

UM Printables

Grammar Fix-It Passages Bundle

Error Analysis & Correction

Grades 5–9 | 40 Passages

Comma Rules • Subject-Verb Agreement • Apostrophes • Run-Ons & More

Table of Contents

Student Passages

- Passage 1: The Field Trip
- Passage 2: The Science Fair
- Passage 3: A Day at the Beach
- Passage 4: The School Play
- Passage 5: The Lost Dog
- Passage 6: The Haunted House
- Passage 7: The Basketball Game
- Passage 8: Summer Camp
- Passage 9: The Library
- Passage 10: The Rainstorm
- Passage 11: The Garden Project
- Passage 12: The Historical Museum
- Passage 13: The Pet Adoption
- Passage 14: The Soccer Tournament
- Passage 15: The Science Experiment
- Passage 16: The Music Concert
- Passage 17: The Snow Day
- Passage 18: The Babysitter
- Passage 19: The Bake Sale
- Passage 20: The Talent Show
- Passage 21: The School Garden
- Passage 22: The Camping Trip
- Passage 23: The Museum Field Trip
- Passage 24: The Community Service Project
- Passage 25: The Science Fair Project
- Passage 26: The Spelling Bee
- Passage 27: The Art Class
- Passage 28: The Chess Club
- Passage 29: The Recycling Program
- Passage 30: The Author Visit
- Passage 31: The Robotics Club
- Passage 32: The Geography Bee

Passage 33: The Book Report
Passage 34: The Fall Festival
Passage 35: The Winter Concert
Passage 36: The Debate Team
Passage 37: The Cooking Class
Passage 38: The School Elections
Passage 39: The Nature Walk
Passage 40: The Time Capsule

Student Recording Sheet

Teacher Answer Key

Passage 1: The Field Trip — Answer Key
Passage 2: The Science Fair — Answer Key
Passage 3: A Day at the Beach — Answer Key
Passage 4: The School Play — Answer Key
Passage 5: The Lost Dog — Answer Key
Passage 6: The Haunted House — Answer Key
Passage 7: The Basketball Game — Answer Key
Passage 8: Summer Camp — Answer Key
Passage 9: The Library — Answer Key
Passage 10: The Rainstorm — Answer Key
Passage 11: The Garden Project — Answer Key
Passage 12: The Historical Museum — Answer Key
Passage 13: The Pet Adoption — Answer Key
Passage 14: The Soccer Tournament — Answer Key
Passage 15: The Science Experiment — Answer Key
Passage 16: The Music Concert — Answer Key
Passage 17: The Snow Day — Answer Key
Passage 18: The Babysitter — Answer Key
Passage 19: The Bake Sale — Answer Key
Passage 20: The Talent Show — Answer Key
Passage 21: The School Garden — Answer Key
Passage 22: The Camping Trip — Answer Key
Passage 23: The Museum Field Trip — Answer Key
Passage 24: The Community Service Project — Answer Key

Passage 25: The Science Fair Project — Answer Key
Passage 26: The Spelling Bee — Answer Key
Passage 27: The Art Class — Answer Key
Passage 28: The Chess Club — Answer Key
Passage 29: The Recycling Program — Answer Key
Passage 30: The Author Visit — Answer Key
Passage 31: The Robotics Club — Answer Key
Passage 32: The Geography Bee — Answer Key
Passage 33: The Book Report — Answer Key
Passage 34: The Fall Festival — Answer Key
Passage 35: The Winter Concert — Answer Key
Passage 36: The Debate Team — Answer Key
Passage 37: The Cooking Class — Answer Key
Passage 38: The School Elections — Answer Key
Passage 39: The Nature Walk — Answer Key
Passage 40: The Time Capsule — Answer Key

Skill-Indexed Reference Guide

Grammar & Mechanics Reference Guide

Grammar Fix-It Passages

Student Pages

Each passage below contains deliberate grammar, punctuation, and mechanics errors. Your job is to act as an editor: identify the errors, correct them, and explain why the correction is needed. Use the error analysis spaces provided to record your answers.

Passage 1: The Field Trip

Skills: Subject-Verb Agreement | Comma Splice | Homophones/Apostrophes | Capitalization

Directions: Read the passage below. Find the errors in grammar, punctuation, and mechanics. For each error, write the original text, your correction, and an explanation of the rule.

