



**EXPERIMENTAL JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MACEDONIA**

GRAMMAR REQUIREMENTS FOR LEVEL C2

This publication has made use of the [English Grammar Profile](#). This resource is based on extensive research using the Cambridge Learner Corpus and is part of the English Profile programme, which aims to provide evidence about language use that helps to produce better language teaching materials.

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ADJECTIVES

COMBINING

FORM: COMBINING MULTIPLE ADJECTIVES

Can combine more complex, lengthy strings of adjectives, joining the last two adjectives with 'and'.

Corrected Learner Examples

A timid, shy, self-conscious, over-sensitive and vulnerable person can yearn to make friends with someone who is very self-assured, confident, decisive, even bossy.

In the increasingly materialistic, greedy and shallow society we live in today, it would almost seem that there are no disadvantages to being rich.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

A timid, shy, self-conscious, oversensitive and vulnerable person can crave to make friends with someone who is very much self-assured, confident, decisive, even bossy.

In the increasingly materialistic, greedy and depthless society we live in today, it would almost seem that there are no disadvantages to being rich, save for a few minor worries.

USE: FOCUS

Can use a list of adjectives in ellipited clauses before and after a noun, to give focus. ► focus

Corrected Learner Examples

Imaginative, good-humoured, friendly, he was respected and liked by his peer-students.

The latter - fat, ugly and sick - blows his top when Ralph tells the others about the fat boy's nice name, as he wanted to keep it secret.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

Imaginative, good-humoured, friendly, he was respected and liked by his peer-students.

The latter, - fat, ugly and sick - blows his top when Ralph tells the others about the fat boy's nice name, as he craved for keeping it secret.

COMPARATIVES

FORM/USE: WITH 'NO' OR 'NOT ANY'

Can use 'no' / 'not any' with comparative adjectives to limit the scale of comparison. ► comparative clauses

Corrected Learner Examples

That is why we are not any happier than you were.

I will probably find the water to be no higher than my thighs.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

That is why as you mentioned, we are not any happier than you were.

I will probably find the water to be no higher than my thies.

FORM/USE: WITH 'NOT THAT MUCH'

Can use 'not that much' to modify comparative adjectives to a small degree. ► comparative clauses

Corrected Learner Examples

Although she is not that much older than I am, one could think there were quite a few years between us.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

Although she is not that much older than I am, one could think we would differ quite a few years.

Comments

This is a very low frequency item.

MODIFYING

FORM: COMPARISON

Can use adjectives in 'as ... as' and 'so ... that' in comparative structures. ► comparative clauses

Corrected Learner Examples

Because our debates do not draw as large a number of students as the guest appearances, but are still enjoyed by a relevant number of students, we propose a change of focus for the events.

It was such a riddle that I went and saw my psycho-analyst, who revealed to me that I once had so strong a shock that I was now walking and hiding my money in my sleep.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

Because our debates do not draw as large a number of students as the guest appearances, but are still enjoyed by a relevant number of students, we propose a change of focus of the events.

It was such a riddle that I went and saw my psycho-analyst who revealed to me that I once had so strong a shock that I was now walking and hiding my money in my sleep.

POSITION

FORM/USE: DEGREE ADJECTIVES BEFORE NOUNS

Can use an increasing range of adjectives before a noun to express intensity.

Corrected Learner Examples

*As a conclusion, I shall say that the major problem concerns the exam.
It is located in the very centre of Pisa, in a magnificent ancient building.*

Uncorrected Learner Examples

*As a conclusion, I shall say that the major problem concerns the exam.
It is located in the very centre of Pisa, in a magnificent ancient building.*

Comments

This form/use is restricted to the attributive, ie before nouns – not verbs

SUPERLATIVES

FORM/USE: 'SLIGHTEST', 'FAINTEST'

Can use 'the slightest', 'the faintest' with a specific range of nouns to express the least amount possible, most frequently following a negative verb form.

Corrected Learner Examples

I should not end my relationship with Alex by phone, without giving him the slightest explanation.

They act as consumers, nothing more, and never show the slightest interest in learning and sharing opinions with the locals.

I haven't the faintest idea.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I should not end my realationship with Alex by phone, without giving him the slightest explanation.

They act as consumers, nothing more, and never show the slightest interest in learning and sharing opinions with the locals.

I haven't the faintest idea.

ADVERBS

ADVERB PHRASES – FORM

FORM: PRE- AND POST-MODIFIED ADVERBS

Can form adverb phrases with modifiers before, and complements after, adverbs.

Corrected Learner Examples

Many politicians and owners of big enterprises have been able for a long time to work almost exclusively for their own interests.

It was so completely in harmony with the sun, the sea, the sand, the summer, I decided instantly that was the kind of thing I would like to keep and collect.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

Many politicians and owners of big enterprises, have been able for a long time to work almost exclusively for their own interests.

It was so completely in harmony with the sun, the sea, the sand, the summer instantly, I decided that was a kind of things I would like to keep and collect.

ADVERBS AS MODIFIERS

USE: DISTANCING

Can use adverbs mid clause, to distance the writer from what they are saying.

Corrected Learner Examples

He came out from school at the age of 16, and joined the "Universidad xxx" – the best one in Chile, supposedly – to study Economics

The author of the letter apparently has no experience of being a parent in our times.

He was quite nice to me, surprisingly and he told him that he would do his best but that the music was not too loud.

Comments

While we see these adverbs being used as stance devices at C1 it is the emergence of them in mid clause position, and with a distancing function, which increases at C2 level.

POSITION

FORM/USE: FRONT POSITION, INVERSION, WITH 'HARDLY'

Can use 'hardly' in front position followed by an inverted subject and verb, to give focus.

Corrected Learner Examples

Hardly had he reached his front door when he heard the phone ringing.

Hardly had she finished her complaints when Bob stood up, paid and left.

Hardly had they arrived when they saw a sleek, black car leaving the house's yard.

Comments

This is a very low frequency form in L1 data and restricted to literary contexts. NB it is more frequent in the learner data than in the L1 data.

FORM/USE: MID POSITION, DISTANCING

Can use adverbs in mid position, to distance the writer from what they are saying.

Corrected Learner Examples

In all actuality Piggy himself theoretically has all the necessary character traits and skills at his disposal that would ensure he would be an effective leader.

For the houses opposite the cargo area we strongly support the idea of a "green" wall, as it was mentioned in the report of the town council but surprisingly seems to have been forgotten afterwards.

Comments

While we see these adverbs being used as stance devices at C1, it is the emergence of them in mid clause position, and with a distancing function, which increases at C2 level.

