Choices: Exploring Common Errors

The following activities challenge you to identify common errors in the world around you. Do the activity below that suits your personality best, and then share your discoveries with your class.

GRAPHICS

Sound System
Grammar, usage, and mechanics are to your ability to communicate what a good sound system is to your favorite music. Are you outputting DVD or Hi Fi sound? You know the difference when you hear it, but can you describe the difference? You know good writing when you read it. Now try to describe it. Think about what makes good writing. What are its qualities and variables? Get together with some friends and give these questions some discussion. When you feel that you have a valid set of qualities, turn them into knobs and dials and slides and LCD’s on a sound system. Perhaps you’ll need an equalizer for agreement errors. A quality antenna for clear thought and clear references might be in order as well. When your design is complete, transfer it to poster board and color it appropriately. With your teacher’s permission, hang it on the wall of your classroom, and explain your design to the class.

WRITING

Common Courtesy
Write a letter to your teacher thanking him or her and telling him or her how this class has helped you understand English better. Identify the specific areas that are no longer a problem for you or the things that particularly interested you. When you have finished writing your letter, proofread it carefully and deliver it to your teacher.

WRITING

Out of Your System
You’ve seen plenty of sentence fragments in your reading. Right? Everybody has. So, why, you are wondering, do grammar books make such a big deal about fragments? After all, all the best writers use them. Naturally, if you want to be a good writer, you probably want to learn to use fragments. In three pages of any kind of composition, use at least one of each kind of fragment—an appositive phrase fragment, a series of prepositional phrases, an infinitive phrase fragment, a participial phrase fragment, a gerund fragment, and at least three clause fragments. Then, write a paragraph analyzing your use of fragments. Do they make your composition stronger? Explain.

ART

Stronger, Higher, Faster
If you like to draw or paint, you may be the best person to show your class how important modifiers can be. When you draw a picture of three basketball players, for example, you make it easy for others to tell which player is tall, which one is taller, and which one is the tallest. Now, pick your own set of modifiers and illustrate them, including a caption that contains any modifiers you have brought to life in your illustration.
Exercise Identify each of the following word groups by writing above it F if the word group is a sentence fragment, R if it is a run-on sentence, or S if it is a complete sentence.

Example 1. Although we had already eaten dinner at home.

1. You shouldn’t have said that, you probably hurt her feelings.
2. I’m sure that I left my glasses on the arm of the couch.
3. The doorbell rang, the dog barked and ran to the front door.
4. When we were at the shore last summer, every morning just after the sun came up.
5. Where in the world did you find that costume?
6. She wanted to go to the movies, but everyone else wanted to go to the ice rink.
7. This puzzle has over a thousand pieces, we’ve been working on it for weeks.
8. Looked through six volumes of the encyclopedia.
9. Wherever the children looked, in the yard, under the furniture, in the cupboards and closets.
10. You sound a little congested, do you have a cold?
11. After we finish folding the laundry and putting it away.
12. What an elegant coat that is!
13. Please explain that again; I don’t know what you’re talking about.
14. On the way to school, the most amazing car, painted purple and green.
15. How many kinds of alligators and crocodiles in that zoo?
16. Next Saturday would be better for me.
17. First we rode the Ferris wheel, then we got in line for the rollercoaster.
18. Despite the weather forecast, we planned a picnic lunch.
19. Please have a seat.
20. He woke up early, ate breakfast, and read the newspaper, after that he went to work.
Sentence Fragments and Run-On Sentences B

**EXERCISE** On the short lines provided, identify each numbered word group as a sentence fragment (F), a run-on sentence (R), or a complete sentence (S). Then, on the long lines provided below, rewrite the paragraph, correcting sentence fragments and run-ons.

**Example** [1] **F** The idea of pools where the general public can go not being new.

The idea of pools where the general public can go is not new.

[1] _____ The bath houses built by the Romans, for example. [2] _____ Bath houses of the ancient Roman Empire have a well-known history, often different pools were kept at different temperatures. [3] _____ Some of the Roman bath houses with shops, libraries, and sports facilities. [4] _____ Built the largest one in Rome when Emperor Caracalla ruled. [5] _____ Wherever the Romans went, they established such bath houses, one in England gave the town its name, Bath. [6] _____ A practical location because of the area’s natural hot springs. [7] _____ Long after the fall of the Roman Empire, English people enjoyed the public pools. [8] _____ Baths and public pools exist in many parts of the world today, they are very popular in Japan. [9] _____ Both in Budapest, Hungary, and in Moscow, the capital of Russia. [10] _____ Pools attract people in any location, they are a good place to chat, do informal business, or just relax.
Subject-Verb Agreement A

**Exercise A** In each of the following sentences, underline the verb in parentheses that agrees in number with its subject.

