

## Grammar Pretest

### Multiple Choice

Identify the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

#### A. Identify the Parts of Speech

Choose the answer option that identifies the italicized word or words in the sentence.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. John Stuart Mill was an oldest *son*.
- noun
  - verb
  - adjective
  - pronoun
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. His father was his *only* teacher.
- noun
  - verb
  - adjective
  - pronoun
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. *He* learned Greek before he was eight years old.
- noun
  - verb
  - adjective
  - pronoun
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. "I might not have enough hours *for* practice."
- conjunction
  - preposition
  - adverb
  - interjection

#### B. Classifying Sentences

Choose the answer option that identifies the structure of the sentence.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. She fills the cavity with cement, and the cement hardens into the shape of the roots.
- simple
  - compound
  - complex
  - compound-complex
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. They also study the gardens shown in paintings that decorated many houses of Pompeii.
- simple
  - compound
  - complex
  - compound-complex

- \_\_\_ 7. These paintings can suddenly disintegrate if they are exposed to rain, and some have been lost.
- simple
  - compound
  - complex
  - compound-complex
- \_\_\_ 8. This loss saddens Jashemski.
- simple
  - compound
  - complex
  - compound-complex
- \_\_\_ 9. However, the result of all this labor is that the gardens of Pompeii are coming alive again through replantings.
- simple
  - compound
  - complex
  - compound-complex

### C. Identify the Prepositional Phrase

Choose the answer option that identifies the prepositional phrase or phrases in the sentence.

- \_\_\_ 10. The tires and gears on his bike were brand-new.
- The tires and gears
  - and gears
  - on his bike
  - were brand-new
- \_\_\_ 11. The owner of the bike shop had given Hector's ten-speed a complete tuneup.
- The owner
  - of the bike shop
  - had given Hector's ten-speed
  - a complete tuneup

### D. Identify the Correct Type of Phrase

Choose the answer option that identifies the type of phrase that is italicized in each sentence.

- \_\_\_ 12. That man, *the one with Mr. Hodgkin*, is always happy.
- participial phrase
  - gerund phrase
  - infinitive phrase
  - appositive phrase

- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. I like *baking bread* because of its wonderful smell.  
a. participial phrase  
b. gerund phrase  
c. infinitive phrase  
d. appositive phrase
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. My greatest wish is *to become an artist*.  
a. participial phrase  
b. gerund phrase  
c. infinitive phrase  
d. appositive phrase
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. *Hoping it wouldn't rain*, we made plans for the picnic.  
a. participial phrase  
b. gerund phrase  
c. infinitive phrase  
d. appositive phrase

### E. Identifying Independent Clauses and Dependent (Subordinate) Clauses

Choose the answer option that classifies the italicized clause in each sentence as either an independent clause or a dependent (subordinate) clause.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. Irving Berlin, *who immigrated to the United States from Russia*, became a great composer.  
a. independent clause  
b. dependent clause
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. I remembered *that I locked the apartment this morning*.  
a. independent clause  
b. dependent clause
- \_\_\_\_\_ 18. *It is an important number system to know* because it is used by computers.  
a. independent clause  
b. dependent clause
- \_\_\_\_\_ 19. *Please bring me the pitcher of juice* that is in the refrigerator.  
a. independent clause  
b. dependent clause
- \_\_\_\_\_ 20. The concert *that we attended last night* was excellent.  
a. independent clause  
b. dependent clause

### F. Classifying Dependent (Subordinate) Clauses

Choose the answer option that identifies the kind of dependent (subordinate) clause that is italicized in each sentence.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 21. *Whether Toshio intends to run again for the student senate* is a secret.  
a. noun clause  
b. adjective clause  
c. adverb clause

- \_\_\_ 22. Flying squirrels, *which glide rather than flap their arms*, are an impressive sight.
- noun clause
  - adjective clause
  - adverb clause
- \_\_\_ 23. *When Mom goes on an emergency call*, Anjan helps me cook dinner.
- noun clause
  - adjective clause
  - adverb clause
- \_\_\_ 24. I thought *that I should collect wood for a fire*.
- noun clause
  - adjective clause
  - adverb clause

### G. Identify the Correct Subject-Verb and Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement

Choose the answer option that best completes the sentence.