CLAUSES

COMPARATIVES

FORM/USE: 'SO ... AS TO', FORMAL

Can use 'so' + adjective + 'as' + 'to'-infinitive clause, usually in formal contexts.

Corrected Learner Examples

Travellers should not be so ignorant as to think they can understand other nationalities better when they have once lived in one of their hotels.

However, as soon as my glaring eyes met his, beseeching and helpless, I knew I couldn't endure being so cruel as to deny him my caring shoulder...

Should I be so fortunate as to win the scholarship, I would use it in a way that would not only affect me, but very much so also the area in which I live.

FORM: 'AS IF' + NON-FINITE CLAUSE

Can use 'as if' + non-finite clause to introduce a second clause as a comparison.

Corrected Learner Examples

She closed her eyes as if to push those thoughts away.

There it was: the chef's body, hacked to pieces, a carving knife in his hand as if to scare off an enemy.

I was so frightened that my heart was beating like crazy as if trying to leave my body.

Because of this, my mother never denied us anything, as if trying to compensate for our father's death.

Comments

This is a very low frequency form. There were no instances of 'as though' + finite clauses in the CLC. As 'though' + finite clause is a relatively low frequency pattern in native speaker use (0.2 occurrences per million in CIC).

CONDITIONAL

FORM/USE: 'IF IT WERE NOT FOR', FORMAL

Can use 'If it weren't / were not for' + noun phrase to introduce conditions in formal contexts.

► past simple

Corrected Learner Examples

If it weren't for that boy, I am definitely certain that I would have failed the examinations and I would have ended up taking the class again the following year.

If it weren't for his determination, he would have resigned when he first heard "no".

FORM/USE: 'IF IT WERE' + 'TO'-INFINITIVE FORM, FORMAL

Can use 'If it were' + 'to-' infinitive to introduce conditions in formal contexts.

Corrected Learner Examples

If it were to be published, the first issue would probably include a small introduction about the people who helped in the creation of the magazine.

However displacing such a number of commuters will need a lot of planning and a very good infrastructure if it were to succeed.

FORM/USE: 'WERE IT NOT FOR', FORMAL

Can use 'Were it not for' + noun phrase to introduce conditions in formal contexts. ► past simple

Corrected Learner Examples

Were it not for my university, I would give up this class immediately.

Were it not for that kind of toy, children would be able to gain more team-spirit, creativity and self-confidence.

In fact, were it not for that reason, Laura would have accepted the comfortable executive chair in a big company.

FORM/USE: 'WHETHER OR NOT', FORMAL

Can use 'whether or not' to introduce conditions in formal contexts.

Corrected Learner Examples

Whether or not the visitors should imitate local customs and behaviour is definitely a debatable issue.

Whether or not it is better to educate boys and girls in separate schools has been a widely discussed issue in recent years.

Whether or not richer countries should help these poor nations is a very controversial issue, there are people on both sides of the argument who have very strong feelings.

However, it depends only on the children whether or not they'll go to a university and there are many factors to be considered before deciding on going.

FORM/USE: INVERTED 'WERE' + 'TO' INFINITIVE, FORMAL

Can use 'were' with an inverted subject + 'to' infinitive, to introduce conditions in formal contexts. ► past simple

Corrected Learner Examples

Were I to win this travel scholarship, the country of my choice would be Japan.

Were you to compare people's views on animals to their views on food, you would find many similarities.

Were someone to decide that he did not want to go to university, he would have to face the consequences of his choice.

Were this suggestion to be put into practice, our town's personality would change completely from a small town to a port of call for a large number of visitors.

Comments

Note this is instead of 'If' + pronoun + 'were to' infinitive? so it involves ellipsis and inversion.

FORM/USE: INVERTED PAST PERFECT, IMAGINED PAST

Can use past perfect + inverted subject, and a modal verb + 'have' + '-ed' in the main clause to talk about imagined situations in the past.

Corrected Learner Examples

Had he been more experienced he would have known that these things always happen in this part of the world.

Had we known this fact we would have organised more activities within school hours.

Had we learnt from the mistakes of the past, we would have given up fighting each other a long time ago.

Had I known so many people from abroad were coming to visit our stand, I would have studied harder during my private lessons in the past.

Had this file fallen into enemy hands, it might have had disastrous effects on the Western world.

Had public transportation been an option I would have chosen that instead of my car.

Comments

Note on punctuation: many grammar books stress that when the 'if' clause precedes the main clause, it must use a comma. We cannot establish a consistent competency for this (and punctuation in general). It seems too idiosyncratic. L1 can be a skewing factor

FORM/USE: SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS, CONDITIONS

Can use conditional subordinate clauses with a range of conjunctions ('so long as', 'on condition that', 'in the event that') with past, present or future reference.]

Corrected Learner Examples

As a matter of fact, education is free and as a result they can attend whichever university they desire so long as they have the proper qualifications, of course.

I was allowed to bring my friends home and go out with them on condition that my parents knew where I was and when I was going to return.

Comments

Note that these are low frequency items.

USE: INVERTED 'SHOULD', FUTURE, POSSIBLE OUTCOME, FORMAL, POLITE

Can use inverted 'should', + 'would' in the main clause to talk about possible future outcomes, in polite or formal contexts.

Corrected Learner Examples

Should we win your prize we would like to build a new school close to our production center, for the children of the area.

Should you fail to do so, we would have no choice but to take further action.

Comments

This structure is similar to the second conditional structure.

COORDINATED

FORM/USE: NEGATIVE CLAUSE + 'NOR', FOCUS

Can combine a negative clause with an inverted clause with 'nor', to give focus.

Corrected Learner Examples

That night Kevin did not sleep; nor did Kristin.

They do not have any hobbies, nor do they have friends or relatives (at least not where they live).

Her diary was never found, nor was Juliette.

I should never have agreed to meet him, after all I didn't know the man nor did I understand what he was talking about, but he really said my friend Peter was in danger, that's what made me say yes.

Comments

Note this pattern is without 'neither' and hence differs from the B2 level pattern. Also, note the inversion.

IMPERATIVES

FORM/USE: 'DON'T YOU ...'

Can use you with an imperative form to make an instruction stronger.

Corrected Learner Examples

Don't you ever do that again!

Don't you dare!

Don't you dare forget me, I want letters from you promptly, understand!

FORM/USE: 'LET' + THIRD PERSON PRONOUN, DEVOLVING RESPONSIBILITY

Can use an imperative clause with 'let' + 'him/her/them' + base form of a main verb, to devolve responsibility.

Corrected Learner Examples

Let them find their own food.

But she put aside her friends because she didn't want to be pitied. After few attempts her friends gave up. "Let her live alone".

So let them be and let them scrutinize the peculiar events that do occur in life.

Comments

This is a very low frequency use of this form and it occurs in negative contexts.

