

One of **next five** of the **top ten** errors you must not make

Sat and sitting

Get it right!



Grammatical rules

- The grammatical rules which tell you when to use *sat* and when to use *sitting* are complicated.
- So we're not going to bother with them now. Instead we've got a much simpler method of getting *sat* and *sitting* right.
- The method is just the same as with *stood* and *standing*.

The short-cut method

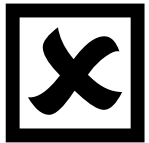
Replace the *sat/sitting* word you are not sure about with a regular verb, e.g. *yawned/yawning*.

If *walking* fits, use *sitting*

If *walked* fits, use *sat*

Example 1

He was just _____ there, minding his own business.



If **yawned** fits, use **sat**

He was just yawned there minding his own business.



If **yawning** fits, use **sitting**

He was just yawning there minding his own business.

He was just **sitting** there, minding his own business.

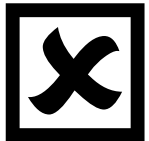
Example 2

The toddler had _____ in an enormous puddle.



If **yawned** fits, use **sat**

The toddler had yawned in an enormous puddle.



If **yawning** fits, use **sitting**

The toddler had yawning in an enormous puddle.

The toddler had **sat** in an enormous puddle.