



# Fall 2025



ENGLISH  
LANGUAGE  
INSTITUTE  
UCMERCED

## Grammar Masters Workshops

>> Thursdays 12:00-12:50pm GRAN 145 <<

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

**DATES:    TOPICS:**

- Sep. 04: **Common Errors to Avoid**  
Find out which errors college writers typically make so you can avoid them.
- Sep. 11: **Prepositions (*in/on/at* and *from/of/to/for*)**  
This is especially for Spanish speakers, but all are welcome!
- Sep. 18: **Avoiding Verb Agreement Errors**  
Get subject/verb agreement right, even in long, complex sentences.
- Sep. 25: **Add Details with Phrases and Clauses**  
Give your writing more style by adding details in a variety of ways.
- Oct. 02: **Active/Passive Voice**  
We've been taught to focus on active, but sometimes passive voice is superior.
- Oct. 09: **What Are the Sentence Types?**  
Get to know simple, compound, and complex sentences for writing variety.
- Oct. 16: **Fixing Run-ons & Sentence Fragments**  
We'll practice recognizing and fixing sentences that are too long or incomplete.
- Oct. 23: **When and How to Use Commas**  
When should you use commas, and when *shouldn't* you? Find out!
- Oct. 30: **Make Your Paper "Flow"**  
Learn three easy techniques to give an essay good "flow." You'll love this one.
- Nov. 06: **Colons and Semicolons**  
FINALLY! Someone will explain the difference and how to use : and ;!
- Nov. 13: **How to Incorporate Quotes in Your Writing**  
Discover the word choice, punctuation, and guidelines to quote ideas in essays.
- Break: No workshop on Nov. 20 (Thanksgiving)*
- Nov. 27: **Stop Repeating Yourself! Say the Same Thing Differently**  
Learn how to present ideas with varying vocabulary and structures.
- Dec. 04: **Choosing the Best Verb Tense**  
Learn about "tense shift" and how to avoid this common writing error.

For information, email Belinda at [ELI@ucmerced.edu](mailto:ELI@ucmerced.edu).

Can't attend but want help? Find language resources at [eli.ucmerced.edu](http://eli.ucmerced.edu)!