Tips in Error spotting

1. Certain nouns being a singular form represent plurality and therefore, takes a plural verb in a sentence.
Example: police, clergy, people, peasantry, Cattle.
- People has left (Incorrect)
- People have left (Correct)

2. Certain nouns take the plural verb because of their plural form.
Example: Clothes, Scissors, trousers, amends, spectacles, thanks.
- The spectacles is missing. (Incorrect)
- The spectacles are missing. (Correct)

3. When a noun denoting weight, number, money, length or measure is following a number, the nouns form does not change as long as another noun or pronoun follows it.
Example: Million, pair, meter, year, dozen.
- This is a 9-meters scale. (Incorrect)
- This is a 9-meter scale. (Correct)

4. When the pronoun 'one' is used, it should be maintained throughout the whole sentence.
- One must help his siblings. (Incorrect)
- One must help one's siblings. (Correct)

5. For living people 'whose' is generally used and for things that are non-living 'which' is used.
- Which phone is kept on charging? (Incorrect)
- Whose phone is kept on charging? (Correct)

6. 'Fewer' is used for denoting number while 'Less' is used for denoting quantity.
- No less than thirty dogs were (Incorrect)
- No fewer than thirty dogs were (Correct)

7. Sentences are always opposite to question tags, for example, if the question tag is positive then the sentence is negative and vice versa.
- It's a bit early, is it? (Incorrect)
- It's a bit early, isn't it? (Correct)

8. Instead of 'who' or 'which', the relative pronoun 'that' is used after adjectives in the superlative degree.
- These are the best which he could get. (Incorrect)
- These are the best that he could get. (Correct)

9. 'as' is used both before and after the adjective to show equality.
- I can write as fast, if not faster than her. (Incorrect)
- I can write as fast as, if not faster than her. (Correct)

10. 'Though' is always followed by 'yet' in a sentence and not by 'but'.
Thus,
- Though he is rich but he is kind. (Incorrect)
- Though he is rich, yet he is kind. (Correct)

11. 'not' is never used with 'unless' as 'unless' expresses a condition that is always used in the negative sense.
Thus,
- Unless you do not pay the fine, you will not be excused. (Incorrect)
- Unless you pay the fine, you will not be excused. (Correct)

12. 'while' implies a time duration of doing something and 'When' denotes a general sense.
Thus,
- When learning how to box, the technique is of utmost importance. (Incorrect)
- While learning how to box, the technique is of utmost importance. (Correct)