

Writing correction guidelines

Writing is perhaps one of the most difficult skills for students to master. The writer must take many things into consideration: handwriting, spelling, punctuation, lexis, text cohesion and coherence, paragraphing, purpose, audience and syntax. For this reason, teachers should pay particular attention to this skill and help students build up their writing skills by integrating all four skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing). Traditionally, writing is a task which students do on their own. An alternative way to deal with writing is as a cooperative activity. Writing in pairs or groups can be highly motivating for students and incorporates research, discussion and peer evaluation. Finally, students should be familiarised with a correction code, like the one suggested below, which will help them identify and correct mistakes.

Writing correction code

WW: wrong word	A: article
WF: wrong form	WO: word order
Sp: spelling	^: something missing
P: punctuation	Pr: preposition
T: tense	