**Common Error: Mixed Construction**

Mixed construction occurs when a sentence starts with one structure but changes to another, different structure.

There are multiple ways to correct mixed construction. For example, you can choose one of the structures, and complete it correctly.

**Typical error:** It is now well known when trees talk to each other through highly developed networks.

^ There are two separate ideas that began to develop here. One is introducing a fact that is now well known. The second is making a statement about something that happens when trees talk to each other.

**If the writer wishes to continue with the first idea, then this is correct:** It is now well known . . . that trees talk to each other through highly developed networks.

**Or, if they prefer to continue with the second idea, then this is correct:** When trees talk to each other through highly developed networks, . . . they pass messages about their distress.

**Perhaps the thought was unfinished:** It is now well known that . . . trees talk to each other through highly developed networks . . . to pass messages about their distress.

**Or:** It is now well known that, . . . when trees talk to each other through highly developed networks, . . . they pass messages about their distress.