



## A MISCELLANY OF HUMOROUS GRAMMAR RULES

1. Verbs HAS to agree with their subjects.
2. Never use a preposition to end a sentence with. Winston Churchill, corrected on this error once, responded to the young man who corrected him by saying "Sir, that is the kind of impudence up with which I won't put!"
3. And don't start a sentence with a conjunction.
4. It is wrong to ever split an infinitive.
5. Avoid cliches like the plague. (They're old hat.)
6. Also, always avoid annoying alliteration.
7. Be more or less specific.
8. Parenthetical remarks (however relevant) are (usually) unnecessary.
9. Also too, never, ever use repetitive redundancies endlessly over and over again.
10. No sentence fragments.
11. Contractions aren't always necessary and shouldn't be used to excess so don't.
12. Foreign words and phrases are not always apropos.
13. Do not be redundant; do not use more words than necessary; it's highly superfluous and can be excessive.
14. All generalizations are bad.

15. Comparisons are as bad as clichés.
16. Don't use no double negatives.
17. Avoid excessive use of ampersands & abbrevs., etc.
18. One-word sentences? Eliminate.
19. Analogies in writing are like feathers on a snake (Unless they are as good as gold).
20. The passive voice is to be ignored.
21. Eliminate commas, that are, not necessary. Parenthetical words, however, should be enclosed in commas.
22. Never use a big word when substituting a diminutive one would suffice.
23. Don't overuse exclamation points!!!
24. Use words correctly, irregardless of how others use them.
25. Understatement is always the absolute best way to put forth earth-shaking ideas
26. Use the apostrophe in its proper place and omit it when its not needed. Use it correctly with words' that show possession.
27. Don't use too many quotations. As Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "I hate quotations. Tell me what *you* know."
28. If you've heard it once, you've heard it a billion times: Resist hyperbole; not one writer in a million can use it correctly.
29. Go around the barn at high noon to avoid colloquialisms.
30. Even IF a mixed metaphor sings, it should be derailed.
31. Who needs rhetorical questions? However, what if there were no rhetorical questions?

32. Exaggeration is a billion times worse than understatement.
33. Avoid "buzz-words"; such integrated transitional scenarios complicate simplistic matters.
34. People don't spell "a lot" correctly alot of the time.
35. Each person should use their possessive pronouns correctly.
36. *All grammar and spelling rules have exceptions (with a few exceptions)....Morgan's Law.*
37. Proofread carefully to see if you any words out.
38. Proofread carefully to make sure you don't repeat repeat any words.
39. In writing, it's important to remember that dangling sentences.
40. When numbering in a written document, check your numbering system carefully.
41. *It is important to use italics for emphasis sparingly.*
42. In good writing, for good reasons, under normal circumstances, whenever you can, use prepositional phrases in limited numbers and with great caution.
43. Avoid going out on tangents unrelated to your subject -- not the subject of a sentence -- that's another story (like the stories written by Ernest Hemingway, who by the way wrote the great fisherman story The Old Man and the Sea).
44. If you must use slang, avoid out-of-date slang. Right on!