

English Grammar Practice

NOUNS

Lesson 1: Noun Types

A. On your answer sheet, write each noun. Then write C or P beside it to show whether it is a Common or Proper noun.

1. Levi is my best friend.
2. Victoria is the chief city on Vancouver Island and capital of British Columbia.
3. The Magdalen Islands are located in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.
4. A killer tornado ripped through southern Ontario last May.
5. John Bassett II and Elmer Iseler, two famous Canadians, died in April 1998.

B. On your answer sheet, write a proper noun suggested by each common noun.

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|--------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1. City | 5. Magazine | 9. Politician | 13. Sea |
| 2. Athlete | 6. University | 10. Rock star | 14. Holiday |
| 3. Train | 7. Bay | 11. Musician | |
| 4. Newspaper | 8. Mountain | 12. Province | |

C. On your answer sheet, write a sentence using each proper noun and the common noun for its class.

1. Ethiopia
2. Dominik Hasek
3. Nunavut
4. Canada Day
5. Atlantic

D. On your answer sheet, write a proper noun suggested by each common noun. Watch out! In some cases it may fit into two categories.

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|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|------------|
| 1. Fleet | 5. Flock | 9. Litter | 13. Pride |
| 2. Management | 6. Justice | 10. Honour | 14. Team |
| 3. School board | 7. Virtuousness | 11. Plywood | 15. Pencil |
| 4. Truthfulness | 8. Umbrella | 12. People | 16. Envy |

E. Create meaningful sentences using the nouns below. Note that collective nouns usually take a singular verb (e.g. "people SEE" rather than "people SEES")

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|---------------|--------------|
| 1. Honesty | 7. Orchestra |
| 2. Jury | 8. Mountains |
| 3. Motorbikes | 9. Anger |
| 4. Family | 10. Herd |
| 5. Courage | 11. Photo |
| 6. Lake | 12. Audience |

NOUNS

Lesson 2: Singular and Plural Forms

A. On your answer sheet, write the plural form of the word in parentheses.

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|---|---|
| 1. These are dull (knife). | 10. Do you like friend (tomato)? |
| 2. That restaurant on Queen Street serves tasty (dish). | 11. Please help feed the (calf). |
| 3. What (country) are in Central America? | 12. Both (mother-in-law) came to their New Year's brunch. |
| 4. There are many (deer) in the park. | 13. How many (piece) of cake did you eat? |
| 5. These (piano) came from Germany. | 14. Several (family) gathered for a barbecue. |
| 6. How many (fly) did you kill? | 15. The (branch) of the tree were damaged by the storm. |
| 7. There are two (hose) in the garage. | 16. The store on the corner sells CDs and DVDs (video). |
| 8. Did you send the (fax) to the office? | |
| 9. The store carries many types of (wrench). | |

NOUNS**Lesson 3: Possessive Nouns****A. On your answer sheet, write the possessive form of each noun.**

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|----------|--------------|------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1. Girl | 4. Children | 7. Boys | 10. Ladies | 13. Men |
| 2. Child | 5. Mirabelle | 8. Teacher | 11. Brother | 14. Aunt |
| 3. Women | 6. Baby | 9. Dr. Ray | 12. Soldier | 15. Ms. Jones |

B. On your answer sheet, rewrite each phrase by writing a possessive noun.

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|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. The cap belonging to Jim | 7. The shows that belong to the runners |
| 2. The wrench that belongs to Kathy | 8. The friends of our parents |
| 3. The smile of the baby | 9. The opinion of the editor |
| 4. The car that my friend owns | 10. The lunches of the children |
| 5. The new shoes that belong to Aaron | 11. The coat belonging to Saul |
| 6. The collar of the dog | 12. The assignment of the teacher |

PRONOUNS**Lesson 4: Pronouns and Antecedents****A. On your answer sheet, write each sentence's pronoun and antecedent in the "antecedent" in the correct columns.**

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|---|---|
| 1. The Member of Parliament was overjoyed because she was re-elected. | 5. The space shuttle fired its booster rockets. |
| 2. Be sure to put sufficient postage on the package before mailing it. | 6. The two waiters spilled their food when they bumped into the chef. |
| 3. The trees that were planted in the sun doubled their growth. | 7. The crooks left the scene before they could be caught. |
| 4. Hassan left the magazines exactly as they were when he first saw them. | 8. The woman convinced herself that the news could not be true. |
| | 9. The kids ate the food, knowing it wasn't good for them. |
| | 10. The doctor was pleased the patient remembered her. |

B. The pronoun antecedents are unclear below. On your answer sheet, write each sentence's pronoun(s) and rewrite the sentences so that the antecedent is clear.