**Example 1.** Neither Renata nor her sister *(is, are)* going to the dance on Friday night.

1. Two of our cats and our dog *(were, was)* presents from my uncle and aunt.
2. Not one of our animals *(is, are)* very well-behaved.
3. The colors in that painting *(appears, appear)* particularly vibrant in this light.
4. My cousin and I usually *(ride, rides)* bikes on Saturday.
5. Which one of these sweaters *(go, goes)* with this pair of pants?
6. Both the park near the river and the baseball field *(is, are)* owned by the city.
7. Either James or Nigel *(come, comes)* from Australia.
8. *(Have, Has)* either of them ever visited New Zealand?
9. None of the children *(remembers, remember)* all of his or her telephone number.
10. My class *(is, are)* studying the formation of rivers and lakes.

**Exercise B** In each of the following sentences, cross out any verb that does not agree with its subject, and write the correct form of the verb above the incorrect form. If all the verbs in a sentence are correct, write C above the sentence.

**Example 1.** Either Jessica or Kai *(practices, practice)* piano for two hours every day.

11. You must be thinking about Jessica; Kai plays the violin.
12. How do she find the time to practice that much?
13. Both she and her brother wakes up early every morning to practice.
14. Do her brother play an instrument, too?
15. He takes violin lessons with Kai, but he also enjoys practicing with his sister.
16. Neither Jessica nor her brother mind the practice time.
17. One of their grandmothers—their mother’s mother—are a professor of music at the university.
18. The whole family, including their other brother and both parents, have musical talent.
19. Have either Jessica or anyone else in her family ever played in public?
20. None of them play professionally, but all of them belong to music groups.
EXERCISE A  In each of the following sentences, decide whether the underlined verb agrees in number with its subject. If the verb form is incorrect, cross it out, and write above it the correct form. If the verb is already correct, write C above it.

Example 1. Each of the houses on that block are painted a different color.

1. The book that I borrowed last month is overdue.
2. Unless he get up too late, Ralph usually walks to school.
3. Neither Russell nor his brothers has ever been on an airplane.
4. One of his brothers want to be a pilot.
5. Both my grandfather and his brother, my great-uncle Bill, live in Fargo.
6. They used to be farmers, but neither of them farm any longer.
7. Miguel, together with Alicia and Heather, have prepared a slide show.
8. The layout on these pages of the newspaper look too crowded to me.
9. Most of the children in that elementary school live in this neighborhood.
10. Are either the pool in Garrison Park or the pool in Stacy Park open yet?

EXERCISE B  In each of the following sentences, circle the subject of the underlined verb. Then, if the verb does not agree in number with its subject, write the correct form of the verb above the incorrect form. If the verb already agrees, write C above it.

Example 1. The mother of those boys is upset because both of them was playing in the street.

11. The rehearsal will not begin until all of the musicians have taken their seats.
12. One of the trombone players and one of the clarinetists is missing.
13. If seventy-five percent of the eggs hatch, how many chicks will we have?
14. Marissa, along with several of her classmates, volunteer at the children’s hospital.
15. The price of avocados have varied a lot over the past year.
16. Spaghetti and meatballs is my father’s favorite dish.
17. If the majority of the club don’t want to meet next month, then we’ll cancel the meeting.
18. The highlight of the banquet were the awards.
19. Two fifths of my allowance go into my savings account.
20. How many pieces of chicken do we need for the picnic?
**Exercise A**  In each of the following sentences, circle the antecedent of the pronoun in parentheses. Then, underline the pronoun in parentheses that agrees with the antecedent.

**Example 1.** Every student in the class has to finish *(their, his or her)* project by next Friday.

1. Some people say that dogs come when you call *(it, them)*, but cats take a message and get back to you later.

2. One of the girls in my gym class twisted *(their, her)* ankle on the stairs.

3. The members of the concert band will arrive early to tune *(its, their)* instruments.

4. How long has the United States had *(their, its)* present system of government?

5. Every citizen should exercise *(their, his or her)* right to vote.

6. Anyone who is entering a project in the science fair should set up *(his or her, their)* display.

7. If we work together with the ninth-graders to raise the funds *(themselves, ourselves)*, we won’t have to ask our parents for so much money for the trip.