- \_\_\_ 25. The least expensive bottles \_\_\_ have famous names on them.
- doesn't
  - don't
- \_\_\_ 26. The committee \_\_\_ reached a decision.
- has
  - have
- \_\_\_ 27. Who \_\_\_ the first settlers in this area?
- was
  - were
- \_\_\_ 28. The frog and the rat \_\_\_ made of carved wood.
- is
  - are
- \_\_\_ 29. Some of the nails \_\_\_ on the bottom shelf.
- is
  - are
- \_\_\_ 30. Neither Luna nor Aretha \_\_\_ in Spanish as well as I do.
- writes
  - write
- \_\_\_ 31. Many a decision \_\_\_ been made in haste.
- has
  - have
- \_\_\_ 32. Paco and Larry have \_\_\_ models on display.
- his
  - their
- \_\_\_ 33. Each of the women raised \_\_\_ hand to vote.
- her
  - their

- \_\_\_ 34. Either he or they \_\_\_\_\_ guilty.  
a. is  
b. are
- \_\_\_ 35. Economics \_\_\_\_\_ an interesting class.  
a. is  
b. are

#### H. Identify the Correct Pronoun

Choose the answer option that identifies the pronoun form that correctly completes each of the following sentences.

- \_\_\_ 36. Lila sent both Josh and \_\_\_\_\_ an invitation.  
a. I  
b. me
- \_\_\_ 37. \_\_\_\_\_ Japanese eat fish at many meals.  
a. We  
b. Us
- \_\_\_ 38. He saw \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ at the game.  
a. she, I  
b. her, me
- \_\_\_ 39. Shantala was depending upon Harun and \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. they  
b. them
- \_\_\_ 40. Mrs. Daly handed \_\_\_\_\_ guests warm napkins.  
a. our  
b. ours
- \_\_\_ 41. Shannon explained \_\_\_\_\_ wove each rug.  
a. who  
b. whom

#### I. Identify the Correct Usage of the Word

Choose the answer option that identifies the correct word or words to complete each of the following sentences.

- \_\_\_ 42. My mother has \_\_\_\_\_ the bricks down in a circular pattern.  
a. lain  
b. laid
- \_\_\_ 43. The whole family has \_\_\_\_\_ early so we can go to the silver fair in Taxco.  
a. risen  
b. raised

- \_\_\_ 44. Hakeem spent \_\_\_ money at the market because he clipped coupons.  
a. fewer  
b. less
- \_\_\_ 45. My aunt Lucy walks a long \_\_\_ from her apartment to work.  
a. ways  
b. way
- \_\_\_ 46. Exercising has a positive \_\_\_ on my energy level.  
a. affect  
b. effect

### J. Identify the Correct Capitalization

Choose the sentence in which all words are correctly capitalized.

- \_\_\_ 47. Choose the answer option that is correctly capitalized.  
a. My Grandmother is taking me to hear it next month.  
b. My grandmother is taking me to hear it next month.  
c. my grandmother is taking me to hear it next month.
- \_\_\_ 48. Choose the answer option that is correctly capitalized.  
a. She tried to persuade the Conductor of the orchestra to perform *The Barber of Seville*.  
b. She tried to persuade the conductor of the orchestra to perform *The Barber of Seville*.  
c. she tried to persuade the conductor of the orchestra to perform *The barber of Seville*.
- \_\_\_ 49. Choose the answer option that is correctly capitalized.  
a. I read about that opera in *Stories Of The Operas*.  
b. I read about that opera in *Stories of the Operas*.  
c. I read about that Opera in *Stories of the Operas*.
- \_\_\_ 50. Choose the answer option that is correctly capitalized.  
a. According to Grandmother, the conductor, dr. park, was determined to perform another work, *Nixon in China*, and he wouldn't budge.  
b. According to Grandmother, the Conductor, Dr. Park, was determined to perform another work, *Nixon in China*, and he wouldn't budge.  
c. According to Grandmother, the conductor, Dr. Park, was determined to perform another work, *Nixon in China*, and he wouldn't budge.

### K. Identify the Correct Use of Apostrophes, Quotation Marks, End Marks and Italics

Read each pair of items, and identify the item that is correctly punctuated.

