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Test Your Grammar Skills

Mistakes that English Native Speakers Make 4

Believe it or not, English native speakers sometimes make mistakes when using their own language! To find them, simply read a daily newspaper regularly or check out some of the leaflets at an English Tourist Information Centre or library! Identify one mistake in each sentence below and write the letter of the category that it belongs to out of the following:

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| A. apostrophes | B. articles | C. capital letters |
| D. clumsy style | E. commas | F. extra or missing words |
| G. spelling mistakes | | |

1. We offer the best deal in town on tyres and exausts.
2. An impolite tortoise can make its owners life a misery.
3. Its' only £5.99 per person for three games of bowling.
4. The deputy manager, who is on holiday will deal with your enquiry very soon.
5. Coming soon – “A Midsummer’s Night Dream”.
6. The 15.15 train service to Leicester has been canceled.
7. Come to the Old King’s Head and enjoy a 3-course meal for only £8.99. At the Old Kings Head we pride ourselves on the quality of our service.
8. Paulo’s – a no.1 Italian restaurant in the Greater London area.
9. John and Jenny Lewis’ family-run hotel is an enchanting place to stay.
10. This years school concert will have something for everyone.
11. See you in an hours time.
12. We will be closed for business from Friday 14th May until Tuesday 18th May. If you have got anything you want to ring us about you can give us a ring on ...
13. Users of the library can keep library books for up to a month. The date when a book is due back is stamped on a in the first page of the book.
14. For the best deals in town – get down to mark’s bargain basement.
15. Come and visit Mrs. Johnsons Tea Rooms (turn left after the bridge).
16. If you would like to apply for the vacansy, please email your CV to ...
17. Have you tried Harvey’s Bistro yet?!!
- 18.** If you wait, the receptionist will arrange a appointment for you.
19. “Nico’s Business Tips” is a new programme especially just for people who run their own businesses. It’s on Channel Six every Thursday at 8pm.
- 20.** Please make all cheques payable to mr. Phil Sanders.

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How the sentences **should** read:

1. We offer the best deal in town on tyres and **exhausts**. (G)
2. An impolite tortoise can make its owner's life a misery. (A)
3. It's only £5.99 per person for three games of bowling. (A)
4. The deputy manager, **who is on holiday**, will deal with your enquiry very soon. (E)
5. Coming soon – "A **Midsummer Night's** Dream". (A)
6. The 15.15 train service to Leicester has been **cancelled**. (G)
7. Come to the Old King's Head and enjoy a 3-course meal for only £8.99. At the Old **King's** Head we pride ourselves on the quality of our service. (A)
8. Paulo's – **the** no.1 Italian restaurant in the Greater London area. (B)
9. John and Jenny **Lewis's** family-run hotel is an enchanting place to stay. (A)
10. This **year's** school concert will have something for everyone. (A)
11. See you in an **hour's** time. (A)
12. We will be closed for business from Friday 14th May until Tuesday 18th May. **If you have any enquiries, please call us on ...** (D)
13. Users of the library can keep library books for up to a month. The date when a book is due back is stamped on [**extra words: a, in**] the first page of the book. (F)
14. For the best deals in town – get down to **Mark's Bargain Basement**. (C)
15. Come and visit **Mrs. Johnson's** Tea Rooms (turn left after the bridge). (A)
16. If you would like to apply for the **vacancy**, please email your CV to ... (G)
17. Have you tried Harvey's Bistro yet? (D)
18. If you wait, the receptionist will arrange **an** appointment for you. (B)
19. "Nico's Business Tips" is a new programme especially [**extra word: just**] for people who run their own businesses. It's on Channel Six every Thursday at 8pm. (F)
20. Please make all cheques payable to **Mr.** Phil Sanders. (C)

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