8. Reggie and Clara reminded *(themselves, himself or herself)* that the last bus would leave at 6:00 P.M.

9. If they miss that bus, one of them will have to call *(his or her, their)* parents for a ride.

10. Unless we can use the darkroom, we won’t be able to develop *(our, their)* photographs.

**Exercise B**  In each of the following sentences, cross out any pronoun that does not agree with its antecedent. Then, write the correct pronoun above the incorrect pronoun. If the sentence is already correct, write *C* above it.

**Example 1.** The new camera club has already elected *(its, their)* officers.

11. All three runners from our school have finished her races.

12. My dog Dusty, who was one of a litter of seven puppies, is sleeping in her doghouse.

13. Clay’s younger brother and sister always have peanut butter sandwiches in his or her lunches.

14. Not everyone has turned in his or her permission form yet.

15. Most of the books looked interesting, but it cost too much.

16. I prefer to use molasses because their taste is stronger and more distinctive.

17. The encyclopedia is on the shelves over there; which volumes of it do you need?

18. Rachel, who shares a room with two of her sisters, really enjoys her company.

19. According to my father, when he and his brother were young, he both liked spinach.

20. A search party located the boys in the morning, after they had looked for them all night.
**Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement B**

**EXERCISE**  Complete each of the following sentences by writing a pronoun that agrees with its antecedent.

**Example** 1. We need to repair these stone walls before one of ___________ collapses.

1. I need the scissors, but I can’t remember where I left ________________.
2. Anyone who hasn’t decided on a topic needs to make ________________ decision.
3. Both Clarence and his brother keep ________________ in good condition.
4. My grandparents rode in the camper, and my cousin drove ________________ car for them.
5. One of our dogs enjoys ________________ bath, but the other runs away when it’s time for a bath.
6. Despite ________________ fatigue, the hikers set up camp and cooked a simple meal.
7. Let the bread cool on a rack after you take ________________ out of the oven.
8. The booster club members met ________________ fund-raising goal.
9. Measure two thirds of a cup of milk and mix ________________ into the batter.
10. When the ten o’clock news comes on, ________________ may have a story about the regional track meet.
11. The soccer team was disappointed that ________________ did not make a single goal.
12. I won’t make that pasta and casserole again; none of the guests seemed to like ________________.
13. Rowena took her little brother to the barber shop to have ________________ hair cut.
14. Either Michael or Fernando hopes to become a doctor when ________________ grows up.
15. According to my count, only about thirty percent of the plastic containers we collected are recyclable; maybe we should count ________________ again.
16. Please ask those people over there if one of them left ________________ umbrella in the auditorium.
17. All of the members have agreed to bring ________________ photographs.
18. None of the boys would admit that ________________ had broken the window.
19. The judge asked the jury if ________________ needed more time to reach a decision.
20. Please get the bag of groceries out of the car and put ________________ on the table.
**Pronoun Forms A**

**Exercise A** In each of the following sentences, underline the correct pronoun in parentheses.

**Example 1.** No one on my team runs faster than (him, he).

1. Mr. Jeffers asked us, Tranh and (I, me), to join your group.

2. Neither of (we, us) tap dance fans can even do the two-step.

3. All of the other girls on the golf team have had more practice than (she, her).

4. It is (they, them) who are making a mistake they will regret.

5. The sudden screeching of an owl startled the new scouts and (he, him).

6. The Nobel Prize will be awarded to four other scientists and (she, her) this year.

7. My parents always like to know (who, whom) else is invited to the party.

8. Leo’s manager gave Jenna and (he, him) a lesson about the cash register.

9. Your friends claim that you are a better cook than (I, me).

10. Mrs. Wong, Coach Wood, and (she, her) have agreed to serve as sponsors.

**Exercise B** In each of the following sentences, cross out any incorrect pronoun and write the correct pronoun above it.

**Example 1.** She and me are the only students who finished the test early.

11. Do you know whom is rehearsing on the stage this afternoon?

12. The salesclerk showed my mother and I at least ten pairs of shoes.

13. Us tenth-graders are already looking forward to graduation.

14. My family and me have visited over twenty national parks.

15. We were supposed to meet Clarissa and Mario at the movies, but we didn’t hear from they in time.

16. The chores were divided among David, Kevin, and he.

17. Whomever wants to work on the mural should wear old clothes on Friday.

18. Take Ms. Simmons and he these papers when you go to the office.

19. The woman who designed the winning float in the parade is her.

20. To who should the students turn in this application, and by when?
**Pronoun Forms B**

**Exercise** In each of the following sentences, underline the correct pronoun in parentheses. Then, identify the use of the pronoun by writing above it S for subject, PN for predicate nominative, DO for direct object, IO for indirect object, OP for object of a preposition, or A for appositive.