PHRASES/EXCLAMATIONS

FORM: 'HOW' + ADVERB + CLAUSE

Can use 'How' + adverb + clause.

Corrected Learner Examples

How differently we were brought up by our mother.

Comments

Very low frequency form, usually used in formal, particularly literary, contexts.

FORM: 'HOW' + CLAUSE

Can use 'How' + clause.

Corrected Learner Examples

How I often longed to play with the other children or relax with a good book.

How I love the smell of home!

How I long to be there again.

Comments

Very low frequency form, usually used in formal, particularly literary, contexts.

SUBORDINATED

FORM/USE: 'WERE' + PRONOUN + 'TO' INFINITIVE, FORMAL

Can use 'Were' + pronoun + 'to' infinitive to introduce a condition, in formal contexts.

Corrected Learner Examples

Were I to choose one of them, I would select the last one, so that I could have the opportunity to take part in my favourite radio station's programme.

Were you to need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Were we to give them this opportunity, it would not only be a great advantage for them but for the future of our society as well.

Were they to be paid a sufficient sum, say, equivalent or even more than their current pay-check, they would be inclined to give up their jobs.

Comments

Note this is instead of 'If' + pronoun + 'were to' infinitive... so it involves ellipsis and inversion.

FORM/USE: NON-FINITE AFTER 'ALTHOUGH', 'THOUGH'

Can use non-finite clauses after subordinating conjunctions '(although, though)', to express contrast.

Corrected Learner Examples

I was my parents' first and only child, and I was brought up at my grandparents' home, because, although married, my mother decided not to leave her parents' home, and my father agreed with her.

Although committed to her job she successfully maintains her social contacts all over the world.

Jack, though disappointed, respects the result.

CONJUNCTIONS

COORDINATING

FORM/USE: 'AND YET', CONCESSIVE

Can use 'And yet' to combine sentences to introduce a contrast, often unexpected, sometimes in a formal context.

Corrected Learner Examples

If I had, I would try to do the best for them, just like my parents did, and very likely I would make the same mistakes. And yet, I think I would be a good and loving father.

I felt very embarrassed and I was sure I would get the sack. And yet the manager forgave me and I continued to work there.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

If I had, I would try to do the best for them, just like my parents did, and very likely I would make the same mistakes. And yet, I think I would be a good and loving father.

And yet the manager forgave me and I continued to work there.

FORM/USE: 'NEITHER'

Can use 'Neither' or 'Nor' + inverted auxiliary or 'be' + subject to add to a previous related negative clause, to focus on an additional negative factor.

Corrected Learner Examples

Nevertheless, I have no recollection of ever leaving my diary. In fact, I can clearly remember that I kept it with me all the time I was working. Neither do I remember losing it during the time I was on the platform waiting for my train to pull in.

Maybe he will eventually get over this terrible experience, but he's bound to be a lonelier boy than he was. Nor does Jack's future look any more promising.

There are also considerable disturbances during day-time. It is, for example, not possible to lead a conversation, e.g. on the veranda, without shouting. Nor is it possible to watch television peacefully without the thunderous noise in the background.

At first, I didn't pay attention to the large number of magazines and newspapers she subscribed to. Neither did I oppose her 'need' to get new clothes every month.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

Neither do I remember losing it during the time I was on the platform waiting for my train to pull in.

Nor does Jack's future look any more promising.

Nor is it possible to watch television peacefully without the thunderous noise in the background.

Neither did I oppose to her 'need' to get new clothes every month.

SUBORDINATING

FORM/USE: 'IN THAT'

Can use 'in that' as a subordinating conjunction, to give greater in-depth explanation, often in formal contexts.

Corrected Learner Examples

Nowadays it is widely argued that professional sports are damaging to people's health in that they involve gruelling training sessions as an integral part of the occupation.

It's often said that nowadays people must be proud of medical advances, in that life is getting considerably longer.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

Nowadays it is widely argued that professional sports are damaging to people's health in that they involve gruelling training sessions as an integral part of the occupation.

With regards, Yours sincerely </original_answer> <original_answer> It's often said that nowadays people must be proud of medical advances, in that life is getting considerably longer.

DETERMINERS

DEMONSTRATIVES

FORM/USE: 'THIS' WITH NOUN AND POSSESSIVE

Can use 'this' + noun + 'of' + possessive pronoun to highlight something, often in a positive way.

Corrected Learner Examples

What is more, not only is this rare talent of theirs used for public pleasure but also for international sports success, which makes us all proud.

This characteristic of his is shown in every situation of his life.

USE: 'THIS', IN NARRATIVES

Can use 'this' with nouns and noun phrases in a narrative to create a sense of immediacy.

Corrected Learner Examples

[talking about two characters in a story] There's this flame of passion between them.

It's a story where there's this old man who makes a marionette that comes to life.

In our group there was this girl, tiny and fragile, very sensitive; she had a special way with words.

USE: EMOTIONAL DISTANCE

Can use 'that' and 'those' to convey emotional distance, often to express disapproval.

Corrected Learner Examples

I also told her that if I had been in her shoes, I would not have put up with that sort of behaviour.

Nowadays, celebrities, like pop stars or football players, are often worshipped by hysterical crowds of fans who can't see through the mask that those so-called heroes make up to sell the product that they are.

POSSESSIVES

FORM: 'S + 'S'

Can use two possessive 's' constructions in the same noun phrase.

Corrected Learner Examples

There were no photographs of him in Ann 's mother's albums.

They spent two weeks together at Emily's grandmother's house, after fourteen months of dating.

FORM: 'S' WITH ELLIPTED NOUN

Can use 's' without a following noun when the noun has already been mentioned or is obvious in the context.

Corrected Learner Examples

Olivia's experiences probably are the narrator's.

He started to shake me and meanwhile I heard a familiar voice; it was my father's.

Suddenly, after two weeks I realised that my bank account was empty and so was my friend's.

FORM: SINGULAR NOUN ENDING IN 'S' + APOSTROPHE

Can use an apostrophe after singular nouns ending in 's', to indicate possession.

Corrected Learner Examples

However, I believe that in order to maintain its popularity, the programme should keep some of the series' aspects the same, but alter some others.

Comments

This feature is very low frequency in CLC and CEC.

QUANTITY

FORM/USE: 'MANY A' WITH SINGULAR NOUNS, FOR FOCUS

Can use 'many a' or 'many an' + singular noun for emphasis and focus.

Corrected Learner Examples

We have come a long way and climbed many a mountain but are we really better off than our ancestors?

Her father's pharmacy was broken into very often, the local drug addicts were relentless and Mary was threatened many a time on her way home from work.

