Shifts

Writing should be consistent in tense, voice, mood, person, and number.

Shifts in Tense
She makes a bold proclamation and then rushed down the stairs. The teacher told the students they would not pass the course unless they complete all of their assignments.

Shifts in Voice
She wrote the introduction after the first chapter had been finished. In the morning we painted the bedroom, and in the afternoon the curtains were hung. After you complete the application, the form should be given to the personnel office.

Shifts in Mood
Read the chapter carefully, and then you should answer the questions at the end of the chapter. It is important that she read the information and writes notes to review later.

Shifts in Person
I bought my furniture from that store because you pay no interest for one year. When one begins college, you experience many new situations. We sat through the beginning of the lecture, and you could tell the speaker was not prepared.

Shifts in Number
If a student does not have good study habits, they will have a difficult time in college. Each person should be on time, or they will miss their appointment.

Practice in Sentence Shifts
Correct the inappropriate shift if needed in each of the sentences below. Some of the sentences are correct. Write correct if the sentence has no inappropriate shifts.

1. When one must miss class, you should find out what material was covered.  
2. Since she knew the course would be difficult, a tutor was arranged by her.  
3. Everywhere you look, I see preparations for the holiday season.  
4. My friend asked me to come for dinner and also wants me to bring my video tape.
5. Everyone was asked to bring his or her favorite dish to the pot luck dinner. 
correct

dashed

6. I was driving last night when I see an animal dash out in front of my car.

7. When students apply to colleges, it is important that he or she investigate each school
   thoroughly.

8. Go to the store after work, and then you should come straight home.
did not find

9. They arrived at the address, but the owners were not found.

10. Everyone who was at the party seemed to enjoy themselves.
you

11. If one arrives late, you will miss the best part of the performance.

12. As soon as the meeting began, the manager was paged by the secretary.

13. Most students pass that professor's class, but a few always fail the course.

14. Begin your assignment well in advance, and you should always proofread your paper
   carefully.

15. Jane and Sarah each made their own dress.

16. After we developed the photographs, they were posted on the internet by us.

17. The skater glided across the ice, and was applauded by the crowd.
was applauded by the crowd

18. The cat devoured the entire can of tuna, and then looked up in triumph.
gave

19. After we completed the training, the instructor gave us certificates.

20. When the big moment arrived, he is more nervous than he expected.