**Example 1.** My best friends, Tammy and (her, she), gave me a surprise party on my birthday.

1. (Whom, Who) wants to help make posters this weekend?
2. Please show (us, we) drama students the plans for the new auditorium.
3. Four of my cousins, Rich, Steve, Karen, and (he, him), are older than I am.
4. Nadia couldn’t remember whether she had invited Carol and (she, her) to the party.
5. The most cheerful person in our class is (her, she).
6. The coach asked three members of the team—Nick, Calvin, and (me, I)—to stay after practice for a few minutes.
7. Next summer, my father will teach my brother and (I, me) how to drive a car.
8. LaShonda didn’t think the tomatoes looked ripe, so she didn’t buy any of (they, them).
9. Either (she, her) or her grandmother does most of the family’s grocery shopping.
10. After (them, they) pick up their clothes, we will take the children to the park.
11. What Simone and (she, her) planned to wear to the costume party was a big secret.
12. After we ran into Celie and Carl outside the restaurant, we went inside and sat with (him or her, them) for a few minutes.
13. Are the women who own the landscaping business (them, they)?
14. (Them, They) and my brothers have gone to the same summer camp every year.
15. Didn’t your grandmother ask you to mow the lawn for (she, her)?
16. The people you wanted me to call and remind about the meeting are (who, whom)?
17. Kristin, Maxine, Lena, and Tom are some of the students (who, whom) should be asked to help.
18. Tell Nate or (I, me) the combination to your locker so that one of us can bring your books home for you.
19. After the dance performance, my parents gave flowers to my sister and (me, I).
20. Please draw Sam and (I, me) a map to your house.
Clear Pronoun Reference A

**Exercise**  On the lines provided, rewrite the following sentences, correcting any inexact pronoun references. If a sentence is already correct, write C on the line.

**Example 1.** I didn’t want a second helping of spaghetti, which no one at the table could believe.

![Corrected sentence]

1. Before Ann and Miriam started their research, she had to sharpen her pencils.

2. Whenever the sky looks that threatening, it usually means we can expect a bad thunderstorm.

3. My brothers like to jump on the trampoline, which is why they are always at Neil’s house.

4. In the newspaper article, it did not say when the parade will start.

5. My aunt and uncle told my parents that they would not be able to go to the concert.

6. In my school, they like to have an assembly every Friday morning.

7. According to the report I heard, teenagers and young adults are not getting enough calcium.

8. My father told my brother that he needed to get the car washed.

9. If we want to be on time, that means we’d better leave in the next ten minutes.

10. Julie repeated the instructions to Cynthia until she was sure that she could do the problem.
EXERCISE  On the lines provided, rewrite the following sentences, correcting any inexact pronoun references. If a sentence is already correct, write C on the line.

Example 1. On the sign outside the store, it said “No dogs allowed.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sentence</th>
<th>Correction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Raul admired sketches of buildings, which is why he thought of being an architect.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. In the fourteenth chapter, the author explains about red and white blood cells.</td>
<td>In the fourteenth chapter, the author explained about red and white blood cells.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. The bank apologized for the inconvenience, but this was no comfort to the clients in line.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Even though rain was predicted, it didn’t stop them from counting on this picnic.</td>
<td>Although rain was predicted, it didn’t stop them from counting on this picnic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. The specialist and the patient discussed the problems she had been having.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. On the radio, they said the price of gasoline is going up again.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. For the choir’s first selection, it was a medley of spirituals.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. The visiting authors talked to the students about their writing.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Rosanne reminded Matty to choose a recipe that she would find easy to prepare.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. By the time Cletus got the clothes off the line, it had already started raining.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Verb Tense

**Exercise A** In each of the following sentences, determine whether the underlined verb is in the correct tense. If the tense of the verb is incorrect, write the correct form of the verb above the incorrect form. If the tense of the underlined verb is already correct, write C above it.

Example 1. When you **arrive** at the theater, please look for us.

1. Last Friday night, we **had gone** to the game after we ate dinner.
2. By this time next week, we **will have finished** our review of geometric solids.
3. When we visited the Bahamas last summer, we **have seen** some amazing fish.
4. Despite the advances that medical science has made, much research into the causes of cancer **remained to be done**.
5. If the train leaves at 4:00 p.m., we **will have arrived** before dark.
6. When she **calls**, I had already begun to cook dinner.
7. I have removed the hinges and sanded the door, so now I **was ready to paint**.
8. The dog had dug a hole under the fence and **has escaped** from the yard.
9. Before the alarm **begins to ring**, I was already up and dressed.
10. On Saturday mornings, we usually eat a late breakfast, run **errands**, and **have done** chores.

