Common English Grammar Mistakes

and How to Avoid Them

1. Subject-Verb Agreement

Incorrectly matching the **subject and verb** in number (singular or plural).

Example: "The dogs **runs** in the park."
Correction: "The dogs **run** in the park."

2. Misusing Apostrophes

Using **apostrophes** to indicate **plural** instead of **possessive**.

Example: "I have two cat's."
Correction: "I have two cats."

3. Run-On Sentences

Joining **two or more** independent clauses without proper **punctuation** or coordinating **conjunctions**.

Example: "I went to the store I bought groceries."
Correction: "I went to the store, and I bought groceries."

4. Using "Your" and "You're" incorrectly

Confusing the possessive pronoun **"your"** with the contraction **"you're."**
Example: "Your going to the party tonight?"
Correction: "You're going to the party tonight?"

5. Incorrect Word Order

Placing words in the wrong order within a sentence.
Example: "She gave to me the book."
Correction: "She gave me the book."

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6. **Confusing "Their," "They're," and "There"**

Mistaking the possessive pronoun **"their"** for the contraction **"they're"** or the adverb **"there."**

Example: "Their going to the park."
Correction: "They're going to the park."

7. **Misusing Articles**

Incorrectly using **"a," "an," or "the"** before **nouns**.

Example: "I want to buy a new shoes."
Correction: "I want to buy new shoes."

8. **Confusing "Its" and "It's"**

Mixing up the possessive pronoun **"its"** with the contraction **"it's."**

Example: "The dog wagged it's tail."
Correction: "The dog wagged its tail."

9. **Using Double Negatives**

Employing **two negative words** in a sentence, which can **create confusion**.
Example: "I don't have no money."
Correction: "I don't have any money."

10. **Using "Effect" and "Affect" incorrectly**

Interchanging these words, which have different meanings.
Example: "The medicine had an affect on my headache."
Correction: "The medicine had an effect on my headache."