The students was excited about the field trip, they had been waiting for weeks. Their going to the science museum and they're backpacks are already packed. Ms. jones reminded everyone to bring their lunch.

Error 1:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 2:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 3:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 4:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 5:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Passage 2: The Science Fair

Skills: Subject-Verb Agreement | Comma Rule (Non-Restrictive Clause) | Homophones/Apostrophes | Capitalization

Directions: Read the passage below. Find the errors in grammar, punctuation, and mechanics. For each error, write the original text, your correction, and an explanation of the rule.

Each of the students have prepared a project for the science fair. The experiments, which took weeks to complete were displayed on long tables. Everyone needs to turn in they're permission slip by friday.

Error 1:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 2:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 3:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 4:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Passage 3: A Day at the Beach

Skills: Run-On Sentence | Pronoun Case | Commonly Confused Words

Directions: Read the passage below. Find the errors in grammar, punctuation, and mechanics. For each error, write the original text, your correction, and an explanation of the rule.

We spent the entire day at the beach it was beautiful. The waves were crashing on the shore, and the seagulls flew overhead. My sister and me built a huge sandcastle. We could of stayed there forever.

Error 1:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 2:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 3:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Passage 4: The School Play

Skills: Comma Rule (Non-Restrictive Clause) | Apostrophes (Unnecessary Apostrophe) | Homophones/Apostrophes | Correlative Conjunctions | Comma Splice

Directions: Read the passage below. Find the errors in grammar, punctuation, and mechanics. For each error, write the original text, your correction, and an explanation of the rule.

The school play which was a musical was a big success. The actors' had memorized all of they're lines. Neither the director or the stage manager were available after the show. The audience clapped loudly, they loved the performance.

Error 1:

Original text: _____
Correction: _____
Explanation: _____

Error 2:

Original text: _____
Correction: _____
Explanation: _____

Error 3:

Original text: _____
Correction: _____
Explanation: _____

Error 4:

Original text: _____
Correction: _____
Explanation: _____

Error 5:

Original text: _____
Correction: _____
Explanation: _____

Passage 5: The Lost Dog

Skills: Comma Rule (Introductory Clause) | Apostrophes/Homophones | Subject-Verb Agreement | Apostrophes (Possessive)

Directions: Read the passage below. Find the errors in grammar, punctuation, and mechanics. For each error, write the original text, your correction, and an explanation of the rule.

When we found the lost dog it was hiding under a bush. The dog wagged it's tail when we approached. We made signs and posted them around the neighborhood. Everyone in the neighborhood were looking for the dogs owner.

Error 1:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 2:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 3:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 4:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Passage 6: The Haunted House

Skills: Verb Tense Consistency | Comma Rule (Compound Sentence) | Apostrophes (Unnecessary Apostrophe)

Directions: Read the passage below. Find the errors in grammar, punctuation, and mechanics. For each error, write the original text, your correction, and an explanation of the rule.

The old house at the end of the street look abandoned. Its windows were broken and the door was hanging off its hinges. My friend's said they heard strange noises coming from inside. I don't believe in ghosts but I wouldn't go in there alone.

Error 1:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 2:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 3:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 4:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Passage 7: The Basketball Game

Skills: Subject-Verb Agreement | Comma Rule (Non-Restrictive Clause) | Comma Splice

Directions: Read the passage below. Find the errors in grammar, punctuation, and mechanics. For each error, write the original text, your correction, and an explanation of the rule.

Our team have won every game this season. The coach who is very competitive shouted instructions from the sideline. Each of the players have improved their skills. The final score was 78-72, we celebrated all night.

Error 1:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 2:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 3:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 4:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Passage 8: Summer Camp

Skills: Comma Rule (Introductory Phrase) | Commonly Confused Words | Pronoun Case | Verb Tense

Directions: Read the passage below. Find the errors in grammar, punctuation, and mechanics. For each error, write the original text, your correction, and an explanation of the rule.

At summer camp we learned how to canoe and hike. The counselors were older then us. Me and my cabin mates roasted marshmallows by the fire. The camp's director said everyone done a great job.