**Exercise B** The verb tenses in the following paragraph are used inconsistently and illogically. Underline any verb that is in the incorrect tense, and write the correct form of the verb above it.

Example [1] The Basques are a group of people who **will have lived** on both sides of the border between France and Spain.

[11] The Basque area in the western Pyrenees Mountains will **undergo** political change in recent times. [12] Even though King Juan Carlos began to return Spain to democratic rule in 1975, the Basque inhabitants would want independence. [13] In 1980, the people of this unique region are voting overwhelmingly for self-government. [14] Spain decides to grant them home rule. [15] The Basque inhabitants, with their distinct culture and language, would have wanted home rule for a long time.
Verb Forms A

**EXERCISE** In each of the following sentences, underline the incorrect verb form and write the correct form above it.

**Example 1.** None of the students had *spoke* to the teacher about the homework assignment.

1. At the bookstore, I *chose* a biography and two books of poetry.
2. By the time we reached the station, our train had already *left*.
3. Please sit the vase of flowers in the middle of the dining room table.
4. The team was disappointed because they had *lost* the game.
5. I could have *bought* three new sweaters for the amount of money that jacket cost.
6. She would have enjoyed the campout more if she had *brought* her scarf and hat.
7. The children slowly *drag* the toboggan up the hill.
8. I would have *eaten* more of my lunch, but I ran out of time.
9. That old dog has been *laying* in the shade all day.
10. By tonight, I will have *written* more than ten pages of my paper.
11. I wish my mother had *talked* to me before she *threw* my old shoes away.
12. All night long, the wind from the ocean *blew* strongly.
13. Before my grandfather could *become* a U.S. citizen, he had to pass a test.
14. Nicholas and his sister have *swum* in this lake before.
15. My family *sought* advice from our mechanic when we wanted to buy a new car.
16. The horse must have *run* away during the night.
17. How many times do you think we have *ridden* this bus to school in the past two years?
18. I couldn’t *hear* her very well, but I think that’s what she *meant*.
19. Ray turned on the news to find out if the temperature had *raised*.
20. The girls had already *sent* the pictures to their grandparents.
Verb Forms B

**Exercise A** On the line provided, write the correct past or past participle form of the verb given.

**Example 1.** *take* By next year, Berto will have ___________ his driver’s test.

1. *begin* Six weeks ago, Berto and Salim ______________ a driving class.
2. *drive* The two friends have ______________ on freeways and narrow roads.
3. *forget* Once Salim observed, because he had ______________ his learner’s permit.
4. *become* Both sophomores have ______________ quite confident of their skills.
5. *go* Berto won’t discuss the day he almost ______________ through a red light.
6. *give* As his older sister, I have ______________ him plenty of advice.
7. *speak* Yesterday, the instructor ______________ highly of him to our parents.
8. *ride* I have ______________ with him, and I must admit he’s careful.
9. *swear* He and his friend Salim have ______________ to improve the reputation of teenage drivers.
10. *get* I know I was happy when I ______________ my license.

**Exercise B** In each of the following sentences, underline the base form of the verb that will complete the sentence correctly. Then, on the line provided, write the correct form of the verb.

**Example 1.** *lie, lay* Malcolm’s sunburn proved he had _____________ in the sun too long.

11. *rise, raise* Every morning, just before the sun ________________, our rooster crows.
13. *lie, lay* Even on Sundays, when most people ________________ in bed a little longer, I am up at the crack of dawn.
15. *rise, raise* We have ________________ chickens, ducks, and geese for many years.
16. *sit, set* Whenever we ________________ in the yard, the chickens come to visit.
17. *rise, raise* When my little brother chased one of the geese, it ________________ its wings.
18. *sit, set* The hens are usually ________________ on their eggs.
19. *lie, lay* One of the hens ________________ her eggs under our porch.
20. *sit, set* Don’t ________________ your lemonade down; the ducks will drink it.
EXERCISE A  In each of the following sentences, underline the correct form of the adjective or adverb in parentheses.

Example 1. This fireworks display is (impressiver, more impressive) than last year’s was.

