

Identify the errors and correct the following sentences. Note that two of the sentences do not contain any errors—write “OK” for these. Refer to **Editing Abbreviations and Symbols** to review the common errors.

The errors in this worksheet are related to: subject-verb agreement; plurals; verb tense; and word forms.

Example:

The findings of contemporary astronomers strongly suggest that Earth are the only planet in the solar system that is able to sustain life.

Type of error: SVA

Correct sentence:

The findings of contemporary astronomers strongly suggest that Earth is the only planet in the solar system that is able to sustain life.

Exercise:

1. By some estimates, supercolonies of ants can stretch for thousands of mile.

Type of error:

Correct sentence:

2. Canada has the longest coastline of any country in the world.

Type of error:

Correct sentence:

3. According to studies carried out around the world, termite infests can be surprisingly difficult to exterminate.

Type of error:

Correct sentence:

4. The *Mary Celeste* ghost ship are a popular legend in maritime folklore that makes a frequent appearance in songs and children's stories.

Type of error:

Correct sentence:

5. Although many pesticide compounds created in the early part of the twentieth century have been found to cause birth deformities, these chemicals continued to be used now.

Type of error:

Correct sentence:

6. Some experts propose that George Mallory, and not Edmund Hillary, was the first person to climb Mt. Everest.

Type of error:

Correct sentence:

7. Historians delving into the information technology industry of the 1970s have revealed that the earliest computer viruses are created as practical jokes by curious programmers, rather than as a means of stealing data or money.

Type of error:

Correct sentence:

8. Telecommunications increasingly reliance on services that are managed in cloud-based systems, leading to a need for a much higher level of security and privacy protection.

Type of error:

Correct sentence:

9. Commonly derived from the *Camellia sinensis* plant, tea are the most widely consumed beverage on the planet.

Type of error:

Correct sentence:

10. A recent article about the rural Canadian economy reported that a mature maple tree can produce over ten litre of sap in a single day.

Type of error:

Correct sentence:

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Example:

The findings of contemporary astronomers strongly suggest that Earth are the only planet in the solar system that is able to sustain life.

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Correct sentence:

The findings of contemporary astronomers strongly suggest that Earth is the only planet in the solar system that is able to sustain life.

Exercise:

1. By some estimates, supercolonies of ants can stretch for thousands of mile.

Type of error: **PI**

Correct sentence:

By some estimates, supercolonies of ants can stretch for thousands of **miles**.

2. Canada has the longest coastline of any country in the world.

Type of error: **OK**

Correct sentence:

N/A

3. According to studies carried out around the world, termite infests can be surprisingly difficult to exterminate.

Type of error: **WF**

Correct sentence:

According to studies carried out around the world, termite **infestations** can be surprisingly difficult to exterminate.

4. The *Mary Celeste* ghost ship are a popular legend in maritime folklore that makes a frequent appearance in songs and children's stories.

Type of error: **SVA**

Correct sentence:

The *Mary Celeste* ghost ship **is** a popular legend in maritime folklore that makes a frequent appearance in songs and children's stories.

5. Although many pesticide compounds created in the early part of the twentieth century have been found to cause birth deformities, these chemicals continued to be used now.

Type of error: **VT**

Correct sentence:

Although many pesticide compounds created in the early part of the twentieth century have been found to cause birth deformities, these chemicals continue to be used now.

6. Some experts propose that George Mallory, and not Edmund Hillary, was the first person to climb Mt. Everest.

Type of error: **OK**

Correct sentence:

N/A

7. Historians delving into the information technology industry of the 1970s have revealed that the earliest computer viruses are created as practical jokes by curious programmers, rather than as a means of stealing data or money.

Type of error: **VT**

Correct sentence:

Historians delving into the information technology industry of the 1970s have revealed that the earliest computer viruses **were** created as practical jokes by curious programmers, rather than as a means of stealing data or money.

8. Telecommunications increasingly reliance on services that are managed in cloud-based systems, leading to a need for a much higher level of security and privacy protection.

Type of error: **WF**

Correct sentence:

Telecommunications increasingly **rely** on services that are managed in cloud-based systems, leading to a need for a much higher level of security and privacy protection.

9. Commonly derived from the *Camellia sinensis* plant, tea are the most widely consumed beverage on the planet.

Type of error: **SVA**

Correct sentence:

Commonly derived from the *Camellia sinensis* plant, tea **is** the most widely consumed beverage on the planet.

10. A recent article about the rural Canadian economy reported that a mature maple tree can produce over ten litre of sap in a single day.

Type of error: **PI**

Correct sentence:

A recent article about the rural Canadian economy reported that a mature maple tree can produce over ten **litres** of sap in a single day.