- \_\_\_ 51. Choose the answer option that is correctly punctuated.  
a. the article "Yesterday is Gone"  
b. the article *Yesterday is Gone*
- \_\_\_ 52. Choose the answer option that is correctly punctuated.  
a. the book "Starting Out"  
b. the book *Starting Out*

- \_\_\_ 53. Choose the answer option that is correctly punctuated.
- Who said, "You may?"
  - Who said, "You may"?
- \_\_\_ 54. Choose the answer option that is correctly punctuated.
- "Ouch" she said!
  - "Ouch!" she said.

#### L. Identify the Correct Use of Punctuation

Read each sentence, and decide which answer option is punctuated correctly with commas, semicolons, and colons.

- \_\_\_ 55. My brother was accepted at Troy State University his first choice
- My brother was accepted at Troy State University, his first choice.
  - My brother was accepted at Troy State University: his first choice
  - My brother was accepted at Troy State University, his first choice
- \_\_\_ 56. There were many layoffs in the following industries transportation manufacturing and real estate
- There were many layoffs in the following industries, transportation, manufacturing, and real estate.
  - There were many layoffs in the following industries: transportation manufacturing, and real estate.
  - There were many layoffs in the following industries: transportation, manufacturing, and real estate.
- \_\_\_ 57. Yes I brought pencil and paper and a calculator and a ruler
- Yes I brought pencil and paper and a calculator and a ruler.
  - Yes, I brought pencil and paper and a calculator and a ruler.
  - Yes I brought pencil, and paper, and a calculator, and a ruler.
- \_\_\_ 58. Harold will conduct the interviews Francine will meet the managers and Charles will guide the plant tour
- Harold will conduct the interviews, Francine will meet the managers, and Charles will guide the plant tour.
  - Harold will conduct the interviews, Francine will meet the managers and Charles will guide the plant tour.
  - Harold will conduct the interviews, Francine will meet the managers and, Charles will guide the plant tour.
- \_\_\_ 59. Her low soft whisper could not be heard in the big noisy room
- Her low soft whisper could not be heard in the big, noisy room
  - Her low, soft whisper could not be heard in the big, noisy room.
  - Her low, soft, whisper could not be heard in the big, noisy, room.
- \_\_\_ 60. The Tlingit wore a mask of which this is a reproduction only during special ceremonies
- The Tlingit wore a mask, of which this is a reproduction, only during special ceremonies.
  - The Tlingit wore a mask of which this is a reproduction, only during special ceremonies.
  - The Tlingit, wore a mask of which this is a reproduction, only during special ceremonies.

- \_\_\_ 61. Please try to arrive before dark otherwise call ahead
- a. Please try to arrive before dark; otherwise call ahead.
  - b. Please try to arrive before dark; otherwise, call ahead.
  - c. Please try to arrive before dark, otherwise, call ahead.

**M. Identify the Correct Use of Contractions and the Possessive**

**Read each pair of items, and identify the item that is correctly punctuated.**

- \_\_\_ 62. Choose the answer option that is correctly punctuated.
- a. their song
  - b. they're song
- \_\_\_ 63. Choose the answer option that is correctly punctuated.
- a. Its a sunny day!
  - b. It's a sunny day!
- \_\_\_ 64. Choose the answer option that is correctly punctuated.
- a. the childrens' toys
  - b. the children's toys
- \_\_\_ 65. Choose the answer option that is correctly punctuated.
- a. Your welcome.
  - b. You're welcome.

**N. Identifying Fragments and Run-ons**

**Choose the answer option that correctly identifies the sentence as a fragment, run-on or complete sentence.**

- \_\_\_ 66. Even though I was tired
- a. Fragment
  - b. Run-on
  - c. Complete Sentence
- \_\_\_ 67. He asked for a raise she got it.
- a. Fragment
  - b. Run-on
  - c. Complete Sentence
- \_\_\_ 68. She is a good mother she pays attention to her children
- a. Fragment
  - b. Run-on
  - c. Complete Sentence
- \_\_\_ 69. When Alex calls.
- a. Fragment
  - b. Run-on
  - c. Complete Sentence
- \_\_\_ 70. He laughed.
- a. Fragment
  - b. Run-on
  - c. Complete Sentence



## Grammar Pretest

This pretest contains questions about elements of proper usage and grammar that you should have learned prior to entering high school.

### Capitalization

Rewrite the following sentences adding capital letters where necessary.

1. he was concerned that his two years of high school spanish would not be adequate for a months-long tour of south america.

