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Language Gaffes

Reading the same old grammatically-correct resume can be a real yawner. "Language Gaffes" freshen up the workmanlike prose of the resume. As it turns out, some resumes have humorous connotations and double meanings we do not intend. Most, but by no means all, of these funny language missteps are from folks who learned English as a second language. Now let's be clear: there's nothing funny about someone who takes on the challenge of mastering a new language and culture. That's why this category is a little less cautionary than the other sections in this book. If you're a foreign national, botching up your English a bit is not likely to cost you a job - unless you're applying to be a copy editor at *The New York Times*. So what you see below is not what we consider bad. It's more of an example of language nuances gone awry, with unintended humorous consequences.



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This email was in response to a career newsletter Rachel sent out:

Rachel,

I enjoyed the wonderful interview you mailed us this week and keep getting more and more enlightened by your tit bits!

Also let me know if position #SW02493 would work for me - I am very interested.

Thank you!

Mahendra

• • •

BA in Biology; Passed out
in the year of 1998



Educational Qualification: Master Degree in Computer Applications (M.C.A) with First class (71%) from Numi Memorial College, Sumahara University, Bathri, passed out in the year of 1998. Bachelor Degree in Biology (B.Sc) with First class (69%) from Numi Memorial College, Sumahara University, Bathri, passed out in the year of 1995.

...

This was scrawled across the top of a cover letter written in French, from a job seeker applying for jobs in the U.S.:

Hi! I was very happy to receive news from your company and I join my Curriculum Vitae to this reply. I'm sorry that it is in French.

• • •

Dear Sir,

My past experience, and talks with friends gives me a feeling that I am perhaps the right man to get into ERP.

Please spare a few minutes to peep into my papers in the attachment and give me your feedback.

Hari

• • •

hello sir,

myself Manuel on line registered on 11-05-99

myself had attached my resume

you may kindly process it.

yourself and me will have constant touch with each other.

good day,

Manuel

• • •

A month later, I had pulled off enough impossible miracles that I was given cart-blank.

• • •



When I saw your ad in the paper, my eyeballs literally fell out!

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Language Gaffes

Dear Mr. Jon Reed,

I'm a mechanical engineer with over 2 years of functional experience in Production Planning. I have also undergone training in Production Planning modules. I have gone through your pages in the net. I am really fascinated by you.

I need to get some real time experience, to come up in this field and I don't mind jumping jobs too, at least initially.

Is it possible for me.

Kindly clarify me.

Sincerely,

Jai Xua

• • •

This gentleman emailed his resume, received our company's auto-acknowledgement, and sent this baffling response. We hope his troubles are behind him:

Hi Rachel...

yes thank you for response... to help you... I qualify for engineering digital line (all kind) and telecomm wiring too... all kind...

All projects for cable (route) on poles lines etc.

Like: Lineman... foreman... contracts inspector...

I will tell you rachel Honestly... I'm starting to loose some (gaz)... also I thing gone loose my House... not a gift for my wife and kids...

I'm available from Canada to Japan... anywhere... and I will go alone... no problems with my wife... so I don't know...

Thank you to read me... HUM... Hum

Jacque Cretienne.....

• • •

Extra Circular Activities

• • •

I'm a workhorse who doesn't
wear horse-blinkers



Excellent communication skills are an added advantage. Additional info: Availability and taking on challenging projects most wud not take it up and play safe. A fast learner who can pick up new concepts fast enuf to implement for a project requirement. Highly dynamic and a workhorse who DOESNT work wearing horse-blinkers! THINKS SMART.

...

Language Gaffes

Subject: A baseless Programmer with the simple secret knowledge in Programming, ready & energetic to become a striving part of a team with special goals.

...

I am a “people person”, I don't like to alone.

...

To: Jobs

Subject: Compossor Offer

Hi

My name is Francesco Rodriguez and I have experience in videogames industry like compossor

if you are interested and want a demo music, dont doubt to contact to me.

regards

Francesco P. Rodriguez

...

To: Software Hiring Desk

RE: Crack Russian Software Programming Team Available Now!

...

A good moral builder

...