It has raised many an issue which I would like to comment upon here.

FOCUS

FOCUS

FORM/USE: 'IT' CLEFT

Can use 'It' + 'be' + noun + 'that' clause for focus.

Corrected Learner Examples

It is Lily who decides to go to the seaside and it is also her who kills the turkey given by a lorry-driver.

It was Paul who stole the money.

It is Piggy who finds the conch and knows how to blow it.

It is my mother who always plays the role of mediator.

It is this silence that gives me the impression of togetherness, for which no words are needed.

FORM/USE: 'NOT A' + NOUN

Can use 'Not a' + noun with a passive verb or inverted auxiliary and subject for focus.

Corrected Learner Examples

Not a word was spoken by anyone throughout the journey.

Not a scrap of remorse do they have.

FORM/USE: 'THE' + PREMODIFIER + 'THING, FACT ETC.' + 'IS (THAT)'

Can use 'The' + premodifier + 'thing, fact, point, problem or reason' + 'is (that)' for focus.

Corrected Learner Examples

The sad thing about it was that it was actually Richard who said, "Why don't you go on holiday??"

The strange thing was that the noise reminded her of someone making a cup of tea.

The sad fact is, poverty is very likely to pass down to the next generation in these situations.

The relevant point is that that personal, almost intimate relationship between the possessor and the thing possessed is at the core of that particular love we all hold for certain things.

The only problem is that they are a little too noisy in the night.

FORM/USE: 'WH'-CLEFT CLAUSE

Can use 'How', 'Why', or 'Where' cleft clauses as subject, for focus

Corrected Learner Examples

How we are brought up forms our character, our thinking and our attitude towards ourselves and towards everybody and everything around us.

Where he had gone to was a mystery.

How they influenced my life is hard to tell.

Why I think my father is successful is because of his personality, he is very fair about everything,; for example if he sees two beautiful women walking down the street and you ask him which is the nicest of them, he couldn't tell even if one was plain ugly he couldn't.

[talking about possessions] How people have got their objects is also important.

FORM/USE: MULTIPLE FIXED EXPRESSIONS

Can use more than one fixed expression in the front position for added focus.

Corrected Learner Examples

But all of a sudden, out of nowhere a bunch of people came running towards him, yelling something he couldn't understand.

All in all, taking everything into account, I would suggest that a leisure centre would be the most beneficial as it provides all the facilities necessary to attract and benefit a number of people in the community.

What is more, from my point of view happiness has nothing to do with big things but with small things such as day-to-day details.

FUTURE

FUTURE IN THE PAST

USE: 'BE DUE TO'

Can use the simple past form of 'be' + 'due to' to talk about scheduled events in the future from a point in the past.

Corrected Learner Examples

It was quite early in the morning, only 7.15 am, and my plane was due to leave in about 40 minutes.

Ten minutes after the time we were due to begin, she arrived.

We have succeeded in persuading the local Council that the factory that was due to be built near the lake was dangerous.

FUTURE PERFECT CONTINUOUS

USE: ASSUMPTIONS

Can use the future perfect continuous to make assumptions about the present.

Corrected Learner Examples

I do not think that this aspect is really necessary because it is supposed that ... you will have been studying very hard to occupy that job

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I do not think that this aspect is really necessary because it is supposed that you will be an adult for that moment and you will have been studying very hard to occupy that job ...

Comments

Very low frequency item.

FUTURE PERFECT SIMPLE

FORM: QUESTIONS

Can use the question form of the future perfect simple.

Corrected Learner Examples

Will he have changed?

Uncorrected Learner Examples

Will he have changed?

Comments

In general questions are low frequency in the CLC, because of the data is written rather than spoken. Questions forms with the future perfect simple are low frequency in the NS data too. .

FUTURE SIMPLE (WITH WILL AND SHALL)

USE: LONG-TERM INTENTIONS WITH 'SHALL'

Can use 'shall' to talk about long-term intentions.

Corrected Learner Examples

I must believe, believe in myself and in everybody else, and mainly in what I look for, this way I shall never lose hope.

I shall always remember it as the city of lights.

I shall always keep it in mind, in order to keep my children close to me and avoid being hated.

I came to the conclusion that the Excel Academy is not worth the money our company paid and that we shall not send further candidates there.

USE: PREDICTIONS WITH 'SHALL'

Can use 'shall' to make predictions, usually in formal contexts.

Corrected Learner Examples

Once more I invite you wholeheartedly to stay at my place and I hope we shall meet in November.

... we shall probably have several years more to live.

FUTURE WITH BE GOING TO

FORM: WITH ADVERBS

Can use 'be' + 'going to' with a wide range of adverbs before the main verb.

Corrected Learner Examples

But I don't know if I'm going to still live here.

First, I am going to briefly introduce the three main activities offered by the club.

Nobody is going to even look at you when your sister is there.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

But I don't know if I'm going to still live here.

First, I am going to briefly introduce the three main activities offered by the club.

Nobody is going to even look at you when your sister is there.

Comments

We have evidence here of split infinitives. This is frequent in informal native speaker language but is a structure which some teachers may wish to avoid for exam use if they think it is incorrect.

PRESENT CONTINUOUS FOR FUTURE USE

FORM: INVERSION WITH 'ONLY WHEN'

Can use the present simple with 'only when' (followed by 'will' and inverted subject) to refer to the future.

Corrected Learner Examples

Only when we understand that, will we be able to live in better societies.

Moreover, I think that only when people manage this will they be able to move on with their lives and offer something new to humanity.

And, sadly, I also believe that only when something really catastrophic happens will citizens face reality and accept that measures must be taken.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

Only when we understand that, will we be able to live in better societies.

Moreover, I think that only when people manage this will they be able to move on with their lives and offer something new to the humanity and to the future generations.

And, sadly, I also believe that only when something really catastrophic happens will citizens face reality and accept that measures must be taken in order to improve everyone's lifestyle.

MODALITY

ADVERBS

FORM/USE, RESPONSE TOKENS

Can use adverbs expressing certainty as short responses.

Corrected Learner Examples

Do I agree with this statement? Definitely.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

Do I agree with this statement? Definitely.

Comments

There is very little evidence of this because of the lack of spoken data.

CAN

USE: REFLECTIONS

Can use 'how can' to reflect, through rhetorical questions.

Corrected Learner Examples

And how can we improve if we are not allowed to make mistakes, evaluate our experiences in a new light and try again?

But how can each of us stay fit in this world of stress and fast food restaurants?

COULD

USE: SPECULATION

Can use 'couldn't have' + '-ed' to speculate about the past.

Corrected Learner Examples

Imagine my dismay when I realised I hadn't brought back the notebook from the pub. Surely I couldn't have left it on my seat.

