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## **Level 3**

# **Good grammar means more money**

**20th August, 2013**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130820-grammar.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130820-grammar.html>

Most people think big companies use grammar very well. Many people wondered about Apple's use of grammar with its "Think Different" advertising campaign in the late 1990s. A new study shows that big companies make grammar mistakes. The proofreading website Grammarly.com looked at the writing of six of the world's most famous companies. It found that they all made mistakes. It also found that the companies who made the fewest mistakes made the most money. Grammarly compared the comments made by the companies on the social network site LinkedIn.com. It looked at the spelling, grammar and punctuation errors in 400 words of text from each company.

Grammarly compared the mistakes made by Coke and Pepsi, Facebook and Google, and Ford and General Motors (GM). It found that Coke made four times fewer writing mistakes than Pepsi. Coke has a bigger share of the cola market than Pepsi. Google made nearly four times fewer mistakes than Facebook. It also makes a lot more money. Finally, GM made more mistakes than Ford, which is a more profitable company. It is unlikely that the occasional grammar mistake will make you buy a Coke instead of a Pepsi. However, Grammarly CEO Brad Hoover said: "Accurate writing demonstrates professionalism...and customers are more likely to buy a product or a service from a company they trust."

Source: <http://www.forbes.com/sites/cherylsnappconner/2013/08/17/battle-of-the-brands-companies-with-the-best-grammar-win/>

# WARM-UPS

**1. GRAMMAR:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about grammar. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

*big companies / advertising / late 1990s / mistakes / make money / spelling / words / compared / Coke and Pepsi / writing / profitable / CEO / professionalism / trust*

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. GRAMMAR:** What problems do you have? Complete this table and share what you wrote with your partner(s). Change partners often.

Problems with...	Problems?	What do you do about them?
nouns		
adjectives/adverbs		
articles (a / an / the)		
word order		
verbs		
prepositions		

**4. WRITING:** Students A **strongly** believe writing is the most important language skill; Students B **strongly** believe reading is most important. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. LANGUAGE:** Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the most important at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- grammar
- spelling
- speaking
- reading
- punctuation
- slang
- pronunciation
- vocabulary

**6. MISTAKE:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "mistake". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130820-grammar.html>

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| a. The article says students with good grammar-test scores are richer. | T / F |
| b. Some people thought the grammar in an Apple commercial was wrong.   | T / F |
| c. The six biggest companies in the world make no grammar mistakes.    | T / F |
| d. Companies who make fewer grammar mistakes may be richer.            | T / F |
| e. A study looked at the writing of two top fashion companies.         | T / F |
| f. A study said that Coca Cola is better at grammar than Pepsi Co.     | T / F |
| g. Ford is better at making money than General Motors.                 | T / F |
| h. Customers usually buy from companies with good grammar.             | T / F |

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| 1. wondered   | a. research      |
| 2. campaign   | b. irregular     |
| 3. study      | c. discovered    |
| 4. comments   | d. moneymaking   |
| 5. text       | e. thought about |
| 6. found      | f. part          |
| 7. share      | g. opinions      |
| 8. profitable | h. drive         |
| 9. occasional | i. probable      |
| 10. likely    | j. writing       |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |                               |                           |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. big companies use          | a. punctuation errors     |
| 2. companies who made         | b. grammar mistake        |
| 3. compared the comments      | c. of text                |
| 4. spelling, grammar and      | d. by Coke and Pepsi      |
| 5. 400 words                  | e. the fewest mistakes    |
| 6. compared the mistakes made | f. fewer writing mistakes |
| 7. Coke made four times       | g. grammar very well      |
| 8. It also makes a            | h. product or a service   |
| 9. the occasional             | i. lot more money         |
| 10. more likely to buy a      | j. made by the companies  |

# GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130820-grammar.html>

Most people think big companies (1) \_\_\_\_\_ grammar very well. Many people wondered about Apple's use of grammar with its "Think Different" advertising (2) \_\_\_\_\_ in the (3) \_\_\_\_\_ 1990s. A new study shows that big companies make grammar mistakes. The (4) \_\_\_\_\_ website Grammarly.com looked at the writing of six of the world's most famous companies. It found that they all made mistakes. It also found that the companies who made the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ mistakes made the most money. Grammarly (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the comments made by the companies on the social network site LinkedIn.com. It looked at the spelling, grammar and (7) \_\_\_\_\_ errors in 400 words of (8) \_\_\_\_\_ from each company.