Error 1:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 2:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 3:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 4:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Passage 9: The Library

Skills: Run-On Sentence | Homophones/Apostrophes | Apostrophes (Unnecessary Apostrophe)

Directions: Read the passage below. Find the errors in grammar, punctuation, and mechanics. For each error, write the original text, your correction, and an explanation of the rule.

The library is a great place to study its quiet and comfortable. When your ready to check out books, go to the front desk. The librarian's were very helpful to all of the student's who asked questions.

Error 1:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 2:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 3:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 4:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Passage 10: The Rainstorm

Skills: Comma Rule (Introductory Phrase) | Comma Splice | Pronoun Case | Comma Rule (Compound Sentence) | Subject-Verb Agreement

Directions: Read the passage below. Find the errors in grammar, punctuation, and mechanics. For each error, write the original text, your correction, and an explanation of the rule.

During the rainstorm the power went out, we had to use flashlights. My brother and me were scared of the loud thunder. The storm lasted for hours but finally passed. We was so relieved when the lights came back on.

Error 1:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 2:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 3:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 4:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Error 5:

Original text: _____

Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

Teacher Answer Key

Explanations & Corrections

Passage 1: The Field Trip — Answer Key

Annotated Passage

The students was were excited about the field trip, they trip. They had been waiting for weeks. Their going They're going to the science museum and they're backpacks their backpacks are already packed. Ms. jones Jones reminded everyone to bring their lunch.

Corrected Passage

The students were excited about the field trip. They had been waiting for weeks. They're going to the science museum and their backpacks are already packed. Ms. Jones reminded everyone to bring their lunch.

Corrections & Explanations

Error 1:

Original: was

Correction: were

Skill: Subject-Verb Agreement

Explanation: The plural subject "students" requires the plural verb "were," not the singular "was."

Error 2:

Original: trip, they

Correction: trip. They

Skill: Comma Splice

Explanation: Two independent clauses joined only by a comma create a comma splice. Use a period, semicolon, or coordinating conjunction instead.

Error 3:

Original: Their going

Correction: They're going

Skill: Homophones/Apostrophes

Explanation: "They're" is the contraction of "they are." "Their" is a possessive pronoun. The contraction is needed here.

Error 4:

Original: they're backpacks

Correction: their backpacks

Skill: Homophones/Apostrophes

Explanation: "Their" is the possessive pronoun showing ownership of the backpacks. "They're" means "they are" and does not show possession.

Error 5:

Original: jones

Correction: Jones

Skill: Capitalization

Explanation: Proper nouns, including people's names, must always be capitalized.

Passage 2: The Science Fair — Answer Key

Annotated Passage

Each of the students **have** Each of the students **has** prepared a project for the science fair. The experiments, which took weeks to **complete** were **complete**, were displayed on long tables. Everyone needs to turn in **they're** **their** permission slip by **friday** **Friday**.

Corrected Passage

Each of the students has prepared a project for the science fair. The experiments, which took weeks to complete, were displayed on long tables. Everyone needs to turn in their permission slip by Friday.

Corrections & Explanations

Error 1:

Original: Each of the students have

Correction: Each of the students has

Skill: Subject-Verb Agreement

Explanation: "Each" is a singular indefinite pronoun and requires the singular verb "has," even when followed by a plural noun.

Error 2:

Original: complete were

Correction: complete, were

Skill: Comma Rule (Non-Restrictive Clause)

Explanation: A non-restrictive (non-essential) clause should be set off by commas on both sides. The comma after "complete" is missing.

Error 3:

Original: they're

Correction: their

Skill: Homophones/Apostrophes

Explanation: "Their" is the possessive pronoun indicating ownership of the permission slip. "They're" means "they are."

Error 4:

Original: friday

Correction: Friday

Skill: Capitalization

Explanation: Days of the week are proper nouns and must be capitalized.

Passage 3: A Day at the Beach — Answer Key

Annotated Passage

We spent the entire day at the **beach it** **beach**. It was beautiful. The waves were crashing on the shore, and the seagulls flew overhead. My sister **and me** built **and I** built a huge sandcastle. We **could of** **could have** stayed there forever.

Corrected Passage

We spent the entire day at the beach. It was beautiful. The waves were crashing on the shore, and the seagulls flew overhead. My sister and I built a huge sandcastle. We could have stayed there forever.

