



Spring 2024



**ENGLISH
LANGUAGE
INSTITUTE
UCMERCED**

Grammar Masters Workshop Series

Thursdays 12:00-12:50pm COB #207

*Each interactive workshop is open to undergrads, graduate students, post-docs, staff, and spouses. **Come to one workshop... or many!***

DATES: TOPICS:

- Jan. 18: **Prepositions (*in/on/at* and more!)**
Discover the secret patterns, why we say “ON the bus,” and other fun facts.
- Jan. 25: **Avoiding Verb Agreement Errors**
Get subject/verb agreement right, even in long, complex sentences.
- Feb. 01: **Choosing the Best Verb Tense**
Learn about “tense shift” and how to avoid this common writing error.
- Feb. 08: **Active/Passive Voice**
We’ve been taught to focus on active, but sometimes passive voice is superior!
- Feb. 15: **When and How to Use Commas**
When should – and *shouldn’t* – you use commas? If you want to know, come!
- Feb. 22: **Colons, Semicolons, and Apostrophes**
Impress your professors by using these three punctuation marks correctly.
- Feb. 29: **What Are the Sentence Types?**
Are most of your sentences simple, compound, or complex? Come find out!
- Mar. 07: **Fixing Run-ons & Sentence Fragments**
We’ll practice recognizing and fixing sentences that are too long or incomplete.
- Mar. 14: **Adding Detail with Phrases and Clauses**
Cinderella will help us add details to writing in a variety of ways!
- Mar. 21: **Make Your Paper “Flow”**
Does your writing flow? Learn three easy techniques to have good “flow.”
Spring Break: No workshop on Mar. 28
- Apr. 04: **How to Incorporate Quotes in Your Writing**
Discover the word choice, punctuation, and guidelines to quote ideas in essays.
- Apr. 11: **Stop Repeating Yourself! Say the Same Thing Differently**
Learn how to present similar ideas with different vocabulary and structures.
- Apr. 18: **Common Errors to Avoid**
This is an overview of errors that college writers typically make.

For information, email Belinda at ELI@ucmerced.edu.

Can’t attend but want help? Find language resources at teach.ucmerced.edu/eli!