

## Correction Symbols

FR - sentence fragment - write complete sentences

RO - run-on - use correct end punctuation

VT - verb tense problem - keep verb tense consistent

ag - subject/verb, noun/pronoun agreement problem

w/c - incorrect or poor word choice

⊙ - misspelled word

~~you~~ - do not use second person - you, your, yours, etc.

awk - awkward sentence structure - reword

∧ - insert - something is missing

X or — - omit/delete

lc - lower case letter needed

c - capitalize

~ - switch places

? - What does this mean?

¶ - begin a new paragraph

→ - indent the paragraph

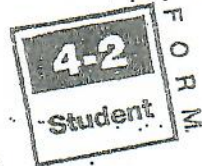
syl - incorrectly divided a word

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# RECOGNIZING COMMON LANGUAGE ERRORS



This list, based on a recent SAT II overview, shows common types of errors found on standardized tests. Check off each type when you feel confident about handling it.

| Problem                    | Illustration  | Correction  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
|----------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| tense sequence             | After he broke his arm, he is home for weeks.   | After he broke his arm, he was home . . .   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| pronoun shift              | If one is tense, they should try to relax.  | If one is tense, one should try to relax.   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| parallelism                | She skis, plays tennis, and flying hang gliders.                                      | She skis, plays tennis, and hang glides.  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| noun agreement             | Ann and Sarah want to be a pilot.   | Ann and Sarah want to be pilots.  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| pronoun reference          | Several people wanted the job, and he or she filled out the required forms.           | Several people wanted the job; and they filled out the required forms.                      | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| subject-verb agreement     | There is eight people on the shore.   | There are eight people . . .  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| coordination/subordination | Nancy has a rash, and probably she is allergic to something.                          | Nancy has a rash probably because she is allergic to something.                             | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| logical comparison         | Harry grew more vegetables than his neighbor's garden.                                | Harry grew more vegetables than his neighbor grew.  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| modification; word order   | Barking loudly, the tree had the dog's leash wrapped around it.                       | Because it had wrapped its leash around the tree, the dog barked . . .                      | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| ambiguous pronouns         | In the article they say that few people voted.  | The article said that few people voted.   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| diction                    | He circumvented the globe on his trip.  | He circumnavigated the globe . . .  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| wordiness                  | We have many problems in our contemporary world in which we live.                     | There are many problems in the world.   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| mismodifying               | If your car is parked here while not eating in the restaurant, it will be towed away. | If your car is parked here and you are not eating in the restaurant, it will be towed away. | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| pronoun case               | He sat between you and I at the stadium.  | He sat between you and me . . .   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| idiom                      | Al had a different opinion towards her.   | Al had a different opinion of her.  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| comparison of modifiers    | Of the sixteen executives, Meg makes more money.                                      | Of the sixteen executives, Meg makes the most money.  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| fragments                  | Fred having to go home early.   | Fred had to go home early.  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| double negative            | Manuel has scarcely no free time.   | Manuel has scarcely any free time.  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |