"Help! Mathematica isn't working properly": Common errors checklist

- π, e, and/or ln were typed incorrectly. Remember that e should have double lines, ln should be typed as `Log[ ]` and you need to capitalize `Pi`.

- Brackets, parentheses and curly braces were used incorrectly. Remember that brackets must be used when using a built in MMA command (and nowhere else), curly braces are for lists and parentheses are used in equations.

- You didn't put a space or * between two variables that are multiplied.

- You started a command with a lower case letter. (Such as `Sin[x]` or `Solve[]`)

- You changed a variable name part way through the problem.

- You didn't include the underscore with your variable/s when defining a function. It should look like: `f[x_]=`.

- You left off the domain in a `Plot` command.

If you've gone through all of these checks and it's still not working try quitting the kernel (which erases the working memory and starts things fresh). To do this go to `Evaluation`→`Quit Kernel`→`Local` at the top toolbar. You'll then need to rerun your commands from the start.