

The Only Grammar Book You'll Ever Need.

Agreement error.

Either subject-verb or subject-pronoun agreement are wrong.

Check for number (singular/plural) and person (third person especially)

Thurman 66

Awkward wording/phrasing.

Your phrasing does not sound like a natural English sentence

Simplify to subject-verb-object structure. Make one claim at a time.

Arrange claims or information in logical order. Consider what the reader needs to learn first.

Choppy prose

Too many short declarative sentences in a row. Does not flow.

Consider joining some sentences with the appropriate connectors; extend sentences

Thurman 125-128

Citation required

Citation is missing

Quotes and summaries require parenthetical citation in MLA format.

Avoid clichés and truisms

The expression or idea is commonplace and worn out; unoriginal.

Change claim or delete

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Colloquial

Too close to spoken English. Acceptable in informal conversatio, but not in formal writing. Make more formal by choosing different vocabulary or by eliminating or substituting colloquial expressions.

[http://www.wikihow.com/Avoid-Colloquial-\(Informal\)-Writing](http://www.wikihow.com/Avoid-Colloquial-(Informal)-Writing)

http://www2.ivcc.edu/rambo/tip_formal_writing_voice.htm

Contraction

Avoid contractions in formal writing. It's => it is ; won't => will not etc...

Parallelism in Writing/Parallelism error

A Lists or sequence of words, phrases, or clauses do not follow the same grammatical structure
Make the list/sequence follow the same grammatical structure (all nouns, all adjectives, all verbs...)

Thurman 115

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/mechanics/parallel_structure.html

Plural

Word should be in plural form

Singular

Word is not in the singular form

Use singular form

Spelling mistake

Incorrect spelling

Check and correct spelling. Some words, when misspelled, change meaning.

Abrupt transition from one topic or issue to another.

Transition from topic to topic is too abrupt

You should signal the reader that something new is coming. A brief introductory explanation is necessary.