

10 Common Grammatical Mistakes in English (by Brazilians)

1) (00:27) You must use phrases with a subject.

~~Like pizza. Rains a lot.~~
I like pizza. It rains a lot.

2) (02:14) You must use phrases with an object.

Do you like chocolate? ~~Yes, I like. No, I don't like.~~
Yes, I do. Yes, I like it.
No, I don't. No, I don't like it.

3) (03:35) Avoid double negatives.

~~I don't have nothing. I don't have anything.~~
~~I never go nowhere. I never go anywhere.~~

4) (04:49) Use "Present Perfect" for a period of time until now.

~~I live in Curitiba for ten years. I have lived in Curitiba for ten years.~~
~~I live in Curitiba since 2012. I have lived in Curitiba since 2012.~~

5) (06:54) Don't use "have" for existence.

~~Have many cars in São Paulo. There are many cars in São Paulo.~~
~~Has a car in front of my house. There is a car in front of my house.~~

6) (08:10) Always use "-ing" after a preposition.

~~Thanks for help me. Thanks for helping me.~~
~~Let's talk about go to London. Let's talk about going to London.~~

7) (09:00) Don't confuse "for" and "to".

~~This is for you do. This is to you for do. This is to you to do.~~ This is for you to do.

8) (09:36) Don't confuse possessive pronouns.

I like your dog. I like his dog. I like her dog.
(seu – de você) (seu – dele) (seu – dela)

9) (10:44) Don't invert adjectives and nouns.

~~She has a dog black.~~ She has a black dog.

10) (11:12) Don't use two questions in one phrase.

~~Do you know what time is it? Do you know what time it is?~~
~~Do you know where is the bank? Do you know where the bank is?~~

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TC4M5y07Q68> (14 mins)

20 Common Speaking Mistakes in English

1) (00:44) First meeting: “Nice to meet you.”
Subsequent meetings: “~~Nice to meet you.~~” “Nice to see you (again).”

2) (01:15) ~~Thanks you.~~ Thank you. (verb) Thanks. (noun)
Thank you for your time. Thanks for your time.

3) (01:48) Modal verbs use the “bare infinitive”.

~~I can to swim.~~ ~~I can swimming.~~ I can swim.
~~I must to go.~~ ~~I must going.~~ I must go.

4) (02:09) Use “a lot” at the end of a phrase.

~~I like a lot it.~~ I like it a lot.
~~I like a lot your lessons.~~ I like your lessons a lot.
~~I like a lot the movie.~~ I like the movie a lot.

Use “a lot of” before a noun.

I like a lot of milk in my coffee.
I eat a lot of chocolate.

5) (02:54) Use “very well” at the end of a phrase.

~~You speak very well English.~~ You speak English very well.
~~He plays very well basketball.~~ He plays basketball very well.

6) (03:16) Use the expression “quite a” correctly.

It’s ~~a quite~~ difficult book to read. It’s quite a difficult book to read.
We had ~~a quite~~ busy day. We had quite a busy day.

7) (03:53) Use “one of my” with plural nouns.

One of my ~~friend~~ is a painter. One of my friends is a painter.
The Swan is one of my favorite ~~restaurant~~. The Swan is one of my favorite restaurants.

8) (04:46) Compound adjectives are always singular.

A ~~five-years-old~~ boy rescued a cat. A five-year-old boy rescued a cat.
It was a ~~30-minutes~~ meeting. It was a 30-minute meeting.
I want a ~~50-inches~~ TV. I want a 50-inch TV.

9) (05:52) Recommend “something” (to me).

~~Amy recommended me a restaurant.~~ Amy recommended a restaurant to me.
~~Can you recommend me a good book?~~ Can you recommend a good book to me?

10) (06:42) Never use “to” before “home”.

~~Let’s go to home.~~ Let’s go home.
~~When you get to home, call me.~~ When you get home, call me.

11) (07:36) Use “most” for generalities and “most of the” for specifics.

Most people work from home. (general group)

Most of the people I know work from home. (specific group)

Also with “my/your/his/these/those/etc.”:

Most pets are either cats or dogs. (general group)

Most of my pets are cats. (specific group)

12) (08:22) Use “to be” for age.

~~I have 32 years old.~~

~~My dad has 65 years old.~~

I am 32 years old.

My dad is 65 years old.

13) (08:50) Don’t confuse “fun” (nice) and “funny” (makes me laugh).

~~It was a funny party.~~

~~I had a funny day.~~

It was a fun party.

I had a fun day.

14) (09:27) Only use “Congratulations” for big successes and major life events. If you use it for small events, it sounds sarcastic.

A: I got the job.

A: I’m engaged.

A: My wife had a baby girl.

A: I got 90% in the test.

A: My boss liked my report.

B: **Congratulations!**

B: **Congratulations!**

B: **Congratulations!**

B: ~~Congratulations!~~ Well done!

B: ~~Congratulations!~~ Good job!

15) (10:07) Use “I feel bad” in the correct context. It means “I feel sympathy/guilt”. It’s an emotional issue, not a health one.

Jenny lost her job. I **feel bad** for her. (sympathy)

I **feel bad** I didn’t help that old lady. (guilt)

~~I feel bad.~~ I don’t feel well. / I don’t feel good. / I feel sick. (health issue)

16) (10:50) The word “too” generally has a problematic context. Often, “very” is better.

~~Your lesson was too helpful.~~

Your lesson was very helpful.

I don’t want to go out. I’m too tired.

That’s too expensive. I can’t buy it.

That’s too delicious. Keep it away from me. I’m on a diet.

17) (11:30) Don’t use “in the internet”. Use “online” or “on the internet”.

~~I searched for it in the internet.~~

I searched for it online.

I searched for it on the internet.

~~I bought it in the internet.—~~

I bought it online.

I bought it on the internet.

18) (11:49) The verb “call” requires no preposition.

~~I called to my doctor.~~
~~Did you call to your mom?~~
~~Please call to me tomorrow.~~

I called my doctor.
Did you call your mom?
Please call me tomorrow.

19) (12:00) Numbers are spoken completely before a noun, never split them.

~~I lived there for two years and a half.~~
~~The distance is four miles and a half.~~

I lived there for two and a half years.
The distance is four and a half miles.

20) (13:09) We “make/made” a mistake.

~~I did a mistake.~~
~~Why do I keep doing mistakes?~~

I made a mistake.
Why do I keep making mistakes?

Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SiTngO2U_f4 (14 mins)