[speculating about a lost diary] ? her mother couldn't have hidden it there just like that. It just wasn't like her. She must have put it away there and then forgotten about it.

DARE

FORM/USE: NEGATIVE WITH 'DIDN'T'

Can use the negative form 'didn't dare' + infinitive without 'to' to talk about not being brave enough to do something.

Corrected Learner Examples

She didn't dare think about him and the possibility that he would never come back.

Since we didn't dare move our feet, we were slowly swaying to the left and to the right, backwards and forwards.

Comments

See comment at B2 'affirmative'

EXPRESSIONS WITH BE

FORM/USE: 'BE' + ADJECTIVE + 'NOT' + 'TO'

Can use 'be' + adjective + 'not' + 'to' + infinitive for emphasis.

Corrected Learner Examples

People should be obliged not to have more than a very small number of children otherwise they will be punished.

Now without her knowledge, I know everything about her and she is bound not to conceal the truth!

Indeed, whatever path parents choose, they are almost certain not to do a good job.

Be sure not to miss the alligator steak.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

People should be obliged not to have more than a very small number of children otherwise they will be punished.

Now without her knowledge, I know everything about her and she is bound not to conceal the truth!

Indeed, whatever path parents choose, they are almost certain not to do a good job.

Be sure not to miss the alligator steak.

FORM: NEGATIVE

Can use 'be' + 'not' + adjective + 'to' + infinitive.

Corrected Learner Examples

The country's population is not likely to increase fast enough.

[talking about relatives] You are not obliged to invite them over.

[talking about tourism] Its positive effects are not certain to outweigh the negative ones.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

The country's population is not likely to increase fast enough.

[Talking about relatives] You are not obliged to invite them over.

[Talking about tourism] Its positive effects are not certain to outweigh the negative ones.

HAVE (GOT) TO

FORM: PAST

Can use 'have to have' + '-ed'.

Corrected Learner Examples

[talking about urban versus rural life] In order to have an objective view on which lifestyle tends to be more problematic, you certainly have to have lived at each setting for a rather extensive time period.

They stop at the most famous places, which you "have to have seen", jump down and take photographs, always chatting with each other.

USE: DEDUCTIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

Can use a range of present and past forms of 'have (got) to' to talk about deductions and conclusions. ► must ► had to

Corrected Learner Examples

[talking about a castle on a small island] It's got to be incredible to see a castle emerging from the sea.

[wondering why his mother has suddenly decided to come to his house] There had to be something else since she was definitely not the kind of person who drops by without asking. Yes, I was sure, it had to have been Peter.

USE: OBLIGATION

Can use present and past forms of 'have to' + '-ed' to talk about obligations in the past.

Corrected Learner Examples

Nowadays, one has to have finished at least senior high school for any employer to consider hiring you.

The State Universities have a higher level of education than Public Universities, but usually to get into a State University you had to have been studying in a public school.

MAY

FORM/USE: 'MAY AS WELL'

Can use 'may as well' to talk about what we think is the easiest or most logical course of action, often when we cannot see a better alternative or when it will not spoil the situation if you do that thing. ► might

Corrected Learner Examples

*A few minutes later, she began hesitantly: "After all, you may as well know..."
I may as well see the other things.*

Comments

This is at C1 in EVP but most of the C1 examples are either from Business English candidates or are not pragmatically correct. ||NB this structure tends to be more spoken than written.

USE: CONCESSION

Can use 'may' in a subordinate clause expressing concession with 'however', 'whatever', 'whoever' ... + 'it or this may be or seem'.

Corrected Learner Examples

But honestly, I am sure that the price of the watch also contributes its part, however small it may be, to my love of it.

Nowadays, however useful it may seem, travel has proved to be pointless as far as broadening the mind is concerned.

The most important thing is that people enjoy what they are doing whatever it may be and wherever it takes place.

Nowadays, one of the main goals of people in society is to achieve success, in whatever field it may be.

USE: HEDGING

Can use 'it may be' + '-ed' that as a hedging device when drawing conclusions and summarising, particularly in academic contexts.

Corrected Learner Examples

On balance, it may be concluded that although international sports competitions do involve such factors as serious and physical strain and commercial gain, their ultimate aim remains unchanged – namely, to find out in a fair way who deserves the title of the winner.

It may be argued that a child's academic success is crucial to his or her future.

It may be argued that the career span of an athlete is quite short and therefore money earned is well deserved.

MIGHT

FORM: 'MIGHT AS WELL'

Can use 'might as well', mostly to talk about or suggest what we think is the easiest or most logical course of action, often when we cannot see a better alternative. ► 'may'

Corrected Learner Examples

Living longer allows you to fulfil the different stages of your personal development, and if you reach the necessary maturity and integrity that corresponds to this stage of your life, you might as well make the best of these years.

What should be changed about travelling and spending one's holiday is that the people, in my opinion, should decide on what they want to do during their holidays: If they only want to have fun, they might as well stay at home.

USE: EMPHASIS

Can use 'try as I might' for emphasis at the beginning of a sentence.

Corrected Learner Examples

Try as I might, I was never able to persuade her to go for a walk.

Try as I might, I cannot imagine a world without music.

Try as I might, I can't see an explanation

MUST

FORM: ELLIPSIS

Can use ellipsed 'must have' + '-ed' without a subject. ► ellipsis

Corrected Learner Examples

[from a story] 'Must have fallen out of a car, or somfin'" This was his next thought.

Comments

Ellipsis is more typically found in spoken language than written language.

FORM: INVERSION

Can invert 'must' and the subject after negative phrases, e.g. 'not only', 'never', 'nor', to change the focus and give prominence/emphasis.

Corrected Learner Examples

Not only must you study really hard during university, but also keep studying afterwards.

To sum up, my opinion is that education is sacred, necessary and useful to all of us and never must it be characterised as "a waste of time".

[talking about personality] Nor must we overlook the human qualities.

FORM: PAST, NEGATIVE

Can use 'must not have been' (especially with 'easy').

Corrected Learner Examples

But I would like to stress that I was really happy that she found another husband, although she had three little children which must not have been easy for him.

Something I have missed on behalf of my father is a bit more tenderness, but again I am guessing it must not have been easy for him to be a post-war-time son of a widow.

It mustn't have been more than an hour after the first announcement of the captain that there was a second one.

FORM: WITH ADVERBS

Can use 'must' with a wide range of adverbs in the normal mid position after the modal verb.

► adverbs|

Corrected Learner Examples

There must certainly be other solutions to the problem of the need for space for new houses.

RECOMMENDATION In my opinion our town must clearly use this area to create a park and a playground for children.

