**COMMON MISTAKES BY STUDENTS IN ENGLISH**

**MADE BY ITALIAN STUDENTS**

1. ***A me piace viaggiare.***

Wrong: To me I like to travel.

Right: I like to travel.

2. ***Giulia è la mia migliore amica.***

Wrong: Giulia is the my best friend.

Right: Giulia is my best friend.

3. ***Se studierai abbastanza, passerai l’esame.***

Wrong: If you will study enough, you will pass the exam.

Right: If you study enough, you will pass the exam.

4. ***Quando finirò i miei compiti, uscirò.***

Wrong: When I will finish my homework, I’ll go out.

Right: When I finish my homework, I’ll go out.

5. ***Appena arriverò a casa, ti telefonerò.***

Wrong: As soon as I will arrive home, I‘ll phone you.

Right: As soon as I arrive home, I’ll phone you.

6. ***Smise di lavorare alle 10.***

Wrong: He stopped of to work at 10.

Right: He stopped working/finished work at 10.

7. ***Non ho molti soldi.***

Wrong: I haven’t got many money.

Right: I haven’t got much money.

8. ***Debbo andare a casa, è tardi.***

Wrong: I must go to home, it’s late.

Right: I must go home, it’s late.

9. ***Faccio sempre lo stesso errore.***

Wrong: I always do the same mistake.

Right: I always make the same mistake.

10. ***Carlo non fa niente tutto il giorno.***

Wrong: Carlo doesn’t do nothing all day.

Right: Carlo doesn’t do anything all day.

Right: Carlo does nothing all day.

11. ***Marco non studia abbastanza.***

Wrong: Marco doesn’t studies enough.

Right: Marco doesn’t study enough.

12. ***Io dico sempre la verità.***

Wrong: I say always the truth.

Right: I always speak/tell the truth.

13. ***Non lo so. Chiedilo a mio padre.***

Wrong: I don’t know. Ask to my father.

Right: I don’t know. Ask my father.

14. ***Sara gli disse che lo amava moltissimo.***

Wrong: Sara said him that she loved him very much.

Right: Sara said told him that she loved him very much.

15. ***Non dire stupidaggini!***

Wrong: Don’t say nonsense!

Right: Don’t talk nonsense/rubbish!

16.  ***Un giorno, mi piacerebbe comprare una Ferrari.***

Wrong: A day, I would like to buy a Ferrari.

Right: One day, I would like to buy a Ferrari.

17. ***Maria sa suonare molto bene la chitarra.***

Wrong: Maria can play very well the guitar.

Right: Maria can play the guitar very well.

18. ***Abbiamo molto tempo.***

Wrong: We have much time.

Right: We have a lot of time/plenty of time.

19. ***Non so nuotare.***

Wrong: I can’t to swim.

Right: I can’t swim.

20. ***Ogni mattina debbo alzarmi molto presto.***

Wrong: Every morning I must to get up very early.

Right: Every morning I must get up very early.

21. ***Carlo è una persona onesta.***

Wrong: Carlo is a honest person.

Right: Carlo is honest/is an honest man.

22. ***Marco arrivò un’ora più tardi.***

Wrong: Marco arrived one hour more late.

Right: Marco arrived an hour later.

23. ***Secondo me, Julia Roberts è una donna affascinante.***

Wrong: According to me, Julia Roberts is a charming woman.

Right: In my opinion, Julia Roberts is a charming woman.

24. ***Secondo noi, Benigni è un grande attore.***

Wrong: According to us, Benigni is a great actor.

Right: In our opinion, Benigni is a great actor.

25.  ***Dopo un anno in Norvegia, mi sono abituato al tempo freddo.***

Wrong : After one year in Norway, I am accustomed myself to the cold weather.

Right: After one/a year in Norway, I am accustomed to the cold weather.

26. *L’attuale governo non durerà molto.*

Wrong: The actual government will not last long.

Right: The present government will not last long.

27. ***Attualmente sto lavorando per una ditta* *tedesca.***

Wrong: Actually I am working for a German firm.

Right: At present I am working for German firm / now./At the moment… .

28. ***Mia madre mi ha dato sempre buoni consigli.***

Wrong: My mother me has given always good advices.

Right: My mother has always given me good advice.

29. ***Gentili Signori, vorrei delle informazioni circa i vostri prodotti.***

Wrong: Dear Sirs, I would like some informations about your products.

Right: Dear Sirs, I would like some information about your products.