Corrections & Explanations

Error 1:

Original: beach it

Correction: beach. It

Skill: Run-On Sentence

Explanation: Two independent clauses with no punctuation between them create a run-on sentence. Use a period, semicolon, or conjunction to separate them.

Error 2:

Original: and me built

Correction: and I built

Skill: Pronoun Case

Explanation: "I" is the subject pronoun; "me" is the object pronoun. When used as part of a compound subject, the subject form "I" is required.

Error 3:

Original: could of

Correction: could have

Skill: Commonly Confused Words

Explanation: "Could of" is an incorrect construction based on the contraction "could've." The correct form is "could have."

Passage 4: The School Play — Answer Key

Annotated Passage

The school **play** which was a musical was **play** which was a musical, was a big success. The **actors'** actors had memorized all of **they're** their lines. **Neither** the director or **Neither** the director nor the stage manager were available after the show. The audience clapped **loudly**, they **loudly**, they loudly. They loved the performance.

Corrected Passage

The school play, which was a musical, was a big success. The actors had memorized all of their lines. Neither the director nor the stage manager were available after the show. The audience clapped loudly. They loved the performance.

Corrections & Explanations

Error 1:

Original: play which was a musical was

Correction: play, which was a musical, was

Skill: Comma Rule (Non-Restrictive Clause)

Explanation: The clause "which was a musical" is non-restrictive (non-essential) and must be set off by commas on both sides.

Error 2:

Original: actors'

Correction: actors

Skill: Apostrophes (Unnecessary Apostrophe)

Explanation: No apostrophe is needed for a simple plural. "Actors" is merely the plural form of "actor," not a possessive.

Error 3:

Original: they're

Correction: their

Skill: Homophones/Apostrophes

Passage 13: The Pet Adoption — Answer Key

Annotated Passage

The animal shelter holds an adoption event every **saturday**. Many dogs and cats **are their** **are** there waiting for homes. The **staff who work at the shelter are** **staff**, who work at the shelter, are very dedicated. If **your** looking **you're** looking for a pet, you should visit.

Corrected Passage

The animal shelter holds an adoption event every Saturday. Many dogs and cats are there waiting for homes. The staff, who work at the shelter, are very dedicated. If you're looking for a pet, you should visit.

Corrections & Explanations

Error 1:

Original: saturday

Correction: Saturday

Skill: Capitalization

Explanation: Days of the week are proper nouns and must be capitalized.

Error 2:

Original: are their

Correction: are there

Skill: Homophones

Explanation: "There" indicates a place or existence. "Their" is a possessive pronoun. The context requires the adverb "there."

Error 3:

Original: staff who work at the shelter are

Correction: staff, who work at the shelter, are

Skill: Comma Rule (Non-Restrictive Clause)

Explanation: The clause "who work at the shelter" is non-restrictive (non-essential) and must be set off by commas on both sides.

Error 4:

Original: your looking

Correction: you're looking

Skill: Homophones/Apostrophes

Explanation: "You're" is the contraction of "you are." "Your" is a possessive pronoun. The contraction is needed here.

Passage 14: The Soccer Tournament — Answer Key

Annotated Passage

Our soccer team has won the championship **game** we **game.** We were so excited. **Each** of the players have **Each** of the players has worked hard all season. **The** coach, gave **The** coach gave out trophies to everyone. We **could** of **could** have played another game right then.

Corrected Passage

Our soccer team has won the championship game. We were so excited. Each of the players has worked hard all season. The coach gave out trophies to everyone. We could have played another game right then.

Corrections & Explanations

Error 1:

Original: game we

Correction: game. We

Skill: Run-On Sentence

Explanation: Two independent clauses with no punctuation between them create a run-on sentence. Use a period or semicolon to separate them.

Error 2:

Original: Each of the players have

Correction: Each of the players has

Skill: Subject-Verb Agreement

Explanation: "Each" is a singular indefinite pronoun and requires the singular verb "has," even when followed by "of the players."

Error 3:

Original: The coach, gave

Correction: The coach gave

Skill: Unnecessary Comma

Explanation: A comma should not separate a subject ("The coach") from its verb ("gave").