*proofreading*  
*compared*  
*campaign*  
*text*  
*use*  
*punctuation*  
*fewest*  
*late*

Grammarly compared the mistakes (9) \_\_\_\_\_ by Coke and Pepsi, Facebook and Google, and Ford and General Motors (GM). It found that Coke made four (10) \_\_\_\_\_ fewer writing mistakes than Pepsi. Coke has a bigger (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of the cola market than Pepsi. Google made (12) \_\_\_\_\_ four times fewer mistakes than Facebook. It also makes a lot more money. Finally, GM made more mistakes than Ford, which is a more (13) \_\_\_\_\_ company. It is unlikely that the (14) \_\_\_\_\_ grammar mistake will make you buy a Coke instead of a Pepsi. However, Grammarly CEO Brad Hoover said: "Accurate writing (15) \_\_\_\_\_ professionalism...and customers are more likely to buy a product or a service from a company they (16) \_\_\_\_\_."

*profitable*  
*share*  
*demonstrates*  
*made*  
*trust*  
*nearly*  
*times*  
*occasional*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130820-grammar.html>

- 1) Most people think big companies use grammar \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. very well
  - b. very wealth
  - c. very will
  - d. very good
- 2) its "Think Different" advertising campaign in \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the late 1919s
  - b. the late 1999s
  - c. the late 1990s
  - d. the late 1900s
- 3) the writing of six of the world's most \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. famously companies
  - b. famous companies
  - c. fame mouse companies
  - d. frame us companies
- 4) companies who made the fewest mistakes \_\_\_\_\_ money
  - a. made the most
  - b. making the most
  - c. makes the most
  - d. maid the most
- 5) It looked at the spelling, grammar and punctuation errors in \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. 400 words of texts
  - b. 400 words of texting
  - c. 400 words of text
  - d. 400 words of texted
- 6) It found that Coke made four times \_\_\_\_\_ mistakes
  - a. lesser writing
  - b. fewest writing
  - c. fewer writing
  - d. few are writing
- 7) Coke has a bigger share of the cola \_\_\_\_\_ Pepsi
  - a. mall than
  - b. marking than
  - c. marked it than
  - d. market than
- 8) more mistakes than Ford, which is a more \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. profitable company
  - b. profiteering company
  - c. profited company
  - d. profiterole company
- 9) Accurate writing demonstrates \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. professionally
  - b. professionalism
  - c. professionals
  - d. professionally is
- 10) more likely to buy a product or a service from a \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. company they trusts
  - b. company they trusted
  - c. company they trust
  - d. company they trusting

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130820-grammar.html>

Most people think big companies (1) \_\_\_\_\_ well. Many people wondered about Apple's use of grammar with its "Think Different" advertising campaign (2) \_\_\_\_\_. A new study shows that big companies make grammar mistakes. The proofreading website Grammarly.com (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of six of the world's most famous companies. It found that they (4) \_\_\_\_\_. It also found that the companies who made the fewest mistakes made the most money. Grammarly compared (5) \_\_\_\_\_ by the companies on the social network site LinkedIn.com. It looked at the spelling, grammar and punctuation errors in 400 words (6) \_\_\_\_\_ company.

Grammarly (7) \_\_\_\_\_ made by Coke and Pepsi, Facebook and Google, and Ford and General Motors (GM). It found that Coke made four (8) \_\_\_\_\_ mistakes than Pepsi. Coke has a bigger share of the cola market than Pepsi. Google (9) \_\_\_\_\_ times fewer mistakes than Facebook. It also makes a (10) \_\_\_\_\_. Finally, GM made more mistakes than Ford, which is a more profitable company. It is unlikely (11) \_\_\_\_\_ grammar mistake will make you buy a Coke instead of a Pepsi. However, Grammarly CEO Brad Hoover said: "Accurate writing demonstrates professionalism...and customers are more likely to buy a product or a service from a (12) \_\_\_\_\_."