30. ***Queste sono buonissime notizie.***

Wrong: These are very good news.

Right: This/That is very good news.

31. ***La mia macchina è vecchia, ma non posso permettermene una nuova.***

Wrong: My car is old, but I can’t afford myself a new one.

Right: My car is very old, but I can’t afford a new one.

32. ***La notte scorsa andai a letto molto tardi.***

Wrong: The night last I went to bed very late.

Right: Last night I went to bed very late.

33. ***La prossima settimana andrò a Parigi.***

Wrong: The next week I will go to Paris.

Right: Next week I am going to Paris.

34. ***Fra un mese Carlo e Sara si sposeranno.***

Wrong: Between a month Carlo and Sara are going to marry.

Right: In a month Carlo and Sara are going to marry/in one month’s time.

35. ***Mary ha venti anni.***

Wrong: Mary has twenty years.

Right: Mary is twenty years old. / Mary is twenty.

36. ***Sono d’accordo con te.***

Wrong: I am agree with you.

Right: I agree with you.

37. ***Non sono d’accordo con te.***

Wrong: I am not of agree with you.

Right: I don’t agree with you.

38. ***Ad agosto andrò in Inghilterra.***

Wrong: At August I will go in England.

Right: In August I am going to England.

39. ***Appena arriverò a casa, ti telefonerò.***

Wrong: Just I will arrive home, I‘ll phone you.

Right: As soon as I arrive home, I’ll phone you.

40. ***La Francia è un bel paese.***

Wrong: The France is a beautiful country.

Right: France is a beautiful country.

41. ***Mi piace la musica classica.***

Wrong: I like the music classic.

Right: I like classical music.

42. ***Mi piace il calcio.***

Wrong: I like the football.

Right: I like football.

43. ***Mi piacciono tutti i tipi di animali.***

Wrong: I like all the kinds of animals.

Right: I like all kinds of animals.

44. ***Roberto sa giocare al tennis e al basket pure.***

Wrong: Roberto can play tennis and basket-ball also.

Right: Roberto can play tennis and basket-ball too.

45. ***Ho lavorato a Londra per un mese e mezzo.***

Wrong: I have worked in London for one month and half.

Right: I have worked in London for one and a half months.

46. ***Nelle riviste italiane, in ogni annuncio c’è una foto di una bella donna.***

Wrong: In Italian magazines, in every announcement there is a picture of a beautiful woman.

Right: In Italian magazines, in every advertisement there is a picture of a beautiful woman.

47. ***Mary era seduta su una comoda poltrona.***

Wrong: Mary was sitting on a comfortable armchair.

Right: Mary was sitting in a comfortable armchair.

48. ***Al mio arrivo a Londra stava piovendo.***

Wrong: At my arrival at London it was raining.

Right: On my arrival in London, it was raining.

49. ***La mia ragazza arrivò a Londra alle 16.***

Wrong: My girlfriend arrived at London at 16 pm.

Right: My girlfriend arrived in London at 16 hundred (hours)/ 4 pm.

50. ***Non ti comportare come un bambino.***

Wrong: Don’t behave as a child.

Right: Don’t behave like a child.

51. ***Tom chiese al cameriere di portargli una bottiglia di birra.***

Wrong: Tom asked to the waiter to bring him a bottle of beer.

Right: Tom asked the waiter to bring him a bottle of beer.

52. ***Sono nato il 4 luglio 1970.***

Wrong: I am born the four July 1970.

Right: I was born on the fourth of July 1970.

53. *Ogni mattina mi alzo alle sette.*

Wrong: Every morning I get up at the seven o’clock.

Right: Every morning I get up at seven o’clock.

54. ***In media bevo quattro caffè al giorno.***

Wrong: In average I drink four coffee a day.

Right: On average I drink four coffees a day.

55. ***Teresa parla inglese molto male.***

Wrong: Teresa speaks English very bad.

Right: Teresa speaks English very badly.

56. ***E’ molto tardi, devo andare.***

Wrong: Is very late, I must go.

Right: It is very late, I must go.

57.  ***La macchina era così piccola che non potemmo mettere tutti i nostri bagagli nel cofano.***

Wrong: The car was so small that we couldn’t put all our luggages in the trunk.

Right: The car was so small that we couldn’t put all our luggage/baggage in the trunk.

58. ***E’ ora di pranzo.***

Wrong: Is hour for lunch.

Right: It is time for lunch.

59. ***La scuola comincia all’inizio di settembre.***

Wrong: School starts at the beginning of September.