1. Which of your two neighbors have you known (longer, longest)?
2. She always finished her work (more quickly, quicklyer) than anyone else.
3. His brother has some of the (more interesting, most interesting) fish I’ve ever seen.
4. None of the students, including Jorge, is (ready, readier) for the test.
5. (Mucher, More) work remains to be done in that area.
6. These are some of the (most aggressive, more aggressive) mosquitoes we’ve encountered all summer.
7. Unfortunately, (manier, many) children in the United States are not covered by health insurance.
8. Samantha did a lot (well, better) on her test than she thought she would.
9. It’s too bad that he had to leave the game early because he didn’t feel (better, well).
10. In high school we have (more, manier) classes that last longer than an hour.

EXERCISE B  In the following sentences, underline any double comparison or other error in the use of comparative and superlative forms of modifiers. Then, write the correct form above the incorrect usage.

Example 1. Someday I will explore the most deepest parts of the ocean.

11. Believe it or not, the world ocean—called that because all oceans are connected—is the most largest region on earth.
12. Many find its scenery more spectactorarer than any landscape.
13. Learning that seventy percent of the earth’s surface is water, people are more respectfuller of the world ocean.
14. If Mount Everest were submerged in the most deep part of the ocean, its peak would be a mile below the surface.
15. In the future, gooder research of ocean life may help solve the problem of food shortages.
Comparative and Superlative Forms B

**EXERCISE A**  In each of the following sentences, underline the correct form of the adjective or adverb in parentheses.

**Example 1.** Of these four puppies, which do you like (better, best)?

1.  (More, Most) trees in our yard still have their leaves.
2.  What is the (least, lowest) offer you will accept for the car?
3.  He usually doesn’t hear (worse, badly), but he has an ear infection.
4.  That little girl just told me the (delightful, most delightful) story!
5.  She couldn’t decide whether she liked the coat or the jacket (best, better).
6.  When the peaches are (ripe, more ripe), we will pick our own at a nearby orchard.
7.  I wish I had heard (much, more) music, but I had to leave early.
8.  The discussion this afternoon will be (more informal, informaller) than yesterday’s discussion was.
9.  Can you solve this puzzle in the (fewer, fewest) possible moves?
10.  These potato pancakes taste (weller, better) than the ones I ate last week.

**EXERCISE B**  In the following sentences, underline any double comparison or other error in the use of comparative and superlative forms of modifiers. Then, write the correct form above the incorrect usage.

**Example 1.** This talk show host’s stories are even more sillier than his jokes are.

11.  I agree; this is probably the most boringest show I’ve seen in a long time.
12.  We should spend least time watching TV.
13.  Well, some programs are a lot more better than this one is.
14.  Why are some of the people on television paid mucher money than others?
15.  You and I did watch a gooder series about space exploration recently.
Misplaced Modifiers

**Exercise** On the lines provided, rewrite the following sentences to correct the misplaced modifiers. You may need to rearrange or add words to make the meaning of a sentence clear.

**Example** 1. I unintentionally put the pen into my shirt pocket that was leaking.

   *I unintentionally put the pen that was leaking into my shirt pocket.*

1. Singing an ancient spiritual song, the tourists listened to the old people of the village.

2. Vast and calm, we watched the sun set over the Pacific Ocean.

3. The crowd cheered as the runner rounded the bases, stomping and whistling loudly.

4. The hurricane finally hit the coast that had been stalled out in the ocean.

5. Twitching its tail and meowing hungrily, the man placed a saucer of food in front of the kitten.

6. The woman gave one of the cones to a man, who had bought two ice cream cones.

7. As we walked among the trees, we could hear the songs of the birds, towering and ancient.

8. Rolling down the hill backwards, the man ran after his car.

9. When she fell off the tricycle, the woman comforted the little girl.

10. The purple martin house is now occupied by sparrows that we put up last fall.
Dangling Modifiers

**Exercise**  On the lines provided, rewrite each of the following sentences to correct the dangling modifier. You may need to rearrange or add words to make the meaning of a sentence clear.

**Example 1.** After an exciting day at the amusement park, dinner at home was relaxing.

*After an exciting day at the amusement park, we had a relaxing dinner at home.*

1. While waiting in line, the music started.

2. Before visiting my grandparents, the flat tire had to be fixed.

3. To teach someone to drive, patience and a calm manner are important.

4. When sledding down the big hill near my house, a rock was in the path of the sled.

5. Prepared and well-rested, the final exam in geometry was not at all difficult.

6. Leaving through a gate that someone had left open, the road was blocked by the cows’ passage.

7. Determined to unravel the mystery, all the clues were re-examined.

8. Hurrying through the crowd as the final whistle blew, the train pulled out of the station.

9. As a stranger in the city, the one-way streets and traffic circles were confusing.

10. Weary from days of traveling under the hot desert sun, the oasis provided shade and water.
Misplaced and Dangling Modifiers

**Exercise**  Each of the following sentences contains a dangling or misplaced modifier. On the lines provided, rewrite each sentence so that its meaning is clear.