- Dan is teaching, working on his thesis, and writing. He has no idea when he will be finished this.
- After the baseball game, Joshua and Lucio are going to his house to watch TV.
- I completed the essay, which pleased my teacher.
- If the dog leaves any food in its bowl, throw it out.
- If the furnace is repaired, it will save money.

VERBS**Lesson 5: Present and Past Tenses and Participles****A. On your answer sheet, write the verb(s) in each sentence. Identify Present (PR), Present Participle (PRP), Past (P), or Past Participle (PP).**

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|---|--|
| 1. She took me with her the day she left. | 5. She recalled the woman in the strange dress. |
| 2. The runner bounds over every hurdle he encounters. | 6. Elm trees on that street are dying. |
| 3. It has helped to have your advice | 7. We worked as councillors at a camp in Muskoka. |
| 4. Herbert is barking up the wrong tree. | 8. They have lost several files in a computer crash. |

VERBS**Lesson 6: Subject-Verb Agreement****A. Write the subject and verb in the appropriate column on the answer sheet. Circle Y if they agree and N if they don't.**

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|---|---|
| 1. The team play soccer every Wednesday evening. | 4. Cats sleep more than any other animal. |
| 2. The picture of those mountains is beautiful. | 5. A friend of those people is no friend of mine. |
| 3. A group of students are making a presentation. | |

B. Write sentences using the subjects and verbs provided. Be sure they agree!

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. women / invent | 4. family / celebrate |
| 2. parents / travel | 5. jury / convict |
| 3. committee / organize | 6. orchestra / play |

MODIFIERS**Lesson 7: Adjectives****A. Write the adjectives in the following sentences.**

1. Grandma kept the valuable pendant in a tiny envelope made of red silk.
2. We managed to get an excellent table at the new Portugese restaurant.
3. When dad doesn't have any time to cook, I make some pasta.

B. Write three adjectives to describe each noun.

1. Lanterns
2. Night
3. Shoes
4. City
5. Computer
6. Class

C. The following sentences have few adjectives. Rewrite them using descriptive adjectives.

1. The dog rolled in the mud.
2. He entered the house during the storm.
3. The model is wearing a leather jacket.
4. His sister stuck her hands into water.

MODIFIERS**Lesson 8: Comparative Adjectives****A. Write the comparative and superlative forms of the adjectives below.**

1. Fragile
2. Soft
3. Silent

B. Complete each sentence with the correct comparison of the adjective in brackets.

1. The temperature seems (mild) this month than last.
2. The cheetah is the (fast) of all animals.
3. Is Farah (athletic) than Jennifer?
4. The video store is the (busy) store on the block.
5. Lake Louise is the (lovely) of all mountain lakes.
6. That restaurant makes the (tasty) pasta in the city.
7. Which of the two balloons flew (high)?
8. Which is (entertaining), *Jersey Shore* or *The Office*?

MODIFIERS**Lesson 9: Adverbs****A. Write each adverb and the word it describes. Then, determine whether it is a verb (V), adjective (ADJ) or other adverb (A) it is modifying.**

1. She lay quietly on the sofa.
2. Cara is a highly competitive individual.
3. He walked extremely carefully on the slippery floor.
4. When she fell, she landed gently.
5. The Two-year-old boy gobbles his food very noisily.
6. When Laura gets nervous, she speaks quickly.
7. David's memory was very clouded by medication.
8. Warriors came out quietly from the Trojan Horse.
9. Rescue teams looked carefully for the victim.
10. His taste in clothing is excessively expensive.

