

Editing - Practice

Exercise

Each of the following sentences has **one error**. Read the sentences, identify the error, and make a correction. Think about how to explain what is wrong and the steps to fix it.

1. I insist that she is on time for class.
2. He should ask her, she would surely agree.
3. If I was you, I would study more.
4. He had gone there, he would have loved it.
5. She was rose in Guyana.
6. Please lie the cutlery on the table.
7. He likes to go to Curacao, because it is always summer there.
8. The book was wrote in 1997.
9. I have visited there in 2010.
10. He did a big mistake.
11. Would you mind to help me?
12. He stopped to smoke last year. (**note**: he no longer smokes)
13. I love studying culinary management, I have always wanted to be a chef.
14. Cheese is made by milk.
15. Their three years old cat is a white Siamese.
16. Ginger is using in many Vietnamese dishes.
17. The Guyanese speaks English.
18. The knot he tied in his apron was lose.
19. The caramelized onions are smelling delicious.
20. I am having six courses this semester.

Answers

Brief explanations of the changes made to fix the error are included as notes.

1. I insist that she **be** on time for class. (**note:** “is” changed to “be” – subjunctive mood)
2. He should ask her; she would surely agree. (**note:** semi-colon needed – comma splice)
3. If I **were** you, I would study more. (**note:** “was” changed to “were” – 2nd conditional)
4. **Had he** gone there, he would have loved it. (**note:** “he had” changed to “had he” – verb inversion)
5. She was **raised** in Guyana. (**note:** “rose” changed to “raised” – verb usage)
6. Please **lay** the cutlery on the table. (**note:** “lie” changed to “lay” – verb usage)
7. He likes to go to Curacao because it is always summer there. (**note:** no comma before “because” – subordinate conjunction)
8. The book was **written** in 1997. (**note:** “wrote” changed to “written” – passive voice, past participle)
9. I **visited** there in 2010. (**note:** “have” was deleted – verb tense)
10. He **made** a big mistake. (**note:** “did” changed to “made” – verb usage)
11. Would you mind **helping** me? (**note:** “to help” changed to “helping” – gerund/infinitive)
12. He stopped **smoking** last year. (**note:** “to smoke” changed to “smoking” – gerund/infinitive because he no longer smokes)
13. I love studying culinary management; I have always wanted to be a chef. (**note:** semi-colon needed – comma splice)
14. Cheese is made **from** milk. (**note:** “by” changed to “from” – preposition usage)
15. Their **three-year-old** cat is a white Siamese. (**note:** “three years old” changed to “three-year-old” with hyphens – phrasal adjectives, hyphenation)
16. Ginger is **used** in many Vietnamese dishes. (**note:** “using” changed to “used” – passive voice, past participle)
17. The Guyanese **speak** English. (**note:** “speaks” changed to “speak” – subject-verb agreement, plural nouns)
18. The knot he tied in his apron was **loose**. (**note:** “lose” changed to “loose” – adjective usage)
19. The caramelized onions **smell** delicious. (**note:** “are smelling” changed to “smell” – verb tense)
20. I **have** six courses this semester. (**note:** “am having” changed to “have” – verb tense)