

ACADEMIC ENGLISH SUPPORT DESK NEWSLETTER

Osaka University - Multilingual Expert Program



COMMON ENGLISH ERRORS - LET'S FIX THEM NOW!

The following are some common English errors made by non-native speakers. Make sure your English reports, papers, and presentations are perfect by having the Osaka University English Support Desk check for you!

Number 5: Agreeing with a negative statement

Incorrect: I don't like giving presentations. Yes me too.

Correct: I don't like giving presentations. Yes, me **neither**.

Number 4: Past Simple

Incorrect: I submitted the paper three days before.

Correct: I submitted the paper three days **ago**.

Number 3: confusing "don't have to" and "mustn't"

Mustn't means "no" while "Don't have to" means "it is not necessary."

e.g. You **mustn't** cross the street when the light is red.

e.g. You **don't have to** complete all the assignments.

Number 2: "are" and "is." Take care to notice singular or plural.

Incorrect: People is excited about the new program at OU.

Correct: People **are** excited about the new program at OU.

And the number one error for this newsletter is....

Number 1: revert vs reply

This error is becoming very common in the business world - so take care!

Incorrect: I will revert to your email later.

Correct: I will **reply** to your email later.



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