

# M.U.G. #1

This year writing will be a major focus, it's important to understand grammar rules, without them you're writing is difficult to understand.

Once a week we'll begin class with one of these sets of M.U.G. sentences, M.U.G. by the way is an abbreviation of "mechanics, usage and grammar"

# M.U.G. #1

This year, writing will be a major focus. ~~its'~~ <sup>It's</sup>  
important to understand grammar rules, without  
them, ~~you're~~ writing is difficult to understand. <sub>your</sub>

Once a week, we'll begin class with one of these  
sets of M.U.G. sentences. ~~M.U.G.~~ <sup>a</sup> by the way, is an  
abbreviation of "mechanics, usage and grammar"

period  
inside quote marks <sup>a</sup>

## M.U.G. #2

The cracked windsheild along with the ripped upholstery and rusty body, made Eric's car near impossible to sale.

Sally I need you to sit still while I trim you're bangs Sophia ordered.

## M.U.G. #2

The cracked windshield, along with the ripped upholstery and rusty body, made Eric's car nearly impossible to ~~sale~~. *sell.*

"Sally, I need you to sit still while I trim ~~you're~~ *your* bangs," Sophia ordered.

*← comma goes inside quote*

## M.U.G. #3

preparing our dinner the smell of the chicken  
made Ben hungry

Thaddeus a brilliant student will probably get a  
higher grade than I will Toby remarked

## M.U.G. #3

While Ben prepared  
~~preparing~~ our dinner, the smell of the chicken  
made Ben hungry  
him

"smell" can't cook ☺

"Thaddeus a brilliant student, will probably get a  
higher grade than i will," Toby remarked

↑  
a ≡  
then = chronological  
than = comparative

## M.U.G. #4

To entice a kitten off of the roof Roberto opened a tin of tuna fish immediately the kitten lept for the treat and landed at Robertos feet.

Shreya hasnt paid her school libary fine consequently she can't neither lend more books or recieve her report card

# M.U.G. #4

To entice a kitten off of the roof, Roberto opened a tin of tuna fish immediately, the kitten ~~lept~~ for the treat and landed at Roberto's feet.

Shreya hasn't paid her school ~~libary~~ fine; consequently, she can't ~~neither~~ ~~lend~~ more books or ~~recieve~~ her report card.

avoid double negatives  
library  
negatives  
borrow  
"i" before "e," except after "c"  
receive



## M.U.G. #5

My friend Chloe who never cooks at home decided to use her stove to store her extra shoes, unfortunately she forgot about her footwear when on a rare whim she decided to use the oven to bake cookies.

The stench of melting dripping rubber soles filled the apartments in the girls' building everyone evacuated.

## M.U.G. #5

My friend Chloe, who never cooks at home, decided to use her stove to store her extra shoes, unfortunately, she forgot about her footwear when, on a rare whim, she decided to use the oven to bake cookies.

The stench of melting, dripping rubber ~~souls~~<sup>soles</sup> filled the apartments in the ~~girls'~~<sup>girl's</sup> building. everyone evacuated.

## M.U.G. #6

the careful ever watchful security guard a stout man who wore his dark blue employer issued uniform with pride shouted get away from that car

Its ironical that student's say they dont enjoy poetry yet they love rap music.

## M.U.G. #6

hyphenate two words working as one adjective

the careful, ever-watchful security guard a stout man who wore his dark blue employer-issued uniform with pride, shouted, "get away from that car!"

It's ironical that student's say they don't enjoy poetry, yet they love rap music.

When you join two independent clauses with "for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so" you need a comma  
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## M.U.G. #7

Take out the trash Mom ordered before the dog knocks over the can.

Jordan get those straws out of you're nose,  
Mom shouted.

## M.U.G. #7

“Take out the trash,” Mom ordered “before the dog knocks over the can.”

↑ don't capitalize because main

“Jordan, get those straws out of ~~you're~~ nose,” Mom shouted.

your

! sentence is continuing

## M.U.G. #8

For Halloween my boyfriend Thor decided to dress up as a dainty delicate princess.

On Saturday night some teenagers in my neighborhood dressed up as vampires and ghouls write some funny songs and went Halloween style caroling

## M.U.G. #8

For Halloween, my boyfriend, Thor, decided to dress up as a dainty delicate princess.

Use comma to separate two

On Saturday night, some teenagers in my neighborhood dressed up as vampires and ghouls, ~~write~~ some funny songs, and went Halloween style caroling.

similar adjectives

Use Oxford comma for a series of 3 or more items



## M.U.G. #9

the gallegos twins visited yellowstone national park with there family last summer they had to wait nearly ninety minutes to see old faithful erupt.

My dependable car who has taken me over 120,000 miles still has a smooth purring engine.

## M.U.G. #9

the gallegos twins visited yellowstone national  
park with ~~there~~ <sup>their</sup> family last summer they had to  
wait nearly ~~ninety~~ <sup>90</sup> minutes to see ~~old~~ <sup>old</sup> faithful  
erupt.

<sup>dependable</sup> <sup>which</sup>  
My ~~dependable~~ car, ~~who~~ has taken me ~~over~~  
120,000 miles, still has a smooth, purring  
engine.

Use "more than" for  
things that can be counted.  
Use "over" for spatial  
relationships

more than

## M.U.G.#10

In The Scarlet Ibis a short story by James Hurst the character of Doodle is spiritually connected to a exotic bird the author does this to show the beauty of a fragile life.

The horses tale whipt wildly as it endures the long pencil sized needle that Dr Lopez used for vaccinations.