I must completely disagree with this statement, since I believe that in all jobs or occupations only the good professionals are able to earn a lot of money.

NEED

FORM: QUESTIONS

Can use the question form.

Corrected Learner Examples

Need you ask?

Lastly I would appreciate , as I am sure others would too, if the premises were cleaner. Need I say more?

Comments

This is very low frequency in the CLC.

USE: IN DISCUSSION

Can use the question form rhetorically in discussion, typically in formal contexts.

Corrected Learner Examples

Need I go on?

Need you work in this way?

OUGHT

FORM: CONTRACTED FORM, NEGATIVE

Can use 'oughtn't' (without 'to') + verb.

Corrected Learner Examples

...they will most certainly have a banquet that day... and you oughtn't miss it for the world!

Comments

VERY LOW FREQUENCY ITEM.

FORM: NEGATIVE

Can use the negative form 'ought not to'.

Corrected Learner Examples

Secondly, there ought not to be a division between rich and poor.

We ought not to forget that in the last twenty years the food industry has increased the number of chemicals used in its products.

FORM: QUESTIONS, NEGATIVE

Can use 'ought' + subject + 'not to' + verb to form (rhetorical) questions, often in formal contexts.

Corrected Learner Examples

And if not, ought we not to learn from the mistakes of the past?

Comments

VERY LOW FREQUENCY ITEM. There are no examples of affirmative or tag questions in the CLC, and only one example of the question form.

SHALL

USE: AFTER 'IF' CLAUSES

Can use 'shall' in the main clause after an 'if-' clause ► conditionals

Corrected Learner Examples

Nowadays people live longer than they did in the past, which is very nice and pleasant, but we must be careful because if things get out of hand, ... we shall be doomed to live in complete chaos.

I have to inform you that if we do not receive a reply this time we shall take the matter to court.

USE: PREDICTIONS

Can use 'shall' to make predictions.

Corrected Learner Examples

As a result, our town shall have financial benefits, as people visiting the library will visit the city's shops for their needs.

... we shall probably have several years more to live.

USED TO

FORM/USE: WITH 'AS' + PRONOUN, NARRATIVE

Can use 'as' + pronoun + 'used to' ... to add background to a narrative, often to highlight something unusual.

Corrected Learner Examples

She had gone out for a walk in the woods as she used to do every Sunday, with her diary in her hand and a pen in her pocket.

He divorced his wife, old flabby Nellie as she used to call her, and proposed to her.

She married a well-off man, and ended up being a housewife, doing piecework for peanuts, as she used to say.

FORM: 'USED NOT TO'

Can use negative form 'used not to'

Corrected Learner Examples

I used to play until late in the evening, I used not to do my homework and I did not excel at school.

As a teenager I used not to be very sociable, I had few friends and none of them felt close.

WILL

USE: WILLFULNESS OR DISAPPROVAL

Can use 'will' to talk about general behaviour, often disapprovingly.

Corrected Learner Examples

Indeed no one can imagine what children will do!

Comments

Note that this use is very low frequency, perhaps because of the lack of spoken data. The 'will' here is typically stressed, e.g. "She 'will' slam that door!" (unstressed 'will' would not work here).

WOULD

FORM: WITH ADVERBS

Can use a wide range of adverbs with 'would', including 'undoubtedly', 'possibly', 'normally', 'personally', 'eventually', 'obviously', 'significantly', 'inevitably'. ► adverbs

Corrected Learner Examples

[talking about the construction of a leisure centre] I believe that the construction of such a centre would undoubtedly contribute to the improvement of our quality of life.

Organising family-oriented activities would significantly increase membership and raise the society's popularity with the local community.

NEGATION

NEGATION

FORM/USE: 'DON'T YOU ?', WARNING

Can use a negative imperative form with 'you' to give a warning or reprimand.

Corrected Learner Examples

Don't you ever do that again!

Don't you dare!

Don't you dare forget me, I want letters from you promptly, understand!

Comments

This is a very low frequency form in the CLC.

FORM/USE: 'IN THE LEAST', EMPHASIS

Can use 'in the least' after a negative form for emphasis.

Corrected Learner Examples

She has lost her little brother but that does not discourage her in the least.

Most of the times, the director of a television channel is not in the least interested in the quality, but only in the matter of how many people watch their programmes.

What others say doesn't matter in the least.

FORM/USE: 'NEITHER'

Can use 'Neither' or 'Nor' + with 'do' or 'be' + inverted subject to add to a previous related negative clause, to focus on an additional negative factor.

Corrected Learner Examples

There are also considerable disturbances during day-time. It is, for example, not possible to lead a conversation, e.g. on the veranda, without shouting. Nor is it possible to watch television peacefully without the thunderous noise in the background.

At first, I didn't pay attention to the large number of magazines and newspapers she subscribed to. Neither did I oppose her 'need' to get new clothes every month.

Comments

This is a very low frequency form in the CLC.

FORM/USE: 'NOT A' + NOUN, EMPHASIS

Can use 'not a' + noun, often with a following passive structure, for emphasis.

Corrected Learner Examples

Not a single noise could be heard from inside of any of the rooms.

Not a long time passes before another Polish city, Warsaw, hosts a festival.

Not a single member of the group would have imagined that the "Luxury coach" would break down and leave them stranded in the middle of nowhere.

NOUNS

NOUN PHRASES

FORM: COMPLEX NOUN PHRASES WITH 'LITTLE OR NO' + NOUN

Can form complex noun phrases with 'little or no' + noun.

Corrected Learner Examples

Harvey Keitel has always chosen the scripts that interested him as a person and as an actor, whilst refusing to invest his talent in big-time Hollywood block-busters with little or no artistic value.

They have little or no spare time to relax and recharge their batteries; they are constantly under pressure in order to live up to the expectations of the team and the supporters.

The careers of these people started at a very young age with little or no money.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

That is the reason why I appreciate someone like the actor Harvey Keitel, who in the course of his career has always been coherent enough to choose the scripts that interested him as a person and as an actor, whilst refusing to invest his talent in big-time Hollywood block-busters with little or no artistic value.

They have little or no spare time to relax and recharge their batteries; they are constantly under pressure in order to live up to the expectations of the team and the supporters.

These careers started at a very young age with little or no money.

As the highway is merely 300 metres from the centre, transportation of products is carried out with little or no problems.

PASSIVES

GET AND HAVE

FORM/USE: 'HAVE' + OBJECT + INFINITIVE

Can use 'have' + object + infinitive without 'to' to talk about asking or causing someone to do something, often in formal contexts.

Corrected Learner Examples

In order to attract people and have them practise their English, we could point out the benefits and the possibilities one obtains, by acquiring a degree in this language ...

