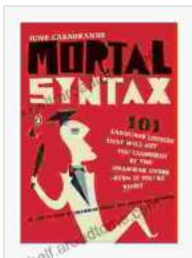


101 Language Choices That Will Get You Clobbered by the Grammar Snobs (Even If You're Right)

The English language is a vast and ever-evolving tapestry of words and rules. With so many options at our disposal, it's no wonder that even the most proficient speakers and writers can occasionally make mistakes. But some mistakes are more egregious than others, and they're sure to draw the ire of the grammar snobs out there.

In this article, we'll explore 101 language choices that are likely to get you clobbered by the grammar snobs, even if you're technically correct. We'll cover everything from common spelling and grammar errors to more subtle choices that can make you sound like a total newbie.

So, if you're ready to learn what not to say, read on!



Mortal Syntax: 101 Language Choices That Will Get You Clobbered by the Grammar Snobs--Even If You're

Right by June Casagrande

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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
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Let's start with some of the most common spelling and grammar errors that grammar snobs love to point out. These are the mistakes that make you look like you don't know how to write, even if you're actually quite intelligent.

1. **their/there/they're**
2. **you're/your**
3. **it's/its**
4. **who's/whose**
5. **affect/effect**
6. **complement/compliment**
7. **lie/lay**
8. **lose/loose**
9. **accept/except**
10. **Apostrophe errors** (e.g., "it's" vs. "its," "there's" vs. "theirs")

In addition to outright errors, there are also a number of more subtle language choices that can make you sound unprofessional or uneducated. These are the kinds of things that grammar snobs will notice and judge you for, even if they can't quite put their finger on what's wrong.

11. **Using slang or informal language in formal settings**
12. **Overusing buzzwords or clichés**
13. **Using overly complex or technical language when simpler terms would suffice**

14. **Making vague or ambiguous statements**
15. **Using the passive voice too often**
16. **Misusing commas**
17. **Misusing semicolons**
18. **Misusing colons**
19. **Using too many exclamation points!!!**
20. **Capitalizing words that don't need to be capitalized**

There are certain phrases that grammar snobs absolutely despise. These phrases are often overused, clichéd, or simply incorrect. If you want to avoid getting on the bad side of a grammar snob, it's best to steer clear of these phrases.

21. **"I could care less"** (should be "I couldn't care less")
22. **"Less is more"** (should be "less is better")
23. **"Anyways"** (should be "anyway")
24. **"Me and my friends"** (should be "my friends and I")
25. **"Nauseous"** (should be "nauseated")
26. **"Irregardless"** (should be "regardless")
27. **"Could of"** (should be "could have")
28. **"Should of"** (should be "should have")
29. **"Would of"** (should be "would have")
30. **"Between you and I"** (should be "between you and me")

Punctuation is essential for making your writing clear and easy to read. But even the most experienced writers can make punctuation mistakes from time to time. Here are a few of the most common punctuation mistakes that grammar snobs love to point out.

31. **Missing commas**
32. **Misplaced commas**
33. **Missing periods**
34. **Misplaced periods**
35. **Missing question marks**
36. **Misplaced question marks**
37. **Missing exclamation points**
38. **Misplaced exclamation points**
39. **Using too many commas**
40. **Using too many periods**

In addition to spelling, grammar, and punctuation, grammar snobs also pay close attention to word usage. There are certain words and phrases that grammar snobs consider to be incorrect or inappropriate. If you want to avoid getting on their bad side, it's best to avoid using these words and phrases.

41. **"Anyways"** (should be "anyway")
42. **"Could of"** (should be "could have")
43. **"Should of"** (should be "should have")

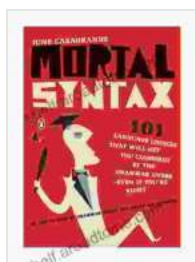
44. **"Would of"** (should be "would have")
45. **"Due to the fact that"** (should be "because")
46. **"I'm like"** (should be "I'm saying" or "I think")
47. **"Literally"** (should be used only to describe something that is actually true)
48. **"Unique"** (should be used only to describe something that is one of a kind)
49. **"Impactful"** (should be used only to describe something that has a significant impact)
50. **"Nauseous"** (should be "nauseated")

Now that you know what language choices to avoid, you can start taking steps to avoid getting clobbered by the grammar snobs. Here are a few tips:

- **Proofread your work carefully before you submit it.** This will help you catch any errors before they get into the hands of a grammar snob.
- **Get feedback from someone who is knowledgeable about grammar and usage.** This could be a teacher, a friend, or a colleague.
- **Be open to learning new things.** The English language is constantly evolving, and there are always new rules and conventions to learn.
- **Don't be afraid to break the rules sometimes.** There are times when it's okay to break the rules of grammar and usage, especially if you're trying to achieve a specific effect.

Getting clobbered by the grammar snobs is no fun, but it's something that can happen to anyone. By following the tips in this article, you can avoid making the most common language mistakes and improve your writing skills.

Remember, the most important thing is to communicate your ideas clearly and effectively. If you can do that, then you can rest assured that you're not going to get clobbered by the grammar snobs.



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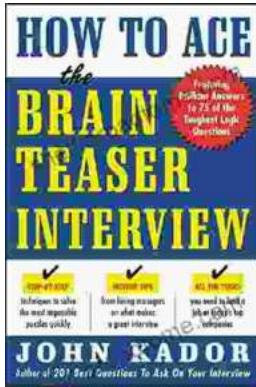
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