

Testing times

Most (but not all) of the sentences in the following sections contain classic mistakes. Correct those you find. See the example provided. **Type the correct sentence**

1.1 Tense forms and time

- 1 By this time next month we ~~will finish~~ all our exams!
- 2 I'd rather you don't smoke indoors. Can't you go out on the balcony?
- 3 Is this the first time you taste Spanish food?
- 4 You're always leaving the lights on – it's a terrible waste of energy!
- 5 I really wish I was born somewhere warm, like Australia!

By this time next month we will have finished all our exams!

1.2 Conditionals

- 1 If only you told me it was her birthday, I'd have brought a present.
- 2 If you'll offer us a larger discount, we'll pay within ten working days.
- 3 To be honest, we'll all be quite relieved unless he comes to the meeting.
- 4 We'd be back in the tent now if you didn't lose the map.
- 5 Had we not seen the rock in time, we would definitely have crashed.

1.3 Structures after verbs

- 1 They tried to stop us to play cricket in the park.
- 2 She suggested me to speak to the Principal about my problem.
- 3 I'm interested to learn as much about Zimbabwe as possible before my trip next month.
- 4 Remember buying a card for your mother. It's her birthday next week.
- 5 The printer seems to be broken. Why don't you try to plug it in?

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1.4 Modals/Modal perfects

- 1 Don't touch that – I think it can be poisonous!
- 2 It mustn't have been Jack you spoke to, he doesn't work here any more.
- 3 Although he had broken his leg, he could swim to the shore.
- 4 Might you have left your handbag on the bus, do you think?
- 5 They told us we needn't have taken warm clothes but when we got there it was absolutely freezing.

1.5 Passives

- 1 By the time we got to the canteen, most of the food was already eaten.
- 2 Having been made redundant, Josh decided to emigrate.
- 3 I think my eyes need being tested, I keep getting terrible headaches.
- 4 Members are requested to provide proof of identity.
- 5 Unfortunately, Rory's record collection got damaged when he moved house.

1.6 Linking devices

- 1 Despite he lived in Germany for a year, he couldn't speak a word of the language.
- 2 We had to cancel the course due of the low number of enrolments.
- 3 The reason for she studied languages was to work as a tour guide.
- 4 Poor dietary habits are a major reason of heart disease.
- 5 Football is an exciting spectator sport, however cricket can be rather boring.

1.7 Participle clauses

- 1 Lived in the countryside as a boy, I missed out on a lot of things.
- 2 Suddenly I recognised the man lying in the shop doorway.
- 3 Never flying before, Ronald seemed rather anxious just before take-off.
- 4 Terry learnt to ski while living in Canada.
- 5 My mother who lives in Bath is a school teacher.

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1.8 Emphatic structures

- 1 No sooner we'd arrived at the bar when it closed.
- 2 Not only dirty was the hotel room, it was also freezing cold!
- 3 Only when the detective turned over the body did he realise the full horror of the crime.
- 4 What do we want is a direct answer not yet another carefully prepared speech.
- 5 That's not right. It was Tchaikovsky who wrote the '1812 Overture' not Mozart.