**Example 1.** The hikers were prepared to take photos of butterflies walking along the path.  
*Walking along the path, the hikers were prepared to take photos of butterflies.*

1. After next week our supervisor selected two trainees to assume regular duties.

2. While reaching for the second prize, the first place trophy was knocked over by Pete.

3. To achieve a higher grade on finals, steady learning throughout the term is wise.

4. After being left in disrepair, we found the cabin roof let in rain and wind.

5. Aunt Lyla saw a poodle on her way to the dentist.

6. Allison posted her report card on the refrigerator, full of self-confidence.

7. Walking the dogs in the park on Sunday afternoon, it began to rain hard.

8. Repainted from top to bottom, the neighbors admired the historic cottage.

9. The principal said there was too much trash on the floor over the loudspeaker.

10. Having filled out the application, an interview with a supervisor was set up.
Double Negatives and Other Errors

**EXERCISE A**  In the following sentences, eliminate any double negatives by crossing out incorrect words and writing the correct forms above them if necessary.

**Example 1.** I couldn't see no one around to help me.

1. We were so tired that we couldn’t barely put one foot in front of the other.
2. There weren’t no sandwiches left by the time I got through the cafeteria line.
3. That store doesn’t accept no employment applications by telephone.
4. She looked for graph paper everywhere in the house, but she didn’t find none.
5. Jerome didn’t want to read neither of those books for his report.
6. My mother said that we can’t go swimming in the river no more.
7. Don’t tell me you haven’t never eaten Italian food!
8. Why didn’t no one remember to bring a camera?
9. Wasn’t nobody available to unlock the gymnasium doors?
10. The little boys were so excited that they couldn’t hardly sleep the night before the trip.

**EXERCISE B**  On the lines provided, rewrite each of the following sentences to correct any double negatives and other errors in usage.

**Example 1.** There wasn’t hardly anybody on the beach early this morning.

11. Ain’t nobody come up with that idea before.
12. We can’t bag no more trash until the trucks haul this load away.
13. Losing her temper, my little sister said, “Can’t nobody tell me what to do!”
14. Don’t you want no second helping of these mashed potatoes?
15. The streets were so confusing that we couldn’t scarcely tell which way to turn.
EXERCISE A  In each of the following sentences, underline the correct word or words in parentheses.

Example 1. The cat was (setting, sitting) on the table, licking its whiskers.

1. Despite the hours she spent studying, she did (real, really) (bad, badly) on the exam.
2. Could you (loan, lend) me five dollars until the weekend?
3. There are (alot, a lot) (fewer, less) clouds in the sky than there were earlier today.
4. He (use, used) to repair his guitar (hisself, himself).
5. From (they’re, their) discussion during class, she (inferred, implied) that everyone agreed with her position.
6. The story of my grandfather’s (immigration, emigration) from Russia has been passed down for generations.
7. Naomi’s mother said that she would (learn, teach) us two girls how to weave.
8. (Whom, Who) were you calling on the telephone?
9. The movie (what, that) I told you about is (suppose, supposed) to start at eight o’clock.
10. Some books, such as Uncle Tom’s Cabin and The Jungle, have (affected, effected) social change.

EXERCISE B  On the lines provided, rewrite each of the following sentences to correct any errors in usage.

Example 1. Matt decided to try and remember whether he might of loaned his bike to James.

11. She ought not to of turned off the alarm clock, but she was kind of tired this morning.

12. The reason she can’t hardly keep her eyes open is because she stayed up late last night.

13. We probably should of planted less flowers and more vegetables this year.

14. A number of students was standing in the hallway like they didn’t have nowheres to go.

15. Without they catch a later train, they don’t have but two hours to tour the museum.
EXERCISE A  In the following sentences, underline the words that are used incorrectly or informally according to the rules of standard English usage. Then, write the correct usage above the incorrect usage.

Example 1. We were suppose to of been there an hour ago.

