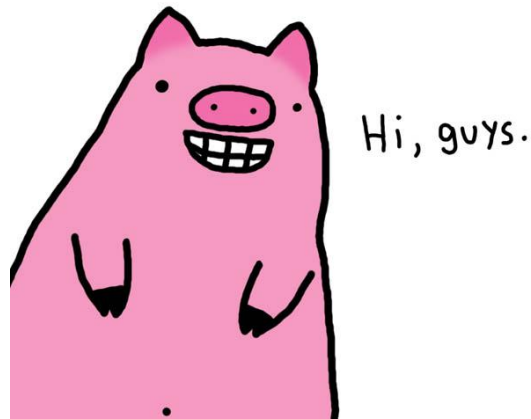




Tricks of the Trade

Tip #1: Using spell check
without rereading your paper.





Spell check is a great tool... but it's not perfect.

- If a word in a document is really a word, spell check won't tell you that it is the *wrong* word.
- For example, some of you have written the word "are" when what you mean is "our". Spell check doesn't catch that kind of mistake!





According to spell check, the paragraphs below are perfect:

“Eye don’t won’t too go to sleep,” wined little Alfred too his sister. “Eye want too stay up and wash TV with ewe.”

“Eye want too sit hear on the couch with my boyfriend,” grumbled Lauren. “Wee want to bee alone.”

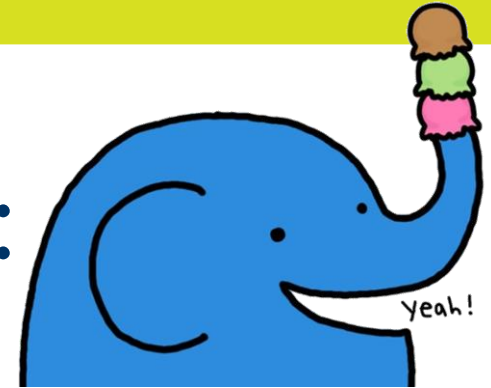
“Y?” asked Alfred.

Lauren side. “Ewe err to young too under stand.”

“Know I’m knot!” cried Alfred. “I am for!” He climbed up and wedged himself between Lauren and her boyfriend. “Sea? I’m a big buoy. Thistle be fun!”



Ah, this is much better:



“I don’t want to go to sleep,” whined little Alfred to his sister. “I want to stay up and watch TV with you.”

“I want to sit here on the couch with my boyfriend,” grumbled Lauren. “We want to be alone.”

“Why?” asked Alfred.

Lauren sighed. “You are too young to understand.”

“No I’m not!” cried Alfred. “I am four!” He climbed up and wedged himself between Lauren and her boyfriend. “See? I’m a big boy. This will be fun!”



See if you can correct the following:

Are trip was supposed to be a wonderful vacation four us, but when wee got off the bus at Shady Beach, we couldn't do anything but stair. I started to wonder, "Wear our we?" because the beach looked nothing like the won in the brochure.

"Where's are beautiful beech?" asked my brother Carlos.

"Wear's are palm trees?" asked my mom.

"Wear are the cute guise?" asked my sister Judy.

"Wear is the travel agent?" fumed my father. "Weight until I get my hands on hymn!"

"Calm down, deer," said Mom. "There is probably a perfectly good explanation for are problem."

"Yes. Are travel agent is a crook!" yelled Dad.

Dad doesn't take disappointment reel well.



Ta da!



Our trip was supposed to be a wonderful vacation for us, but when we got off the bus at Shady Beach, we couldn't do anything but stare. I started to wonder, "Where are we?" because the beach looked nothing like the one in the brochure.

"Where's our beautiful beach?" asked my brother Carlos.

"Where's our palm trees?" asked my mom.

"Where are the cute guys?" asked my sister Judy.

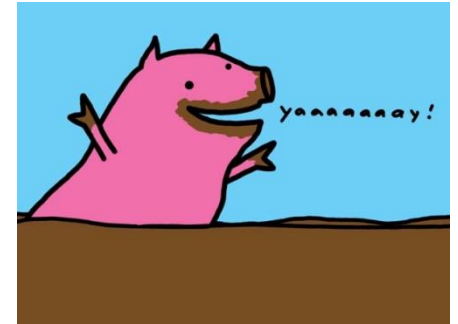
"Where is the travel agent?" fumed my father. "Wait until I get my hands on him!"

"Calm down, dear," said Mom. "There is probably a perfectly good explanation for our problem."

"Yes. Our travel agent is a crook!" yelled Dad.

Dad doesn't take disappointment real well.

So, what's the point?



- Always, always, always proofread!
- Crack open a dictionary if you're not sure how to spell a word
- www.dictionary.com
- Send your teacher an email and ask if you're stuck on anything, even if it's small.