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130820-grammar.html>

1. What do most people think about big companies?

---

2. Which company had a slogan "Think Different"?

---

3. What kind of website is Grammarly.com?

---

4. How many companies were in the study?

---

5. How long were the texts that Grammarly looked at?

---

6. How many more mistakes did Pepsi make than Coke?

---

7. What does Coke have a bigger share of?

---

8. What does Google make more of than Facebook?

---

9. What thing is unlikely to make you buy a Coke?

---

10. Who are people more likely to buy from?

---



# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130820-grammar.html>

1. What do most people think about big companies?
  - a) they don't like them
  - b) they know about grammar
  - c) they're great
  - d) very little
2. Which company had a slogan "Think Different"?
  - a) Microsoft
  - b) IBN
  - c) Google
  - d) Apple
3. What kind of website is Grammarly.com?
  - a) a search engine
  - b) a grammar advice site
  - c) a proofreading site
  - d) a marketing site
4. How many companies were in the study?
  - a) 6
  - b) 7
  - c) 8
  - d) 9
5. How long were the texts that Grammarly looked at?
  - a) 400 pages
  - b) 400 words
  - c) 4 paragraphs
  - d) 40 lines
6. How many more mistakes did Pepsi make than Coke?
  - a) 4 times more
  - b) 14 times more
  - c) 40 times more
  - d) 400 times more
7. What does Coke have a bigger share of?
  - a) the mall
  - b) the shopping centre
  - c) the market
  - d) the supermarket
8. What does Google make more of than Facebook?
  - a) money
  - b) fans
  - c) apps
  - d) web pages
9. What thing is unlikely to make you buy a Coke?
  - a) Pepsi
  - b) a TV commercial
  - c) strawberry flavour
  - d) good grammar
10. Who are people more likely to buy from?
  - a) other companies
  - b) Grammarly.com
  - c) companies they trust
  - d) Coke

# ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130820-grammar.html>

## **Role A – Grammar**

You think grammar is most important to learn. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are unnecessary with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): vocabulary, speaking or reading.

## **Role B – Vocabulary**

You think vocabulary is most important to learn. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are unnecessary with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): grammar, speaking or reading.

## **Role C – Speaking**

You think speaking is most important to learn. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are unnecessary with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): vocabulary, grammar or reading.

## **Role D – Reading**

You think reading is most important to learn. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are unnecessary with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): vocabulary, speaking or grammar.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130820-grammar.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'grammar' and 'writing'.

grammar	writing

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• well</li><li>• campaign</li><li>• six</li><li>• money</li><li>• social</li><li>• 400</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coke</li><li>• bigger</li><li>• lot</li><li>• profitable</li><li>• instead</li><li>• trust</li></ul>
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# GRAMMAR SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130820-grammar.html>

Write five GOOD questions about grammar in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## GRAMMAR DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'grammar'?
- c) How is your English grammar?
- d) What things do you dislike about English grammar?
- e) Do you think grammar can make you rich?
- f) What do you think of the Apple slogan "Think Different"?
- g) Are you good at proofreading (or checking other students' writing)?
- h) Are you surprised big companies make grammar mistakes?
- i) Do you think big companies should use better proofreaders?
- j) How many mistakes would be in 400 words of your writing?

*Good grammar means more money – 20th August, 2013*  
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## GRAMMAR DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) Do you know a lot about the grammar of your country?
- c) Do you think this is a serious study (it only looked at six companies)?
- d) Is there really a link between good grammar and profits?
- e) Do you care if a company makes a grammar mistake?
- f) Why do you think Grammarly.com did this study?
- g) What advice would you give people to improve their grammar?
- h) How do you learn grammar (in class)?
- i) Is your teacher very, very, very good at grammar?
- j) What questions would you like to ask a grammar expert?

# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130820-grammar.html>

Most people think big companies use grammar very (1) \_\_\_\_\_. Many people wondered about Apple's use of grammar with its "Think Different" advertising campaign in the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ 1990s. A new study shows that big companies make grammar mistakes. The (3) \_\_\_\_\_ website Grammarly.com looked at the writing of six of the world's most famous companies. It found that they all made mistakes. It also found that the companies who made the fewest mistakes (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the most money. Grammarly compared the comments (5) \_\_\_\_\_ by the companies on the social network site LinkedIn.com. It looked at the spelling, grammar and (6) \_\_\_\_\_ errors in 400 words of text from each company.

Grammarly (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the mistakes made by Coke and Pepsi, Facebook and Google, and Ford and General Motors (GM). It found that Coke made four times fewer writing mistakes (8) \_\_\_\_\_ Pepsi. Coke has a bigger share of the cola (9) \_\_\_\_\_ than Pepsi. Google made nearly four times fewer mistakes than Facebook. It also makes a lot more money. Finally, GM made more mistakes than Ford, which is a more (10) \_\_\_\_\_ company. It is unlikely that the occasional grammar mistake will make you buy a Coke (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of a Pepsi. However, Grammarly CEO Brad Hoover said: "Accurate writing demonstrates professionalism...and customers are more (12) \_\_\_\_\_ to buy a product or a service from a company they trust."

## Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |                  |                 |                 |                  |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1.  | (a) good         | (b) better      | (c) well        | (d) best         |
| 2.  | (a) late         | (b) fast        | (c) dead        | (d) unpunctual   |
| 3.  | (a) proofreading | (b) waterproof  | (c) bulletproof | (d) proof        |
| 4.  | (a) made         | (b) did         | (c) found       | (d) wrote        |
| 5.  | (a) did          | (b) made        | (c) mistaken    | (d) happened     |
| 6.  | (a) punctuates   | (b) punctuate   | (c) punctuated  | (d) punctuation  |
| 7.  | (a) comparison   | (b) comparative | (c) compared    | (d) comparing    |
| 8.  | (a) that         | (b) from        | (c) of          | (d) than         |
| 9.  | (a) market       | (b) store       | (c) mall        | (d) stall        |
| 10. | (a) profitable   | (b) profited    | (c) profits     | (d) profiteering |
| 11. | (a) prefer       | (b) instead     | (c) rather      | (d) only         |
| 12. | (a) liked        | (b) liking      | (c) likely      | (d) likelihood   |

# SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130820-grammar.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. big cpmasenoi
2. Many people ednoredw
3. advertising ngamacpi
4. made the sewfte
5. oisacl network site
6. nintoaupctu errors

## Paragraph 2

7. dmpcroae the mistakes
8. a bigger earsh of the cola market
9. more ilaretpfbo
10. the siaoolnacc grammar mistake
11. buy a Coke ntedsai of a Pepsi
12. aaceurtc writing



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130820-grammar.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) at the writing of six of the world's most famous companies. It found that they all made
- ( ) of a Pepsi. However, Grammarly CEO Brad Hoover said: "Accurate writing demonstrates
- ( ) unlikely that the occasional grammar mistake will make you buy a Coke instead
- ( ) the comments made by the companies on the social network site LinkedIn.com. It looked at the
- ( **1** ) Most people think big companies use grammar very well. Many people wondered about Apple's use
- ( ) of grammar with its "Think Different" advertising campaign in the late 1990s. A new study shows that big
- ( ) spelling, grammar and punctuation errors in 400 words of text from each company.
- ( ) share of the cola market than Pepsi. Google made nearly four times fewer mistakes than Facebook. It also makes a
- ( ) (GM). It found that Coke made four times fewer writing mistakes than Pepsi. Coke has a bigger
- ( ) lot more money. Finally, GM made more mistakes than Ford, which is a more profitable company. It is
- ( ) professionalism...and customers are more likely to buy a product or a service from a company they trust."
- ( ) companies make grammar mistakes. The proofreading website Grammarly.com looked
- ( ) Grammarly compared the mistakes made by Coke and Pepsi, Facebook and Google, and Ford and General Motors
- ( ) mistakes. It also found that the companies who made the fewest mistakes made the most money. Grammarly compared

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130820-grammar.html>

1. grammar think very big well companies use People.

---

2. about Apple's Many use people of wondered grammar.

---

3. the world's most famous companies The writing of 6 of.

---

4. all they that found It mistakes made.

---

5. company in of each Errors words from 400 text.

---

6. and mistakes Pepsi made by Compared Coke the.

---

7. four made Coke mistakes writing fewer times.

---

8. of share bigger a has Coke Pepsi than market cola the.

---

9. a of buy instead Pepsi you Coke a Make.

---

10. a from service a or product a Buy trust they company.

---

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130820-grammar.html>

Most people think big companies use grammar very *good / well*. Many people wondered about Apple's *use / used* of grammar with its "Think Different" advertising campaign in the *lately / late* 1990s. A new study shows that big companies *make / do* grammar mistakes. The proofreading website Grammarly.com looked *on / at* the writing of six of the world's most famous companies. It found that they *every / all* made mistakes. It also found that the companies who made the fewest mistakes *did / made* the most money. Grammarly compared the *commands / comments* made by the companies on the *social / socially* network site LinkedIn.com. It looked at the spelling, grammar and punctuation *errors/ terrors* in 400 words of text from each company.

Grammarly compared the mistakes made *by / of* Coke and Pepsi, Facebook and Google, and Ford and General Motors (GM). It found *this / that* Coke made four times fewer *writing / writes* mistakes than Pepsi. Coke has a bigger *fair / share* of the *store / market* than Pepsi. Google made nearly four times fewer mistakes than Facebook. It also makes a *lot / loads* more money. Finally, GM made more mistakes than Ford, which is a *much / more* profitable company. It is unlikely that the *occasion / occasional* grammar mistake will make you buy a Coke *instead / rather* of a Pepsi. However, Grammarly CEO Brad Hoover said: "Accurate writing demonstrates professionalism...and customers are more likely to *bought / buy* a product or a service from a company they trust."

