

THE MOST COMMON MISTAKES

AND HOW TO AVOID THEM



Tabooed words

It means **NEVER** use them in your papers

But (replace with However)

And (just omit it)

Own (my own → my, their own → their, etc.)

Anyway (this word is used **ONLY** in informal language)

In order to (replace with To)



Overused words

Try to replace these words in your papers with the less common analogs:

Interesting

Major

Big

Great

Good

Bad

Huge

Clever

Main

Negative

Necessary

Common

Difficult

Important

Some other rules to be followed

Still crucial

- Mind the prepositions;
- Avoid Passive voice;
- Do not use *this, that, etc.* as a noun, it is unclear (instead of *This is beautiful* write *It is beautiful*, etc.);
- Do not put a comma in front of *but also*;
- Avoid tautology (period of time → period, etc.);
- Always spell the numerals one to ten.



Useful tools

for proofreading, spell-check, etc.

- [grammarly.com](https://www.grammarly.com)
- [thesaurus.com](https://www.thesaurus.com)
- [dictionary.com](https://www.dictionary.com)
- owl.english.purdue.edu