

Error Correction Codes

Word Form & Agreement	WF	incorrect word form
	VF	incorrect verb form
	VT	verb tense error
	SV	subject-verb disagreement
	s/pl	singular or plural noun error
	poss	possessive noun error
	art	article error
	NCN	This is a non-count noun. There is an agreement or article error.
pron agree	This pronoun does not agree with the noun it replaces.	
Word Choice	WC	incorrect or awkward word choice
	coll	collocation error
	pron ref	unclear pronoun reference : It is unclear which subject this pronoun refers to.
Clause Structure	adj cl	adjective clause error
	n cl	noun clause error
	adv cl	adverb clause error
Sentence Structure (SS)	frag	sentence fragment (incomplete sentence)
	RO	run-on
	CS	comma splice error
	prep	missing, unnecessary, or incorrect preposition
	not //	not parallel
	WO	incorrect or awkward word order
	trans	needs a transition
	conj	needs a conjunction
	?	not clear
RW	Rewrite this.	
Paragraph Structure	choppy ☹	choppy: There are too many short, simple sentences. Try combining some to create complex sentences.
	NFS	needs further support: This statement requires examples, facts, or quotations to support it.
	hedge	Use "hedging" words to soften this strong statement.
	rep -or- <i>highlighted in pink</i>	repetitive: Look at the words that are highlighted in pink. You can either take out the repetitive passages or use different words to avoid excessive repetition.
Mechanics & Formatting	P	punctuation error
	cap	capitalization error
	sp	spelling error
	#	Add a space.

Sample Excerpt from a Student Essay

Student Name
Assignment E2
January 13, 2015

Conflicts of Language and Culture

In “A Story of Conflicts,” Yeghia Aslanian describe his internal conflict about what happened when he was a child and when he came to the United States. He has to struggle with two languages and cultures, as I do. I have Panamanian accent when I speak but I look Chinese. It is not only my culture that makes me a minority, my race also. Many people think that I am Chinese, but I am Panamanian too. They don’t realize that I was born there. The way people look at me is somehow different. They just look at the differences between us. Being in a minority people can affect a person identity in a negative way.

I speak Spanish at school and at home Chinese. It is hard to have two different languages and cultures. Usually when I’m outside in my native country, people can’t believe that I’m Panamanian. They judge my physical look. Is the color of the skin so important? Who am I, a Chinese or a Panamanian? I think that I am both. If I had to choose only one, I would choose Chinese. Because I have absorbed more of Chinese culture than Panamanian culture. However there are positive things about be a minority too. I have the opportunity to experience more than one culture. Having more than one culture is something enriches my life.

Error and Reflection Log Instructions

1. Put every coded error into your log, with a separate chart for each error category: **Word Form & Agreement, Word Choice, Clause Structure, Sentence Structure, and Mechanical.** You do not need to log Paragraph Structure errors. Remember to list the essay number and the error type. You may create your error log as a digital file or on paper.
2. Write the original error, then correct it. In the left column, write the original sentence. Highlight the error. In the right column, write a corrected sentence. Highlight the correction.
3. Write a reflection paragraph about what you have learned. Try to notice which types of errors you keep making and describe them. Be specific! How will you help yourself correct this problem in the future?
4. Keep adding to your log. All of your essays should be on one log this term. You can change the order of the errors and put similar errors together. This will help you see your progress.

Error and Reflection Log Example

ERROR CATEGORY: WORD FORM & AGREEMENT			
Assign-ment	Error Type	Original Sentence with Error(s)	New Sentence with Correction(s)
E2	SV	In "A Story of Conflicts," Yeghia Aslanian describe his internal conflict....	In "A Story of Conflicts," Yeghia Aslanian describes his internal conflict....
E2	art	I have Panamanian accent when I speak...	I have a Panamanian accent when I speak...
E2	poss	...can affect a person identity in a negative way.	...can affect a person's identity in a negative way.
E2	VF	...there are positive things about be a minority too.	...there are positive things about being a minority too.

ERROR CATEGORY: WORD CHOICE			
Assign-ment	Error Type	Original Sentence with Error(s)	New Sentence with Correction(s)
E2	coll	Being in a minority people can affect a person...	Being in a minority group can affect a person...
E2	WC	They judge my physical look .	They judge my physical appearance .

ERROR CATEGORY: CLAUSE STRUCTURE

Assignment	Error Type	Original Sentence with Error(s)	New Sentence with Correction(s)
E2	adj cl	Having more than one culture is something enriches my life.	Having more than one culture is something that enriches my life.

ERROR CATEGORY: SENTENCE STRUCTURE

Assignment	Error Type	Original Sentence with Error(s)	New Sentence with Correction(s)
E2	CS	It is not only my culture that makes me a minority, my race also.	It is not only my culture that makes me a minority, but my race also.
E2	pron ref	They don't realize that I was born there.	They don't realize that I was born in Panama.
E2	not //	I speak Spanish at school and at home Chinese.	I speak Spanish at school and Chinese at home.
E2	frag	If I had to choose only one, I would choose Chinese. Because I have absorbed more of Chinese culture than Panamanian culture.	If I had to choose only one, I would choose Chinese because I have absorbed more of Chinese culture than Panamanian culture.

ERROR CATEGORY: MECHANICAL

Assignment	Error Type	Original Sentence with Error(s)	New Sentence with Correction(s)
E2	P	However there are positive things about be a minority too.	However, there are positive things about be a minority too.

Reflection #1 (based on Essay #E2)

I was surprised to find out that I made so many verb errors. I realized that I have repeated the same mistake when I use modal verbs (can, could, may, might, will, would) with a main verb. These are some examples of a mistake I have repeated many times:

- They can ~~to~~ obtain better health.
- We must ~~to~~ see that it is not easy to obtain good health.
- They can ~~to~~ increase their knowledge.

Now I have learned that I should not write "to" in between a modal verb and the main verb. The correct way to write a modal verb with another verb is like this: [modal verb] + [main verb].

I also learned that...