

CORRECTING YOURSELF

B2-C1 | Functional language for revising a point precisely

1 Useful phrase patterns

Use these phrases to correct an earlier statement accurately and tactfully.

Let me correct that.

Let me correct that; the figure is higher.

I should clarify ...

I should clarify that this is a draft.

To be more precise, ...

To be more precise, it starts at 9.30.

That is not quite right.

That is not quite right; the date changed.

I misspoke.

I misspoke. It was last year.

What I meant to say was ...

What I meant to say was that we agreed.

I need to revise that.

I need to revise that estimate.

Rather than ..., I should say ...

Rather than Friday, I should say Thursday.

2 Respond to the situations

Write one precise correction for each situation. Try to use a range of phrases.

1. You say sales rose by 5%, but the report shows 8%.

2. You call a proposal final, but it is only a draft.

3. You say a presentation starts at 9 a.m., but it starts at 9.30.

4. You give an old deadline that has changed.

5. You say a project started this year, but it started last year.

6. You say the team rejected an idea, but they agreed to test it.

7. You estimate a project will cost \$10,000, but new data shows \$12,000.

8. You say a meeting is on Friday, but it is on Thursday.

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B2-C1 | Suggested answers

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Possible answers

These are examples only. Other accurate and suitable responses are also correct.

Encourage students to use a range of phrase patterns from page 1.

1. Let me correct that; sales rose by 8%, not 5%.

2. I should clarify that the proposal is still a draft.

3. To be more precise, the presentation begins at 9.30.

4. That's not quite right; the deadline has changed.

5. I misspoke. The project began last year.

6. What I meant to say was that the team agreed to test the idea.

7. I need to revise that estimate to \$12,000.

8. Rather than Friday, I should say the meeting is on Thursday.