Right: School begins/opens at the beginning of September.

60. ***Gianni era seduto dietro di me.***

Wrong: Gianni was sitting behind of me.

Right: Gianni was sitting behind me.

61. ***Sei lì da solo?***

Wrong: Are you there only?

Right: Are you there alone?

62. ***Un gran numero di persone sta smettendo di fumare.***

Wrong: A big number of people are stopping of/to smoke.

Right: A large number of people are quitting/giving up smoking.

63. *I****l film era così noioso che mi addormentai.***

Wrong: The film was so bored that I fell asleep.

Right: The film was so boring that I fell asleep.

64. ***Puoi prestarmi 100 euro?***

Wrong: Can you borrow me a hundred euros?

Right: Can you lend me a hundred euros?

65. ***Di solito faccio colazione alle otto.***

Wrong: I usually do breakfast at eight o’clock.

Right: I usually have breakfast at eight o’clock.

66. ***Non so nuotare*.**

Wrong: I can not swim.

Right: I cannot / I don’t know how to swim.

67. ***Vado a scuola con l’autobus.***

Wrong: I go to school with the bus.

Right: I go to school by bus, by car, by train, on foot

68. ***Ad alcune persone piace la musica classica, altre preferiscono la musica moderna.***

Wrong: To some people like classic music, other prefer modern music.

Right: Some people like classical music, others prefer modern music.

69. *I genitori di Bill non sono molto comprensivi.*

Wrong: Bill’s parents are not very comprehensive.

Right Bill’s parents are not very understanding.

70. ***Mia moglie è una buona cuoca.***

Wrong: My wife is a good cooker.

Right: My wife is a good cook. (cooker = forno + fornelli)

71. ***Il terremoto causò molti danni.***

Wrong: The earthquake caused lots of damages.

Right: The earthquake caused a lot of damage.

72. ***Penso che dovremmo tornare a casa, si sta facendo tardi.***

Wrong: I think we should go back home, it is making late.

Right: I think we should go (back) home, it is becoming/getting late.

73. ***Tutta la sua vita ha sognato di guidare una Ferrari.***

Wrong: All his life he has dreamt of to drive a Ferrari.

Right: All his life he has dreamt of driving a Ferrari

74. ***Ricordami che domani ho un appuntamento col dentista.***

Wrong: Remember me that tomorrow I have an appointment with the dentist.

Right: Remind me that tomorrow I have an appointment with the dentist.

75. ***Mary è fidanzata con un simpatico giovane di Firenze.***

Wrong: Mary is engaged with a nice young man from Florence.

Right: Mary is engaged to a nice young man from Florence.

76. ***Marco è sposato con un’insegnate.***

Wrong: Marco is married with a school teacher.

Right: Marco is married to a school teacher.

77. ***E’ abbastanza buono.***

Wrong: It is enough good.

Right: It is good enough / It is fairly good.

78. ***A lui piace passare le serate guardando la televisione.***

Wrong: He enjoys to spend his evenings looking the television.

Right: He enjoys spending his evenings watching television.

79. ***Elena entrò in casa senza bussare alla porta.***

Wrong: Elena entered in house without knocking at the door.

Right: Elena entered the house without knocking at the door.

80. ***Sono molto bravo in matematica.***

Wrong: I am very good in mathematics.

Right: I am very good at mathematics/maths.

81. ***Suo padre non è d’accordo.***

Wrong: His/Her father isn’t agree.

Right: His/Her father doesn’t agree.

82. ***Se la tua stanza non è in ordine per le 8, non puoi uscire.***

Wrong: If your room isn’t in order for 8 o’clock, you can’t go out.

Right: If your room isn’t in order by 8 o’clock, you can’t go out.

83.  ***Marco non vuole uscire, preferisce restare in casa.***

Wrong: Marco doesn’t want to go out, he prefers to rest in house.

Right: Marco doesn’t want to go out, he prefers to stay at home.

84. ***Il tempo è bello; perché non andiamo al parco?***

Wrong: The time is fine; why don’t we go to the park?

Right: The weather is fine, why don’t we go to the park?

85. ***Qual è il tuo sport preferito, tennis o calcio?***

Wrong: What is your preferred sport, tennis or football?

Right: Which is your favourite sport, tennis or football?

86. ***Ho fretta.***

Wrong: I have hurry/fast.

Right: I am in a hurry/rush.

87. ***Aspettami!***

Wrong: Wait me!

