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Chapter 3: Lexicogrammar

1. The weather forecast (**compound**) said that today will snow, so Betsy grabbed her snow boots and put on (**prepositional phrase**) her warmest coat. Once Betsy stepped outside, she noticed (**transitive adjective**) that it was raining instead but was still very cold. Betsy was unsure (**change-of-state verb**) whether or not to change to a raincoat (**compound**) and rain boots or wear warm snow clothes.
2. *Why are the following sentences ungrammatical?*
 - a. ***The burglar lurked.** While the sentence seems to be complete, the sentence is ungrammatical because the sentence lacks a prepositional phrase. The burglar lurked but did not specify either “around” or “on” or “in” anything.
 - b. ***It fascinated the alarm clock.** The use of the pronoun “it” should always follow the use of a noun. In other words, a pronoun has to be properly linked to a noun. At the same time, the sentence is implying that whatever “it” is, is entertaining the alarm clock. The sentence is personifying the alarm clock to be fascinated by whatever “it” is.
 - c. ***I don’t like these book.** The word “these” seems to sound similar to “this” and this sentence seems to be written by someone who might have difficulty understanding the difference between the two words (Homophony).
3. *If your students produce the following sentences, what norms of Standard English have they not followed?*
 - a. ***I got many informations from the book.** Students might be confused about the word “many” since it is plural and they might have learned a lot from the book. In

this sentence, the word “information” seems to be the subject/noun and therefore adding an “s” at the end of it is grammatically incorrect.

b. *In my point of view, I think that’s a bad idea. In this case, I think that the student might have been translating the sentence directly from another language. The point of view can’t be “in” but rather “from” since the point of view is originating from the person/subject/noun.

c. ?They are remodeling the streets. This might have meant to be posed as a question. By adding the question mark at the beginning of the sentence, the statement looks more like a fact with a misplaced question mark. The placement of the question mark also changes the tone of the sentence.

d. *People living in the United States use crackerfires on the Fourth of July. The student puts together two words that go separately, specifically if they are written in the order the student wrote them in. If the student would have written, “firecrackers” then the compound word is grammatically correct and would have been able to use it in the sentence. In the order the student wrote it in, however, there is a different meaning to the word that does not correlate with the theme of the sentence.