

Re: Stubbornly ignoring misspellings

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Word/microsoft.public.word.spelling.grammar/2006-11/msg00010.html>

- *From:* Thierry Fontenelle [MSFT] <ThierryFontenelleMSFT@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 16 Nov 2006 16:11:02 -0800
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Thanks for the suggestion, Aalaan. It's always a trade-off, of course. Deciding to include a word or not is never an easy task (if we were to remove "noël" from the French lexicon, I'm pretty sure we'd also get messages from users who would wonder why we don't recognize it in lower case "since all standard dictionaries include it". Your mention of "exited", etc is interesting. We can only hope that this problem will be less serious in the future now that we are introducing a contextual speller in Office 2007. So if you write something like "I'm exited about this", we now squiggle "exited" and suggest "excited", even though "exited" is still in the lexicon of the traditional spell-checker and is correct in other contexts.

See <http://blogs.msdn.com/naturallanguage/archive/2006/06/19/637359.aspx> or <http://blogs.msdn.com/correcteurorthographiqueoffice/archive/2006/06/05/617653.aspx> for more information about this new feature...

Thierry

Thierry Fontenelle [MSFT]
Microsoft Natural Language Group

"aalaan" wrote:

Well explained. I would just say that I would put both versions in an exclusion file. It's better to be challenged at either occurrence, and then 'ignore', than to let a wrong one through. I have done this with 'abut' and 'exited' and 'excited' as well as 'dinning' which is a very rare word meaning to make a din, whereas it is much more likely you will mistype 'dining'! N'est pas?

"Thierry Fontenelle [MSFT]"
<ThierryFontenelleMSFT@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:3525C6A6-E573-49A2-90F0-29B1DD26B891@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Hi John,

The problem is that "noël" is also a valid common noun in French. It can

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refer to a song sung around Christmas time, or to a gift (the Petit Robert gives this example, for instance: "donner aux enfants leurs petits noëls").

This explains why "noël" in lower case is in the speller lexicon. So you are not replacing an error by another error, in fact. There is simply a coincidence between two words, one which, in a given sense, should always be capitalized, and another, common noun that is not capitalized. It's not different from the pair pierre (=stone)–Pierre (first name). You could have the same in English if you wrote "James bond" where "bond" would not be squiggled by the regular spell-checker because the word also exists in English as a regular noun.

This being said, I agree with you that Noel without the accent is not a very frequent first name in French and it would probably be better to only include the upper-case with the diacritic. We'll definitely think about this for the next version.

Thanks for your feedback,

Thierry

Thierry Fontenelle [MSFT]
Microsoft Natural Language Group

"John Doue" wrote:

John Doue wrote:

Hi,

Although I have very carefully followed the very clear instructions from the MVP site <http://word.mvps.org/FAQs/General/ExcludeWordFromDic.htm>, I cannot get Word 03 to recognize as spelling errors, for instance, Noel in French (which should spell Noël).

I have made sure the exception file is in

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plain text, one word
misspelled per line and that it is saved under
the name MSSP3FR.EXC in
the same directory as my custom.dic file.

I have further made sure I have only one
custom.dic file on my disk and
that this file, of course, does not contain the
misspelled words. I have
also made sure the custom.dic file is
correctly checked as the custom
dictionary.

What next can I do? Any help will be greatly
appreciated.

Regards

Sorry for answering my own post but I found a way around
the problem by
creating a subdirectory to \proof and moving the custom.dic
and
mssp3fr.exc there. For some reason, this works BUT I realize
I have a
secondary problem: since words must be written in lower
case letters,
the dictionary now does flag the error but proposes only
"noël" in lower
case, which in fact would replace a spelling error by another
error.

Is there anyway to solve this?

Best regards.

—

John Doue