B. On your answer sheet, write three adverbs that could be used to modify each verb.

1. Talk
2. Fought
3. Eat
4. Leave
5. Listen
6. Sleep

MODIFIERS**Lesson 10: Comparative Adverbs****A. Write the comparative and superlative form of each adverb.**

1. Long
2. Promptly
3. Quickly
4. Fast
5. Energetically
6. Fiercely

B. Complete each sentence using the correct degree of comparison for each adverb in brackets.

1. Does Jonah paint (carefully) than Eden?
2. Which of the two emails arrived (soon)?
3. Who waited (patiently), Marta or Justin?
4. This is the (badly) he's ever done on an exam.
5. My car breaks down (frequently) than yours.
6. Lise swims (well) when she competes.

MODIFIERS**Lessons 7-10 Summary****A. Write the correct word that appears in brackets.**

1. The weather seems (calm / calmly) now.
2. Nola's essays are (careful / carefully) written.
3. The team played (good / well).
4. Kira is (happy / happily) with her new job.
5. Time passes (slow / slowly).
6. We were (certain / certainly) glad to hear the news.
7. Lisa does her work (good / well) when she's rested.
8. I think the horse will (easy / easily) win.
9. We had to shout (loud / loudly) over the noise.
10. In June the sun shone (bright / brightly) every day.
11. My mom sleeps (good / well) after an evening walk.
12. The flu struck very (sudden / suddenly).

MODIFIERS**Lesson 11: Double Negatives****A. Write the correct word in the box provided on your worksheet.**

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|--|--|
| 1. I don't know (any / none) of these people. | 4. There isn't (any / no) paper left in the printer. |
| 2. Rafaela couldn't do (anything / nothing) about changing the time of that appointment. | 5. Elsa hasn't said (anything / nothing) about the surprise party. |
| 3. We didn't have (any / no) milk or butter. | 6. Hardly (anything / nothing) makes her angry. |

PREPOSITIONS**Lesson 12: Prepositions****A. Write each preposition or prepositions from the sentences below.**

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|---|---|
| 1. Deo greeted his cousin from Japan with a hug. | 6. The farm was located near Courtenay, BC. |
| 2. They walked toward the exit of the airport in B.C. | 7. They walked across the road and toward the house. |
| 3. The two cousins hadn't met for five years. | 8. Deo's family gathered around Mariko. |
| 4. Deo drove Mariko to the family farm. | 9. Everyone sat on the porch and drank lemonade. |
| 5. It was a long ride through beautiful scenery. | 10. Then everyone went into the house and ate dinner. |

B. Create sentences using the prepositions below.

1. Across
2. From
3. Over
4. Upon
5. Among

PARTICIPLES**Lesson 13: Participle Phrases****A. Write the participle phrases in the following sentences.**

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|--|---|
| 1. Kamali, devastated by the bad news, cried. | 4. Erik, knowing the secret at last, went to ask advice. |
| 2. We saw the deer standing at the top of the hill. | 5. Panting from the head, the dog found a cool spot under a maple tree. |
| 3. Overcome by smoke, they staggered out of the burning house. | 6. Broken by the force of the storm, the window glass shattered on the floor. |

B. Rewrite the following sentences so that the participle phrase clearly modifies the correct word.

1. Growling loudly, my scarf was being chewed up by the dog.
2. Tonya saw the sun rise from her favourite bench in the park.
3. While sleeping outside, the tent blew down.
4. A graduate of McGill, Andrew's head is bursting with ideas.
5. A new treatment is being provided for the prevention of snoring in doctors' offices.

CONJUNCTIONS**Lesson 14: Conjunctions****A. Write the conjunctions in the sentences below. Identify whether each is coordinating (C) or subordinating (S).**

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|--|---|
| 1. It's your decision whether you do it or not. | 6. My dog Ace comes when he's good and ready. |
| 2. David has battled the disease since we was a child. | 7. While the sheep graze, the dogs remain alert. |
| 3. I'm not going because I don't like Helen. | 8. Because we are late, we won't stop to talk. |
| 4. They paid for the renovations though they weren't satisfied with the quality of work. | 9. When summer arrives, Bianca plans to go camping. |
| 5. Both snakes and lizards are cold-blooded animals. | 10. Does the writer want fame or fortune? |

SENTENCES**Lesson 15: Declarative, Interrogative, Imperative****A. Identify whether these are Declarative (D), Interrogative (IN), Imperative (IM) or Exclamatory (E). Circle punctuation.**

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|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. I plan to leave by midnight | 5. Go away |
| 2. How will you get to the party without a car | 6. Lets go |
| 3. Arrive with your assignment completed | 7. Did you fall down, buddy |
| 4. We were the first ones there | 8. Has Amal seen the movie |