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2. when luisa bumped into her dad at the vampire weekend concert, not only was she surprised, but she knew she would be grounded until october.

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3. sam's favorite movie, the empire strikes back, is part of the star wars movie series which was written and directed by george lucas.

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4. on tuesday, i have an important appointment with mr. appleman, the president of our company.

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### End Marks

Add the appropriate end mark to the following sentences.

1. If you want to go with us, you need to buy your own ticket
2. What is the location of the party next week
3. He stole my purse, stop him
4. She wondered why he carried a purple monster doll with him

### Comma Use

Add commas where necessary in the following sentences. Circle or highlight commas you add.

1. My mom asked my sister and me to go to the store to buy bread milk bananas and cheese.

2. On Wednesday August 22 I plan to go to the mall with my friends or my siblings.
3. When my boyfriend was six his family moved from Seattle Washington to Tuscon Arizona.
4. My brothers and I fight all the time but I can't imagine what my life would be like without them.

### Misused/Confusing Words

Rewrite each sentence replacing any misused words for the correct word. The words you will be swapping will be homophones: words that sound the same, but are spelled differently and have different meanings.

1. Whose going with them to their house?

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2. I couldn't find your keys until I realized there over there.

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3. You're the worst friend I could of ever imagined!

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4. Since you're mad at him, I am to.

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### Parts of Speech

Sentences are made up of words, and each word is a different type of word, performing a specific task within a sentence. Answer the questions about the sentences below to show your **understanding** of the different parts of speech.

Sentence One: In the meadow near my house, dozens of wild flowers grow.

1. Identify a verb in the above sentence.
2. Identify the nouns in the above sentence.
3. Write a prepositional phrase from the above sentence.

Sentence Two: When Brianna found out she had won the lottery, she immediately quit her boring, thankless job.

1. Identify an adverb from the above sentence.
2. Identify an adjective from the above sentence.
3. Identify a pronoun from the above sentence.

Sentence Three: The motorcyclist changed lanes quickly, barely avoiding a collision

1. Identify the nouns in the above sentence.
2. Identify the verbs in the sentence above.
3. Identify an adverb from the above sentence.

### Subjects and Predicates

For each sentence below, underline the subject of the sentence once and the predicate of the sentence twice. Then, circle the main noun (simple subject) and the main verb (simple predicate).

1. Dylan's sister is a freshman at Sunnyslope this year.
2. When I was in third grade, I wanted to be a marine biologist.
3. In the morning the squirrels climbed the trees to avoid the kids at the bus stop.
4. Shark attacks are rare but serious.

### Complete sentences

Identify whether each sentence below is a correctly written, complete sentence, a run-on (when two or more sentences are written as a single sentence) or a fragment (an incomplete sentence.) Write S, RO or F on the preceding line to indicate your answer.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Because bees sting suddenly, people with bee allergies should be extremely cautious when they notice bee activity nearby.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Yesterday my family went to the circus, I loved seeing the acrobats!
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Since Eleanor Roosevelt was an independent, fiery woman.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. He cried loudly.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. The doctor was running late so I sat in the waiting room for an hour.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. My favorite book is very long but definitely worth reading nonetheless.

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. Caught in a trap set by the evil villain Dr. Duffenshmirtz.

\_\_\_\_\_ 8. Siblings can be challenging, but they can also be wonderful friends.

**Apostrophes**

Add apostrophes where necessary in the following sentences. Highlight or circle the apostrophes you add.

1. My uncles dog is named Duke; hes my uncles baby.
2. I couldnt believe it when Sarah told me that she was Seans sister.
3. The mens restroom is located down the hall from the womens.
4. The cats toys were in the Kitty Kastle, but they wouldnt go in to get them.

**Editing**

Rewrite the following selection finding and fixing any grammatical mistakes or errors in usage.

Our school, Apollo high school, was named for the Apollo Space Program. This program ran from 1961 thru 1972 and it's goal was to land a man on the moon. Although there were some problems and setbacks the Apollo space program was deemed a great success in the end. When Apollo high school opened in 1970, the first manned space craft had land on the moon just the year before, the United States was caught up in a frenzy of excitement about space exploration. Our Apollo was named in honor of the accomplishments of NASA and the Apollo Program and because of the popularity of the missions astronauts and space in general.

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