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130820-grammar.html>

Most people think big companies are grammatically very well. Many people wonder about people's spelling of grammar with the words "Think Different" advertising campaign in the late 1990s. A new study shows that big companies make grammatical mistakes. The proof is found on the website Grammarly.com. I looked at the writing of six of the world's most famous companies. I found that the companies whom I found the fewest mistakes made the most money. Grammarly compared the comments made by the companies on the social networks at [Linkedin.com](http://Linkedin.com). I looked at the spelling, grammar and punctuation in over 400 words of text from each company.

Grammarly compared the mistakes made by Coca-Cola and Pepsi, Facebook and Google, and Ford and General Motors (GM). I found that Coca-Cola made fewer mistakes than Pepsi. Coca-Cola has been successful for the last century than Pepsi. Google made nearly fewer mistakes than Facebook. I also make a list of the most money. Finally, GM made more mistakes than Ford, which is a major profit for the company. It is unlikely that the success of the grammar mistakes will make any money for Coca-Cola. However, Grammarly CEO Brad Horvitz said: "Correct writing demonstrates professional competence... and customers are more likely to buy products or services from a company they trust."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130820-grammar.html>

most people think big companies use grammar very well many people wondered about apple's use of grammar with its "think different" advertising campaign in the late 1990s a new study shows that big companies make grammar mistakes the proofreading website grammarlycom looked at the writing of six of the world's most famous companies it found that they all made mistakes it also found that the companies who made the fewest mistakes made the most money grammarly compared the comments made by the companies on the social network site linkedincom it looked at the spelling grammar and punctuation errors in 400 words of text from each company

grammarly compared the mistakes made by coke and pepsi facebook and google and ford and general motors (gm) it found that coke made four times fewer writing mistakes than pepsi coke has a bigger share of the cola market than pepsi google made nearly four times fewer mistakes than facebook it also makes a lot more money finally gm made more mistakes than ford which is a more profitable company it is unlikely that the occasional grammar mistake will make you buy a coke instead of a pepsi however grammarly ceo brad hoover said "accurate writing demonstrates professionalism...and customers are more likely to buy a product or a service from a company they trust"

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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Most people think big companies use grammar very well. Many people wondered about Apple's use of grammar with its "Think Different" advertising campaign in the late 1990s. A new study shows that big companies make grammar mistakes. The proofreading website Grammarly.com looked at the writing of six of the world's most famous companies. It found that they all made mistakes. It also found that the companies whomadethefewestmistakesmadethemostmoney. Grammarly compared the comments made by the companies on the social network site LinkedIn.com. It looked at the spelling, grammar and punctuation errors in 400 words of text from each company. Grammarly compared the mistakes made by Coke and Pepsi, Facebook and Google, and Ford and General Motors (GM). It found that Coke made four times fewer writing mistakes than Pepsi. Coke has a bigger share of the cola market than Pepsi. Google made nearly four times fewer mistakes than Facebook. It also makes a lot more money. Finally, GM made more mistakes than Ford, which is a more profitable company. It is unlikely that the occasional grammar mistake will make you buy a Coke instead of a Pepsi. However, Grammarly CEO Brad Hoover said: "Accurate writing demonstrates professionalism...and customers are more likely to buy a product or a service from a company they trust."

# FREE WRITING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130820-grammar.html>

Write about **grammar** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

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# HOMework

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about grammar. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. GRAMMAR:** Make a poster about grammar. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. GRAMMAR AND MONEY:** Write a magazine article about grammar and making money. Include imaginary interviews with someone who believes grammar is the most important part of language learning, and someone who believes spelling is.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to a grammar expert. Ask him/her three questions about grammar. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to learn it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F    b T    c F    d T    e F    f T    g T    h F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| 1. wondered   | a. thought about |
| 2. campaign   | b. drive         |
| 3. study      | c. research      |
| 4. comments   | d. opinions      |
| 5. text       | e. writing       |
| 6. found      | f. discovered    |
| 7. share      | g. part          |
| 8. profitable | h. moneymaking   |
| 9. occasional | i. irregular     |
| 10. likely    | j. probable      |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. They know how to use grammar
2. Apple
3. A proofreading site
4. Six
5. 400 words
6. 4 times more
7. The market
8. Money
9. The occasional grammar mistake
10. A company they trust

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. b    2. d    3. c    4. a    5. b    6. a    7. c    8. a    9. d    10. c

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)