SENTENCES**Lesson 16: Subjects and Predicates****A. Write the complete subject and complete predicate in the columns indicated.**

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| 1. Bees fly. | 6. We surely enjoyed the holiday. |
| 2. Trains whistle. | 7. These cookies are made with rice. |
| 3. A talented artist drew the picture. | 8. This letter came to the post office. |
| 4. The wind blew furiously. | 9. They rented a cabin in the Rockies. |
| 5. Wood Buffalo is a national park. | 10. Jamila reads about the pioneer days. |

SENTENCES**Lesson 17: Capital Letters****A. On your answer sheet, write the words that should be capitalized in the sentences below.**

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|--|--|
| 1. rafaela asked, "what time does the bus leave?" | 4. The ottawa river separates ontario and quebec. |
| 2. caliza Lavalée wrote the music for "o canada." | 5. mac asked, "when do you start university?" |
| 3. Who wrote "a farewell" and "the solitary reaper"? | 6. french explorers discovered the st. lawrence river. |

B. On your answer sheet, write the words that should be capitalized in the sentences below.

- How long have you consulted with dr. mehta?
- Our class invited reverend davies to speak at graduation.
- Do you think premier klein will win re-election?
- When is mrs. awa scheduled to begin her law degree?

C. On your answer sheet, write the words that should be capitalized in the sentences below.

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Fri., jan. 9, 10 am.
142 n. maple blvd. | 2. souris sea festival
july 26-28 r.r. 1 | 3. dr. martha pym
stevens memorial hospital
22 drummond street
vegreville, alberta 19c 1y9 |
|---|---|---|

PUNCTUATION**Lesson 18: Commas****A. Correct these sentences by adding commas in the appropriate places.**

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|--|---|
| 1. I went to Dubrovnik which is Europe's treasure. | 6. The activities include a search for lost treasure
sneaky financial dealings much discussion of
ancient heresies and midnight murder. |
| 2. This year Ed is taking English math and foods. | 7. For camp the kids need shoes which aren't costly. |
| 3. Since the dog started to run a way to catch him had
to be found. | 8. The car with its broken horn annoyed the driver. |
| 4. However he used the can opener it wouldn't work. | 9. When Lize called 911 the firemen came to save her. |
| 5. Pierre one of my friends will meet us at the airport. | 10. For breakfast the children ordered cornflakes
English muffins with peanut butter and apple juice. |

PUNCTUATION**Lesson 19: Quotation Marks and Punctuating Dialogue****A. On your worksheet, write the words that belong in direct quotations (including punctuation!).**

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|---|--|
| 1. He asked me to go to the game. | 5. The guest said You don't know how happy I am. |
| 2. She said, I will not live forever | 6. What's all the fuss about Carl wanted to know. |
| 3. I enjoy Holman's poem, Who Am I? | 7. I will leave he said as soon as I find out the truth. |
| 4. Atrichoke Pie is tonight's <i>Black Harbour</i> episode. | 8. Ali said I will not forget your kindness. |

PUNCTUATION**Lesson 20: Apostrophe****A. On your sheet, write the word in which an apostrophe has been left out and add the apostrophe where needed.**

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|--|---|
| 1. Many players uniforms are red. | 4. The captains ship was the newest. |
| 2. Is someones lost child your concern? | 5. Those dogs played with the babys shoe. |
| 3. The girls teams entered the tournament. | 6. Dans and Melissas marks were the last to be given. |

PUNCTUATION

Lesson 21: Semicolon

A. Write the word that a semicolon would FOLLOW in the space on your answer sheet.

1. The tornado spun across the prairie the barn was swept away
2. They were lost the car was stuck in a deep drift.
3. It was a hectic week we were extremely busy.
4. Technology is changing thus we must adapt.
5. The holiday ends Sunday thus, we work on Monday.
6. We was soaked his whole body shivered.
7. You are very talented talent is sometimes, however, not enough.
8. Ann looked for her present she finally found it.