Right: Wait for me!

88. ***Non mi piace alzarmi presto***

Wrong: I don’t like to get up soon.

Right: I don’t like to get up early.

89. ***Ho quasi ventidue anni***

Wrong: I have almost twenty-two years.

Right: I am almost twenty-two years old.

90. ***Il mio ragazzo è molto alto.***

Wrong: My boyfriend is very high.

Right: My boyfriend is very tall.

91. ***Qualcuno ha rubato il suo cellulare.***

Wrong: Someone has robbed his/her cell phone.

Right: Someone has stolen his/her cell phone.

92. ***Questo orologio costa solo 100 euro.***

Wrong: This watch costs alone a hundred euros.

Right: This watch costs only a hundred euros.

93. ***I miei compiti di francese sono molto difficili.***

Wrong: My French homework are very difficult.

Right: My French homework is very difficult.

94. ***Non mi piacciono le faccende di casa perché sono noiose.***

Wrong: I don’t like houseworks because they are boring.

Right: I don’t like housework because it is boring.

95. ***Quanti figli hai?***

Wrong: How many sons have you got?

Right: How many children do you have?

96. ***Ho mal di testa.***

Wrong: I have headache.

Right: I have a headache.

97. ***Amo l’opera.***

Wrong: I love the opera.

Right: I love opera.

98. *Non mi importa lavorare anche la domenica.*

Wrong: I don’t mind to work on Sunday too.

Right: I don’t mind working on Sundays too.

99. - ***Hai fame? - Non molta.***

Wrong: Are you hungry? - Not much.

Right: Are you hungry? - Not very.

100. ***La polizia inglese è molto efficiente.***

Wrong: English police is very efficient.

Right: English police are very efficient.

101. ***Carla è innamorata di Giulio.***

Wrong: Carla is in love of Giulio.

Right: Carla is in love with Giulio.

102. *Giovanni è ingegnere.*

Wrong: Giovanni is/is the engineer.

Righ: Giovanni is an engineer.

103. ***Quando ero bambino abitammo per un anno a Roma.***

Wrong: When I was a child we lived for a year in Rome.

Right: When I was a child we lived in Rome for a year.

104. ***Ieri ho fatto un esame.***

Wrong: Yesterday I have made an exam.

Right: Yesterday I did/took/sat an exam.

105. ***Mi dispiace, ma non so dov’è.***

Wrong: I’m sorry, but don’t know where is it.

Right: I’m sorry, but I don’t know where it is.

106. ***Karl accettò di fare il lavoro perché la paga era buona.***

Wrong: Karl accepted to do the work because the pay was good.

Right: Karl agreed to do the work because the pay was good.

107. ***Fece una buona cena, poi /e dopo andò a letto***

Wrong: He had a good dinner, (and) after he went to bed.

Right: **He had a good dinner, then he went to bed.**

108. ***E’ permesso fumare qui?***

Wrong: Is it allowed/permitted to smoke in here?

Right: Am I allowed to smoke in here? / Is smoking permitted here?

109. ***Mr. Golding ha una gran quantità di libri antichi.***

Wrong: Mr. Golding has a big quantity of antique books.

Right: Mr. Golding has a lot of antique books.

110. ***Carla suona il pianoforte, come sua madre.***

Wrong: Carla plays the piano, as her mother.

Right: Carla plays the piano, like her mother.

111. ***Erica è più carina di Giovanna.***

Wrong: Erica is more pretty of Giovanna.

Right: Erica is prettier than Giovanna.

112. ***In alcune città come Roma, Firenze e Venezia, ci sono sempre molti turisti.***

Wrong: In some cities as Rome, Florence and Venice, there are always many tourists.

Right: In some cities such as Rome, Florence and Venice, there are always many tourists.

113. ***Ieri ho assistito ad un’interessante riunione politica.***

Wrong: Yesterday I assisted to an interesting political meeting.

Right: Yesterday I attended an interesting political meeting.

114. ***Quando posso, evito di lavorare la domenica.***

Wrong: When I can, I avoid to work on Sunday.

Right: When I can, I avoid working on Sunday.

115. ***Stava seduta accanto a me.***

Wrong: She was sitting besides me.

Right: She was sitting beside me/next to me.

116. ***Sei nato a Firenze?***

Wrong: Are you born in Florence?

Right: Were you born in Florence.?

117. ***Bob è molto triste, non può trovare un lavoro.***

Wrong: Bob is very sad, he can’t find a work.

