



Writing Correct Sentences in a Foreign Language

KS2 MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Ages 9-12 ⌚ 3 min read

What Makes a Sentence Correct?

Writing sentences correctly in a foreign language is like learning a new set of rules for building with blocks. Just as English has **grammar rules** about where words go and how they should look, every language has its own special system. When you write in **French**, **Spanish**, **German**, or **Mandarin**, you need to follow that language's rules to make sentences that other people can understand.

Think of it like learning a new game—English is one game with certain rules, but when you play Spanish, the rules change. You have to learn the new rules to play well.

Learn the Grammar Building Blocks

Every language is made up of **parts of speech**: nouns (things), verbs (actions), adjectives (describing words), and more. In English, we usually say "the big red ball," but in **Spanish**, you might say "la pelota roja grande" (the ball red big). The order changes! Start by learning the basic rules of the language you're studying. This includes how **verb conjugation** works—how verbs change depending on who is doing the action. For example, "I am" and "he is" are different.

Master Word Order

Different languages arrange words differently. **English** follows a Subject-Verb-Object pattern: "I eat an apple." But **German** often puts the verb at the end of a sentence. Understanding your language's typical word order is crucial for writing correctly. Pay attention to where adjectives go, how to make questions, and how negatives work.

Think of it like cooking a recipe—each language is like a different recipe where you add ingredients in a different order, but they still make something delicious if you follow the instructions.

Practice and Get Feedback

Writing correctly takes **practice**. Start with simple sentences and gradually make them longer. Write about your day, your family, or your hobbies. Use **online tools** and **language apps** to check your work. Ask teachers, language exchange partners, or native speakers to correct your mistakes. Each mistake you make is a chance to learn something new. Keep a notebook of tricky rules and review them regularly. Remember: even native speakers sometimes make mistakes, so don't be afraid to try!