ANALYZING SENTENCES

Lesson 22: Direct Objects

A. Write the verb of each sentence and the verb's direct object in the columns provided on the answer sheet.

1. Do not spend time at the mall every Saturday.
2. Tam, did you keep the stamps for your collection?
3. Olivia Poole invented the Jolly Jumper in 1959.
4. Who made this delicious ravioli?
5. Did you ever plant a tree on Earth Day?
6. Chris brought sushi to the potluck lunch.

ANALYZING SENTENCES

Lesson 23: Indirect Objects

A. Write the verb of each sentence and the verb's direct object and indirect object in the columns on your sheet.

1. The artist showed the collectors her paintings.
2. Joel brought us some new CDs.
3. Have you sent your uncle an email?
4. Bring me a fork.
5. The coach gave the team a long lecture.
6. Show me the photo of your bike.
7. The club gave the shelter a large donation.
8. The instructor taught them the rules of the road.

ANALYZING SENTENCES

Lesson 24: Independent and Subordinate Clauses

A. Write the independent clause in each sentence below.

1. We arrived early because we took a taxi.
2. The concert started after we had found our seats.
3. We heard songs that had been featured on the CD.
4. When I was little, mom told stories about the stars.
5. After we left the movie, we tried to catch a bus.
6. Although the wait was long, we found the car.
7. While on the bus, I saw two people from my class.
8. Since you left, Joanna has been lonely.

B. Write each subordinate clause in the sentences below.

1. Canada is a country where many cultures reside.
2. While we were at the fair, I saw lots of people eating cotton candy.
3. When rules are unfair, everyone suffers.
4. The rat is an animal that many people fear.
5. We walked until we came to a snack bar.
6. If you want to succeed, you will have to work hard.
7. This bat, which catches insects, shouldn't be feared.
8. Andrea found a present that was perfect for her best friend's birthday.

C. On your answer sheet, place an I clause if it is INDEPENDENT. Place an S if it is SUBORDINATE.

1. Jeremy got free tickets to the hockey game.
2. because he works at the Olympic Stadium
3. the Morgans took the wrong route
4. when they came to the exit on the highway
5. she spoke to me
6. he is a police officer
7. Mozart was a musical genius
8. who died young

ANALYZING SENTENCES

Lesson 25: Compound Sentences

A. Combine the simple sentences below to create compound sentences.

1. James Rederfree was born in the West Indies. James Rederfree spent most of his life in Ottawa.
2. So Oscar Agreed. Oscar set off to visit Emma and Monique.
3. The street rose very steeply. It twisted and turned.
4. The day was humid. The hikers managed to reach their destination.
5. I really enjoy hiking. I like biking even better.

FIXING SENTENCES***Lesson 26: Sentence Fragments***

A. Identify whether each of the following is a sentence fragment (SF) or complete sentence (S). Fix the fragments.

1. Clyde refused.
2. To be a member of the club.
3. In the heart of cottage country.
4. As long as the people continue to care.

FIXING SENTENCES***Lesson 27: Run-On Sentences***

A. Identify each run-on sentence with an X on your answer sheet.

1. With a mighty blow I swung the bat the ball sailed out of the park.
2. The prime minister spoke at great length on CBC radio.
3. I bought to sweaters one has to be returned.
4. The magazine sells for a looking in Canada it costs \$0.70 in the United States.
5. Our Winnipeg relatives arrived in the middle of a storm.
6. Seanna won the race she defeated six rivals.

B. Correct the following run-on sentences.

1. Justine plays hockey she plays for a team that tours Canada.
2. The rock star cancelled his performance it was the second time in two weeks.
3. City lots are too expensive for most people the cost is discouraging.
4. Sybil was surprised and enthusiastic her design won a prize.

FIXING SENTENCES***Lesson 28: Comma Splice Errors***

A. Some of the following sentences have comma splice errors. On your worksheet, place an X beside the errors and correct them in the space provided.

1. She is going to the dentist, but not to have a cavity fixed.
2. The patient was sent home, nothing more could be done.
3. The convention ended on Saturday, we can return to work Friday.
4. Remarkably, he didn't have a clue.
5. We took the bus, it was late afternoon when we arrived in Antigonish.
6. My friend was as pale as while chalk, he had frightened eyes.
7. We went to the dance, even though we should have been studying.
8. Ian is incredibly kind, he helps people in need almost every day.
9. The astronaut thanked her colleagues, who had been supportive throughout the mission.
10. The higher your climb, the farther you can fall.