Right: Bob is very sad, he can’t find a job.

118. ***Puoi portarmi un bicchiere d’acqua, per piacere.***

Wrong: Can you take me a glass of water, please?

Right: Can you bring me a glass of water, please?

119. ***Prima di imbarcare controllarono tutte le nostre valigie.***

Wrong: Before boarding they controlled all our suitcases/luggages.

Right: Before boarding they checked all our suitcases/luggage.

120. ***La vita è dura.***

Wrong: The life is hard.

Right: Life is hard.

121. ***Divise la torta in cinque parti.***

Wrong: He/She divided the cake in five parts.

Right: He/She divided the cake into five parts.

122. ***Mia sorella parla un buon inglese.***

Wrong: My sister speaks a good English.

Right: My sister speaks good English.

123. ***Non capisco, potresti spiegarmelo di nuovo?***

Wrong: I don’t understand; could you explain me again?

Right: I don’t understand; could you explain it to me again?

124. ***E’ la prima volta che vedo un incontro di baseball.***

Wrong: It is the first time that I see a baseball game.

Right: It is the first time I have seen a baseball game.

125. ***Abitiamo al quarto piano.***

Wrong: We live at the fourth floor.

Right: We live on the fourth floor.

126. N**on verrò perche non voglio.**

Wrong: I will not come because I don’t want.

Right: I will not come because I don’t want to. / I’m not going (to come) because I don’t want to.

127. **Di chi è questo?**

Wrong: Of who is this?

Right: Whose is this?

128. **Che genere di libri leggi?**

Wrong: What gender of books do you read?

Right: What type of/kind of/sort of books do you read?

129. **Non lo farei se fossi (in) te!**

Wrong: I would not do it if I was/would be you!

Right: I would not do it/that if I were you!

130. **Sono belle scarpe, ma non hanno il mio numero.**

Wrong: They are beautiful shoes, but not have my number.

Right: They are beautiful shoes, but they don’t have my size.

131. **Quando va a Roma sta da sua zia.**

Wrong: When she/he goes to Rome he/she is at his/her Aunt.

Right: When he/she goes to Rome he/she stays at his/her Aunt’s.

132. **Succede ogni tanto che dimentico le cose.**

Wrong: It happens every often that I forget the things.

Right: Every so often I forget things/I forget things every so often.

133. **Avevi ragione tu!**

Wrong: You had reason!

Right: You were **right**!

134. **A New York tutto può succedere!**

Wrong: At New York everything can happen!

Right: In New York anything can happen!

133. **Il calcio non mi interesse.**

Wrong: The football does not interest me.

Right: I am not interested in football.

134. **Mi interesse di finanza.**

Wrong: I am interested of finance.

Right: My business is finance./ My affairs are in finance./ My job is in…/ I work in …..

135. **Sono nei guai!**

Wrong: I am in the problems!

Right: I am in trouble!

136. **E’ una bella mostra.**

Wrong: She is a beautiful monster.

Right: It is a lovely exhibition.

137. **Ti devo dare atto…**

Wrong: I must give you the act…

Right: I have to hand it to you…

138. **E’ inutile discutere ancora.**

Wrong: It is useless to discuss again.

Right: It is useless/pointless to continue/continuing the discussion.

139. **Hai già finite?**

Wrong: Have you yet finished?

Right: Have you already finished/already?

140. **Non sono ancora pronto.**

Wrong: I am not already ready.

Right: I am not finished yet.

141. **Devi compilare la domanda.**

Wrong: You must compile the demand.

Right: You must fill in/complete the form.

142. **Il paese è disabitato.**

Wrong: The country is not habitated.

Right: The village/town is uninhabited.

143. **Ha una villa fuori paese.**

Wrong: He/She has a villa out the country.

Right: He/She has a villa outside the town/village. **Or** : He/she has a villa in the countryside.

144. **Che bella giornata!**

Wrong: What a beautiful day!

Right: What a lovely/splendid/marvellous day!

145. **Puoi scegliere qualsiasi cosa vuoi!**

Wrong: You can choose everything you want!

Right: You can choose anything (you want/like)!

146. **Lui sa fare tutto.**

Wrong: He knows to do everything!

Right: He knows how to do everything!

**Or**: He can do anything!

147. **Il negozio sarà chiuso ormai.**

Wrong: The shop will close at this time.

Right: By now/The shop will be closed / by now.

**Allora? Com’è andata/o?**

**Well?/So? How did it go?**