**A LIST OF COMMON GRAMMAR MISTAKES**

**GOOD/WELL**

**Good** is an adjective and **well** is an adverb. Many people, including many native speakers, incorrectly use the adjective form **good**, rather than the adverb **well.**

Use the adjective form **good** when describing something or someone. In other words, use **good** when stating how something or someone **is**.

*She is a good tennis player.*  
*Tom thinks he is a good listener.*

Use the adverb form **well** when describing how something or someone **does** something.

*She did extremely well on the exam.*  
*Our parents think we* [*speak English*](http://esl.about.com/od/speakingintermediate/ht/How-To-Speak-English.htm) *well.*

**OF/FROM**

Many English learners have difficulties understanding the difference between *of* and *from* in English. In English there is a distinct difference between *of* and *from*.

This short guide to the differences between *of* and *from* in English should help you avoid English usage mistakes in the future.

***Of - Possession***

*Of* is mainly used as a possessive.

*He's a friend of mine.  
The color of the house is red.*

***From - Origins***

*From* is generally used to express that something originates from something else, that something comes from somewhere, or some person. For example,

Jack comes from Portland.   
*This formula derives from the work of Peter Schimmel.  
This pearl comes from the South Pacific.*

***From - To / From - Until***

*From* can also be used with the prepositions 'to' and 'until' to mark the beginning and ending point of time of an action or state. Generally, 'from ... to' is used with past tenses, while 'from ... until' is used when speaking about future actions. However, 'from ... to' can be used in most situations. For example,

*I played tennis from two until four in the afternoon yesterday.  
We are meeting in Chicago from Monday until Thursday.*

**IT’S VS ITS**

***It's*** is the contracted form of ***It is***. This form is used in sentences using "they" as the subject of the sentence with the verb "to be" used as either the helping verb (e.g. It's going ..., It's raining ...) or the principal verb of the sentence.

*It's difficult to find work these days.*  
*It's going to rain soon.*

***Its*** is the possessive pronoun form. This form is used to express that "it" has a specific quality, or that something belongs to "it".

*I found its taste to be superb!*  
*Its color is deep red, almost Burgundy.*

**TOO VS TWO VS TOO**

***Too*** means "also" and is generally used at the end of a sentence. "Too" also indicates too much of a particular quality.

*That car is too expensive for me!*  
*I'd love to come to the party, too.*

***Two*** is the written form of the number 2.

*There are two applicants for the job.*  
*She has two cats.*

***To*** is generally used as a preposition. It is also used as part of the infinitive form of verbs.

*I gave the book to him.*  
*The verb "to understand" is irregular.*

**THEY’RE VS THERE VS THEIR**

***They're*** is the contracted form of ***They are***. This form is used in sentences using "they" as the subject of the sentence with the verb "to be" used as either the helping verb (e.g. They're going ..., They're playing ...) or the principal verb of the sentence.

*They're working hard this week.*  
*They're very interested in helping out.*

***There*** is used as an introductory subject is sentences with "There is" and "There are". It is also used as an adverb of place meaning "in that place".

*There are many people in that room.*  
*That's my house over there.*

***Their*** is the possessive pronoun form. This form is used to express that "they" have a specific quality, or that something belongs to "them".

*Their house is in Los Angeles.*  
*He liked their looks!*

**YOU’RE VS YOU**

***You're*** is the contracted form of ***You are***. This form is used in sentences using "you" as the subject of the sentence with the verb "to be" used as either the helping verb (e.g. You're going ..., You're watching ...) or the principal verb of the sentence.

*You're going to have a great time!*  
*You're much better at tennis than Jim.*

***Your*** is the possessive pronoun form. This form is used to express that something belongs to "you".

*Your wife is such a kind woman.*  
*I think your skills are outstanding.*

**THEN VS THAN**

***Then*** is used as a time expression.

*I'll see you then.*  
*I'll be at the party. We can speak then.*

Note: It is not used in the form "different than" which is used for comparisons.

***Than*** is used for comparisons.

*He's lived here longer than I have.*  
*His skills are very different than mine.*

**SINCE VS FOR (Present Perfect)**

***Since*** is used with the present perfect to express that something has happened **since** a point in time.

*I've lived here since 1999.*  
*She's been working hard since two this afternoon.*

***For*** is used with the present perfect to express that something has happened **for** a period of time.

*I've worked at this job for 10 years.*  
*Peter's been playing tennis for two hours.*

**LOOK/SEE/WATCH**

**See** means to notice people and see thing with your eyes.

*She saw a big spider and screamed.*

*Jacqui saw the car drive up the road.*

**Look** is used when you are trying to see something or someone.

*I’ve looked everywhere, but I can’t find my keys.*

*I looked at the map to find the road.*

**Watch** means to look at something for a period of time, usually something which moves and changes.

*He watched television all evening.*

*I watched the football match with some friends.*