

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

# *Was and were*

*Get it right!*



# The pronouns

- I was
  - You were
  - He was
  - She was
  - It was
  - We were
  - They were
- It is vital you understand that this is **Standard English**. This is what you will be tested on in the exam
  - Yorkshire dialect does this in a different way. You have to know when it is appropriate to use Yorkshire dialect grammar or Standard English

# Singular and plural nouns

- The cat was...
- The cats were...
- If the noun is singular, use **was**. If the noun is plural, use **were**

But:

- The crowd was...
- The flock of sheep was...
- Watch out for collective nouns (names for groups of things)
- There is only one crowd
- There is only one flock

# There...

- There was a cat on the roof
- There were cats on the roof
- When using **There was** or **There were**, look at what comes next and follow the “singular or plural?” rule