

## Worksheet: How can I improve my writing?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

| Write down three issues that came up in your writing. | For each issue, find two sentences in the corpus, which use the word(s)/phrase(s) you struggled with and write them down. | Describe how each word/phrase is used. Copy the example sentences that you think are most likely to help you. | Use the information that you gathered from the corpus to rewrite your sentences. |
|---|---|---|--|
| 1   |   |   |  |
| 2   |   |   |  |
| 3   |   |   |  |

**Example Worksheet: How can I improve my writing?**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

| Write down three major issues that came up in your writing.  | For each issue, find two sentences in the corpus, which use the word(s)/phrase(s) you struggled with and write them down.  | Describe how each word/phrase is used. Copy the example sentences that you think are most likely to help you.   | Use the information that you gathered from the corpus to rewrite your sentences.  |
|--|--|---|---|
| <p><b>1 <u>Confusion of <i>since</i> and <i>for</i></u></b></p> <p>I know her <i>since</i> a long time.</p> <p>She has been talking on the phone <i>for</i> dinner.</p>  | <p>I have been in the recruitment game <i>for a long time</i>.</p> <p>He had not bothered to eat or drink <i>since</i> dinner with Georgia the night before.</p> | <p><i>For</i> refers to a length of time/period of time.<br/><i>Since</i> refers to a specific point in time.</p> <p>Both are most often used with a verb in the present perfect or present perfect progressive.</p>                  | <p>I've known her <i>for</i> a long time.</p> <p>She has been talking on the phone <i>since</i> dinner.</p>   |
| <p><b>2 <u>Undidiomatic preposition use</u></b></p> <p>At Monday she went to the doctor.</p> <p>I visited her <i>at</i> Wednesday.</p>   | <p><i>On</i> Monday, he paid the back taxes.</p> <p>The fight occurred <i>on</i> Wednesday.</p>  | <p>The preposition used with days of the week is <i>on</i>. If the sentence starts with the weekday, there is often (though not always) a comma afterwards.</p>   | <p><i>On</i> Monday, she went to the doctor.</p> <p>I visited her <i>on</i> Wednesday.</p>  |
| <p><b>3 <u>Used to + gerund / infinitive</u></b></p> <p>Nowadays people don't have enough time to cook so they <i>get used to buy</i> pizza or hamburgers.</p> <p>Music <i>used to playing</i> a big role when I was fourteen.</p> | <p>Neighbors and acquaintances say the man and the woman <i>used to quarrel</i>.</p> <p>My mother is <i>used to getting</i> what she wants.</p>                  | <p><i>Used to + infinitive</i> refers to something that happened regularly or repeatedly in the past but now doesn't happen anymore.</p> <p><i>To be/get used + -ing</i> refers to habits or thought patterns, which are ongoing.</p> | <p>Nowadays people don't have enough time to cook so they <i>get used to buying</i> pizza or hamburgers.</p> <p>Music <i>used to play</i> a big role when I was fourteen.</p> |