

What is Grammatical Accuracy in IELTS Writing?

Worksheet

Grammatical Accuracy means constructing sentences with correct grammar, varied sentence structures (complex sentences, passives, conditionals), and no significant errors. For example: 'Although urban populations are growing, infrastructure has not kept pace' uses a subordinate clause, inverted structure and passive construction — all grammatically correct and sophisticated.

Questions

1. Which sentence shows the strongest grammatical control?
A) The problem is serious. It is bad. We must fix it.
B) Although urban populations continue expanding, infrastructure development has not maintained comparable pace, thereby creating systemic strains.
C) Problems exist. People suffer. Action is needed.
2. 'The report has been completed by the research team.' This is an example of:
A) Simple sentence
B) Passive voice
C) Compound sentence
D) Incorrect grammar
3. Which sentence has correct subject-verb agreement?
A) The group of students are studying together.
B) The group of students is studying together.
C) The groups are study together.
4. 'If the government implemented stronger regulations, emissions would decrease significantly.' This is:
A) A simple past sentence
B) A second conditional
C) Present tense
D) Incorrect structure
5. Weak: Technology is important. It helps people. Some people worry about it. But it has benefits.
6. Weak: Young people use social media. They use it a lot. It affects them. Negative effects are many.
7. Weak: Education is good. Teachers teach students. Students learn. This is important.
8. Define: What is grammatical accuracy in IELTS?
9. Define: Name three complex sentence types.
10. Define: What is a subordinate clause?

Answer Key

1. B) Although urban populations continue expanding, infrastructure development has not maintained comparable pace, thereby creating systemic strains. — The second uses subordination, passive voice, and complex noun phrases — all grammatically sophisticated.
2. B) Passive voice — This is passive voice — subject + 'has been' + past participle, appropriate for formal/academic tone.
3. B) The group of students is studying together. — 'Group' (singular collective noun) takes singular verb 'is,' not 'are.'
4. B) A second conditional — This is a second conditional (unreal situation): 'If... past, would... verb.'
5. Issues: all simple sentences, no complexity, choppy flow. Strong: While technology poses certain social concerns, its benefits — including enhanced communication and improved access to information — far outweigh the drawbacks. Fix: Use subordination ('While'), embedded clause (benefits with dashes), passive/complex structure.
6. Issues: repetition of simple structure, vague ('many'). Strong: Young people's extensive social media usage, attributed to peer influence and platform design, has been linked to increased anxiety and sleep disruption. Fix: Complex noun phrase, passive voice ('has been linked'), subordination, precise vocabulary.
7. Issues: monotonous simple sentences, repetition of 'is/are'. Strong: As educators deliver increasingly sophisticated curricula, students engage with complex concepts, thereby developing critical analytical and collaborative skills essential to workforce readiness. Fix: Subordination ('As'), complex object, passive agent ('delivering'), varied verb structures.
8. Correct use of grammar rules, varied sentence structures, and absence of significant errors — a core IELTS Writing criterion.
9. Subordination (e.g., 'Although...'), passive voice (e.g., 'Has been done'), conditionals (e.g., 'If... then...').
10. A clause that depends on a main clause for meaning; starts with words like 'although,' 'because,' 'while,' 'since.'

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