



Be a Grammar Ninja, give bad English the kick

BY AZHAR KASMAN

AS A copywriter, Ivan Yap has zero tolerance for bad English.

So, when a travel agency claimed that it “covers full terrorism” on its promotional banner at the Singapore Expo, the 35-year-old snapped a picture of the banner, posted it on Stomp and suggested that the line be changed to “Fully insures against acts of terrorism”.

For his swift actions against bad English, Ivan wins a \$100 Kinokuniya-bookstore voucher and the prestigious title of Grammar Ninja.

Participants of the Grammar Ninja contest snap pictures of poor English usage in public

places, suggest corrections for them and post them in Stomp’s TalkBack sections.

To make the contest more interesting, there is a different theme every month. For instance, last month’s theme was “Shopping Centres”.

Said Grammar Ninja Ivan: “It’s important for us that we use good English when it’s meant to be seen by the public. I have many expat friends who are surprised to find bad English in a cosmopolitan country like Singapore.”

If you think you can be the next Grammar Ninja, try to spot English errors at “Makan Plac-

es” this month.

To find out more about the Grammar Ninja contest, go to www.stomp.com.sg

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