are mention during the conversation.
5. It is very enjoying.

WF is a symbol found useful by some colleagues, for example when adj/adv mistakes occur. You can, however, continue to classify this as Gr.

- ~~*~~ sth has been omitted
- / delete
- L new paragraph needed
- ⚡ no new paragraph

~~~~~ not exactly incorrect  
but awkward/unnatural.  
Sounding