In assessing the prospective student's linguistic skills it does not suffice to just have him fill out a multiple-choice-form

Uncorrected Learner Examples

In order to attract people and have them practice their English, we could point out the benefits and the possibilities one obtains, by acquiring a degree in this language ...

Whatever their personality may be, I will always do my best to have them conquer their independence as soon as possible.

To have him answer one question was like pulling teeth.

PASSIVES: FORM

FORM/USE: NON-FINITE PERFECT CLAUSES

Can use passive non-finite '-ing' perfect forms in subordinate clauses to give explanatory background information.

Corrected Learner Examples

I myself, having been educated the hard way, would specifically insist on them getting the best possible school education.

Having been taught the rights and the wrongs, we had an idea about everything.

Not having been given precise orders from the top, as usual he decided to work on his own initiative.

FORM: NON-FINITE PERFECT COMPLEMENTS

Can use non-finite '-ing' perfect forms of the passive as the complement of prepositions.

Corrected Learner Examples

They are expected to give the couple expensive presents as a reward for having been invited.

We caught the bus as if we were escaping from Saigon, and with the sensation of having been rewarded with one of the funniest holiday evenings of our lives.

Miss Kenton has just been employed as a housekeeper when she knocks on Stevens' pantry door and comes in without having been bidden to do so, bringing a vase of flowers.

Comments

Currently there are no correct uses in the negative in the CLC. More non-exam data will be needed to confirm its existence.

PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS COMMENT

Comments

There is no evidence of use of the passive form of the present perfect continuous in the CLC.

PAST

PAST CONTINUOUS

USE: UNDESIRED EVENTS

Can use the past continuous with 'always' or 'constantly' to talk about repeated events which are undesired or uncontrolled.

Corrected Learner Examples

They had been told that I was always getting into mischief and so had decided that, by buying me this diary, I would probably calm down a little and my behaviour would change.

I was constantly trying to balance my school life, extra-curricular activities, studies and personal life and was always running out of time.

PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS

FORM: QUESTIONS

Can use the question form.

Corrected Learner Examples

What had he been doing that morning?

So, why had she been waiting for so long a time?

Comments

There are no results for question forms at lower levels ? this may be due to the lack of spoken data.

PAST PERFECT SIMPLE

FORM/USE: AFTER 'IF ONLY', IMAGINED PAST

Can use the negative form after 'if only' to express regret.

Corrected Learner Examples

If only she had not changed, if only I had helped her, maybe we would still be best friends and I would not be sitting here, writing about her!

If only I hadn't been that rude!

FORM: FIXED EXPRESSIONS 'HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR', 'IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR'

Can use 'had it not been for' ? and 'if it hadn't been for' with a modal form for giving reasons.

Corrected Learner Examples

Had it not been for the fact that I had already read the article, I would have thought that this woman was at least thirty years old.

Another aspect of his emotional side is the fact that he is a very private person, and had it not been for this feature, he might have been able to react differently.

If it hadn't been for my lack of knowledge, skills, experience, and some other things like that, I wouldn't have been fired.

They had become very good friends and their friendship could have gone a little further if it hadn't been for Dan's character.

FORM: INVERSION WITH 'HARDLY ?WHEN'

Can invert the subject and affirmative auxiliary verb with 'hardly ? when' to talk about something that happened immediately before something else, in formal contexts.

Corrected Learner Examples

Hardly had she spoken these words when it dawned on the musician that life could not continue like that.

Hardly had he taken them from the counter when the monster vanished again.

PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

FORM/USE: INVERSION

Can invert the subject and affirmative auxiliary verb with 'not only ? but' as a focusing device.

► focus ► inversion

Corrected Learner Examples

Not only have I been wandering its streets ever since I was ten, but I have also come to know most of the main characters of its history in the past 50 years.

Not only have I been expecting it for the last few months but I will also give some support to my wife, who has been feeling a little nervous these last weeks.

PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE

USE: NEWSWORTHY

Can use the present perfect simple to introduce news.

Corrected Learner Examples

A new shopping centre has opened in our town.

Comments

There are very few examples of this use in the CLC data. It is more common in spoken usage or in news reporting followed by a past simple.

PRESENT

PRESENT CONTINUOUS

FORM/USE: WITH ADVERBS OF INDEFINITE FREQUENCY

Can use the present continuous with a wide range of adverbs of indefinite frequency, often to talk about surprising or undesirable situations or events.

Corrected Learner Examples

? we are persistently asking ourselves questions about where we are from and why we are here.

During life we are permanently learning and increasing our knowledge.

USE: POLITENESS

Can use the present continuous with verbs that are not usually used in this form to make statements and requests sound less direct.

Corrected Learner Examples

Considering the importance of the matter, I am asking for your financial support.

I'm asking permission to be excused from work for at least three days.

If we're wanting to make progress in prolonging the length of human lives, we equally have to be willing to spend time and make an effort...

PRONOUNS

POSSESSIVE

FORM/USE: WITH 'THAT ? OF'

Can use 'that ? of' + possessive pronouns to express an attitude about someone or something, often in humorous or sarcastic contexts.

Corrected Learner Examples

I could just imagine it, meeting her at her house, her mother asking me to take care of her between puffs of smoke and coughing fits in that hoarse voice of hers.

I kept silent when I was introduced to that new girlfriend of his.

You can park that precious jeep of yours.

I've been looking all over for that bright great-nephew of mine.

FORM: 'HERS' AS SUBJECT

Can use the possessive pronoun 'hers' with singular reference, in subject position.

Corrected Learner Examples

I put Sophie's pictures in my bag because hers was already packed.

[talking about gazpacho, a type of soup] I also recall my father saying to my mother that hers was not as good as my grandmother's.

She thought, as she sometimes did, that hers was a drab existence, but that she could do hardly anything to avoid it.

Comments

There is no evidence of 'hers' with plural reference in the CLC.

FORM: 'HIS'

Can use the possessive pronoun 'his', with singular and plural reference, in subject and object position, and complement positions after 'be' and after prepositions.

Corrected Learner Examples

Therefore, his was not a happy and normal childhood.

He was my confidant and I was his.

It was as if she had completely forgotten about the outlines of his face, his hair, all the features that were his.

Bob attracts many of his students to the teaching career, which is rather looked down on in a developing poor country like his.

FORM: 'THEIRS' AS SUBJECT

Can use the possessive pronoun 'theirs', with singular and plural reference, in subject position.

Corrected Learner Examples

Theirs is a relationship between two members of the privileged classes, who really don't care about the world around (or below) them.

Theirs had always been a love-and-hate relationship.

Yet, beautiful dreams never last long, and theirs lasted until she had to leave England.

When comparing the value and achievements of athletes with doctors or scientists, theirs begin to lack in significance.