# M.U.G. #10

In "The Scarlet Ibis," a short story by James Hurst, the character of Doodle is spiritually connected to <sup>an</sup> ~~a~~ exotic bird the author does this to show the beauty of a fragile life.

The horses <sup>^</sup> ~~tail~~ <sup>, tail whipped</sup> ~~whipt~~ wildly as <sup>the animal</sup> ~~it~~ endures <sup>d</sup> the long, pencil ~~-~~ sized needle that Dr Lopez used for vaccinations.

pronoun-  
antecedent  
error

## M.U.G.#11

In the final seconds of the game Craig past the ball to Travis, and then he tripped over his shoelace and broke his arm.

Sitting on the top shelf of the refridgerator Brody spotted Mom's triple layer birthday cake.

# M.U.G.#11

In the final seconds of the game, Craig ~~past~~<sup>passed</sup> the ball to Travis, ~~and then he~~<sup>who</sup> tripped over his shoelace and broke his arm.

~~Sitting on the top shelf of the refridgerator~~  
Brody spotted Mom's triple ~~layer~~ birthday cake.

Brody wasn't  
on the shelf.

The cake was on the shelf.

## M.U.G.#12

ms moon our Principal requested funds from the rotary club to buy computers for hiring a computer specialist and to open a computer center.

James took Rohan on his pizza deliveries so that his friend would not be obsessing alone about his recent breakup with his beautiful girlfriend Gloria.

## M.U.G. #12

ms. moon, our ~~Principal~~, requested funds from the rotary club to buy computers, ~~for hiring~~ <sup>hire</sup> a computer specialist, and ~~to~~ open a computer center.

needs parallel structure

James took Rohan on his pizza deliveries so that his friend would not ~~be~~ <sup>2</sup> ~~obsessing~~ <sup>2</sup> alone about his recent breakup with his ~~beautiful~~ girlfriend, Gloria.

beautiful



## M.U.G. #13

it was overcast and drizzly we decided not to go to hampton beach.

Dr. Boxberger a professor who tolerated no interruptions during his lectures turned beat red as the cell phone in his jacket pocket begins to ring.

## M.U.G. #13

it was overcast and drizzly, we decided not to go to hampton beach. <sup>so</sup> FANBOYS

Dr. Boxberger, a professor who tolerated no inter<sup>r</sup>uptions during his lectures, turned ~~beat~~ red as the cell phone in his jacket pocket ~~begins~~ to ring. <sup>began</sup>

## M.U.G. #14

Isabella washed the piles of dirty dishes, while Katherine vacuumed the filthy rug, they try to complete a months worth of cleaning in just one hour's time.

Wrestling looks like play it teaches lion cubs important survival skills.

## M.U.G. #14

Isabella washed the piles of dirty dishes, while Katherine ~~vacuumed~~ <sup>vacuumed</sup> the filthy rug, they ~~try~~ <sup>tried</sup> to complete a month's worth of cleaning in just one hour's time.

Wrestling looks like play, <sup>yet</sup> it teaches lion cubs important survival <sup>a</sup> skills.

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## M.U.G.#15

Whether is one cause of famine but political strife is another cause of famine.

Typing furiously the essay was finished by Shelby just before the 3pm deadline.

# M.U.G. #15

~~Weather~~

~~Whether~~ is one cause of famine, but political strife is another cause of famine. ~~e~~

Shelby finished

Typing furiously, ~~the essay was finished by~~

~~Shelby~~ just before the ~~3pm~~ deadline. ~~e~~

3 p.m.

avoid  
passive voice

## M.U.G. #16

Each candidate should report all of their income irregardless of where the money came from.

When people have heart attacks you expereince pain in the left arm.

# M.U.G. #16

Each candidate ~~should~~ <sup>s must</sup> report all of their income, ~~irregardless of where the money came from.~~ <sub>the money's source.</sub>  
don't end w/ a preposition

When people have heart attacks, ~~you~~ <sup>they</sup> ~~experience~~ pain in the left arm.  
experience  
stick with 3rd person pronouns



## M.U.G. #17

Even though they didn't win the lacrosse team a collection of strong young women still found many reasons to be proud of their performance.

I was hungry for pumpkin pie, unfortunately Luke ate the last piece.

# M.U.G. #17

pronoun-antecedent error

Even though they didn't win, the lacrosse ~~team~~,  
a collection of strong young women, still found  
many reasons to be proud of their  
~~preformance~~. *performance.*

players

I was hungry for pumpkin pie, i unfortunately,  
Luke ate the last ~~peace~~.  
*piece*

## M.U.G. #18

When I looked around the corner I am surprised to see what my sister was up to.

The wild out of control dog charged after the anxiety ridden mailman.

# M.U.G. #18

When I looked around the corner, I ~~am~~ **was** surprised to see what my sister was ~~up to~~ **doing**.

The wild, ~~out of~~ control dog charged after the anxiety ~~ridden~~ ~~mailman~~.

**postal carrier.**

try to avoid  
outdated (sexist?)  
terms

don't  
end w/a  
preposition

## M.U.G. #19

Its' time to get started on our next exciting unit of study, this month well right an essay a day on the mysteries of earthworms.

Once in awhile, you find an author who speaks to you're soul; for Charles John Steinbeck is one of those writers.

## M.U.G.#19

It's

~~Its'~~ time to get started on our next exciting unit of study, this month, we'll ~~right~~<sup>write</sup> an essay a day on the mysteries of earthworms.

Once in awhile, ~~you find~~ an author ~~who~~<sup>will</sup> speaks to ~~you're~~<sup>one's</sup> soul; for Charles, John Steinbeck is one of those writers.

avoid 2nd person pronouns  
in formal writing