FORM: OF 'THEIRS', 'HERS', 'HIS'

Can use the possessive pronouns 'hers', 'theirs' and 'his' after noun + 'of'.

Corrected Learner Examples

I was a great admirer of hers.

She asked some old friends of hers and she went to the church where the marriage was taking place.

My parents invited the father of a friend of theirs who spoke French.

Then he showed me a very old diary of his, just for me to have an idea of what to do.

He was able to build a very successful business which allowed him and his family to live very well and to travel (a passion of his).

QUANTITY

FORM/USE: 'MANY ARE THE' + NOUN, FOR FOCUS

Can form complex noun phrases using an inverted form 'Many' + 'are' + noun phrase, followed by a relative clause, as a focusing device. ► focus

Corrected Learner Examples

Many are the causes which have led us to a better and longer life.

Many are the examples of children who hate reading as they believe that it is pointless, but they are not able to judge from a young age.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

Many are the causes which have led us to a better and longer life.

Many are the examples of children who hate reading as they believe that it is pointless, but they are not able to judge from a young age.

FORM: 'A LOT' AND 'MUCH'

Can use 'a lot' and 'much' as a subject pronouns. ► focus

Corrected Learner Examples

A lot has changed since prehistoric times.

A lot depends on your background.

Much has been said about the need for nuclear weapons, although after the end of USSR and consequently the end of the cold war, this topic was almost forgotten.

Much has been said about quality time, but children don't understand this concept, they only know whether you are there or you are not.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

"A lot has changed since prehistoric times.

A lot depends on your background.

Much has been said about the need of nuclear weapons, although after the end of URSS and consequently the end of the cold war, this topic was almost forgotten.

Much has been said about quality time, but children don't understand this concept, they only know whether you are there or you are not.

Comments

Much is used in formal contexts, especially in the phrase 'Much has been said'. A lot is overwhelmingly taught as an adverb of frequency or quantity, or determiner as in a lot of.

RECIPROCAL

FORM: 'EACH ... THE OTHER(S)', AS OBJECT

Can use 'each' (+ noun or pronoun) as subject followed by 'the other(s)' as object, to refer to two related things. ► pronouns: quantity

Corrected Learner Examples

Each of them admires the other's intelligence.

As regards other aspects of my upbringing my parents taught me the importance of having all the family together, each one helping the others, each one loving the others.

Comments

This is a relatively low frequency form; here we see 'the other' being used as a pronoun and as a determiner (the other's intelligence).

REFLEXIVE

USE: DISCOURSE MARKERS

Can use 'as for myself' as a discourse marker to introduce or focus on a personal opinion.

Corrected Learner Examples

As for myself, as you can clearly see from my account of this musical event, music still means an awful lot to me, and most probably always will.

As for myself I like taking responsibilities.

As for myself, I grew up during the "internet era", the years when it was spreading to average peoples homes and therefore I can still remember life without it.

SUBJECT/ OBJECT

FORM: (SUBJECT) CLEFT CONSTRUCTIONS WITH 'IT'

Can form a cleft construction beginning with 'it' to emphasise the subject of the main clause. ► clauses

Corrected Learner Examples

It was my father who took all this away from me.

SUBSTITUTION, ONE, ONES, NONE

FORM/USE: 'THE ONE(S) THAT', FOR FOCUS

Can use 'The one(s) that' + clause in subject position, for focus. ► focus

Corrected Learner Examples

The one that impressed me a lot is the Chinese Lunar New Year Carnival which was held in Hong Kong in January this year.

The one that I think will have permanent results is the raising of the financial standard of all these countries.

The ones that he preferred were those where his imagination could fly away to other places and times, and where he could live the life of other people.

The ones that wear clothes made by their mothers never seem to ask for much attention.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

The one that impressed me a lot is the Chinese Lunar New Year Carnival which was held in Hong Kong in January this year.

The one that I think will have permanent results is the raise of the financial standard of all these countries.

The ones that he preferred were those where his imagination could fly away to other places and times, and where he could live the life of other people.

The ones that wear clothes made by their mothers never seem to ask much attention.

QUESTIONS

ALTERNATIVES

FORM: ELLIPSIS

Can form alternative questions with two or more clauses and ellipsis in the second or third clause.

Corrected Learner Examples

Is it not better to take the television away or stop them going to the cinema?

Do you enjoy reading, find it a waste of time or have an indifferent attitude to it?

Is he going to give it back to me or show it to everybody?

Uncorrected Learner Examples

Is it not better to take the television away or stop them going to the cinema?

Do you enjoy reading, find it a waste of time or have an indifferent attitude to it?

Is he going to give it back to me or show it to every body?

YES/NO

FORM/USE: NEGATIVE QUESTIONS WITH 'NOT', EMPHASIS

Can form negative questions with uncontracted 'not' to emphasise a point in an argument.

Corrected Learner Examples

Do we not want our children to be as happy as possible?

Is it not too easy to put the blame systematically on our education?

Is it not possible to have this, though maybe on a smaller scale, in our everyday living right where we spend the majority of our time on earth?

Are they not aware of the negative effects the use of cars has on cities?

Can it not, sometimes, be harmful to the world?

Uncorrected Learner Examples

Do we not want our children to be as happy as possible?

Is it not too easy to put the blame systematically on our education?

Is it not possible to have this, though maybe on a smaller scale, in our everyday living right where we spend the majority of our time on earth?

Are they not aware of the negative effects the use of cars have on cities?

Can it not, sometimes, be harmful to the world?

VERBS

PATTERNS_WITH TO AND -ING

FORM/USE: 'WOULD HATE' + 'TO'

Can use 'would hate' + 'to' infinitive, for emphasis.

Corrected Learner Examples

We in the student committee would hate to see all that space go to waste.

I am very much aware of my parents' mistakes and would hate to make the same ones.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

We in the student committee would hate to see all that space go to waist.

I am very much aware of my parent's mistakes and would hate to make the same ones.

Comments

While it might seem surprising to see this pattern at C2, note its use – it is being used to strengthen what is said in a formal authoritative voice.

PHRASAL-PREPOSITIONAL

FORM: VERB + DIRECT OBJECT + PARTICLE + PREPOSITION + OBJECT

Can use a direct object with some prepositional verbs as well as an object of the preposition.

Corrected Learner Examples

It is widely accepted that being a loyal and trusted individual means that the people around us can trust us or let us in on a secret.

Comments

Other phrasal prepositional verbs that can take a direct object after the verb are fix ? up with and put ? up to. There are no occurrences of these in the CLC. Other examples in the CLC that follow this form include put it down to chance/experience, take it out on someone but they are fixed expressions.