1. The candy and trinkets were divided between the triplets.
2. You will burn up less calories walking than jumping rope.
3. Beside American history and chemistry, Mia studies algebra.
4. Being that it is noon, lunch hour begins now.
5. In Shakespeare’s works are many illusions to mythology.
6. That there dog doesn’t like the mail carrier.
7. She read where the tickets would go on sale at seven o’clock in the morning.
8. He would of called, but he was already late.
9. Don’t he know that the moon affects the tides?
10. Do you think you can get this strawberry jam stain off of my shirt?

EXERCISE B  On the lines provided, rewrite the following paragraph, correcting any words or phrases used incorrectly or informally according to the rules of standard English usage.

Example [1] Are you inferring that he don’t really want a job?

Are you implying that he doesn’t really want a job?

[11] I would not of believed what my friend Ike wore to his job interview if I had not seen him with my own eyes. [12] Beside a tuxedo with plaid lapels, he wore a top hat whose brim was bent. [13] He looked like he might of been going to a prom during the days of Charles Dickens! [14] I told him that wearing those kind of clothes for an interview at the ice cream shop could backfire some, but my warning had no affect on him. [15] Hopefully, he learned his lesson, but he is still looking everywheres for a place to earn money this summer.
Capitalization A

**EXERCISE A**  In each of the following sentences, circle any letter that should be capitalized but is not.

Example 1. Do you want to go out for Chinese or Italian food with Aunt Rita and Uncle Nick?

1. jean lives with her family in the hancock arms apartments on forty-fifth street.
2. mom and dad’s business advisor, uncle raymond, developed the advertising campaign.
3. greta read me an article about buddhist monasteries in tibet.
4. Most passenger trains in the u.s., such as the sunset limited, are run by amtrak.
5. Everyone in the ecology club voted for a trip to the atlantic coast.
6. classes at tubman high school begin august 30, but the next monday, labor day, is a holiday.
7. “I asked dad,” reggie began, turning to look at frank, “if he could take us fishing at lake jefferson.”
8. visitors to yosemite and yellowstone national parks have the opportunity to see some of the most beautiful areas of the american west.
9. your parents or grandparents probably remember exactly where they were when they heard that president john f. kennedy was assassinated on november 22, 1963.
10. Every year on halloween, our radio station replays orson welles’s adaptation of h.g. wells’s novel The War of the Worlds.

**EXERCISE B**  Most of the sentences in the following paragraph contain capitalization errors. Circle any letter that should be capitalized and draw a slash (/) through any letter that should be lowercase. If the capitalization in a sentence is correct, write C above the sentence.

Example 1. On july 15, the Morning Edition of the newspaper carried an apology and a correction from the Editor, james wylie.

[11] The gracy city gazette always apologizes for its errors. [12] The article we printed on tuesday, “on with the festival!” was not entirely accurate. [13] We misquoted the dates for the peaches and cream festival. [14] a parade will kick off festivities on july 29. [15] Gracy City council members will lead the way to the norwegian Pioneer memorial monument in lincoln park. [16] They will also hold groundbreaking ceremonies for the new gracy memorial hospital after the parade. [17] Festival activities will continue through the third of August. [18] we hope this clears up any inaccurate information printed by this Newspaper. [19] Please accept editor wylie’s apologies for earlier errors. [20] Most of all, don’t forget to join your neighbors for all the Summer fun!
Capitalization B

**EXERCISE**  In each of the following sentences, circle any letter that should be capitalized and draw a slash (/) through any letter that should be lowercase.

**Example 1.** Did you ask Dr. Fishbein or her Dental Assistant about your toothache during your appointment last Friday?

1. Mom and dad always watch *meet the press* and *Washington Week in Review* on Sunday mornings.
2. Simms & Sons, on Fifty-Seventh street, is a Company that specializes in restaurant furniture.
3. In *The Westing Game*, a novel by Ellen Raskin, the lyrics of “America The Beautiful” provide clues to the Mystery.
4. “Ladies and Gentlemen,” the speaker began, “we must let the Mayor and City Council know exactly how we feel about the plans to put a Natural Gas pipeline through our neighborhoods.”
5. In England, Boxing Day, the day after Christmas, is the traditional day to exchange gifts.
6. That airline does not fly to New Mexico’s Capital, Santa Fe.
7. Our neighbor, Dr. Pat Kelly, has a Ph.D. degree in American History, not an M.D. degree.
8. The University of Texas at Austin and the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor have Tens of Thousands of students.
9. Does Mr. Keaton expect us to read this whole chapter, “The Westward Expansion,” in one night?
10. I didn’t see that Program last Tuesday because our town does not have an NBC affiliate.
11. The audience waited while Senator Bates organized her notes and adjusted the microphone.
12. The cats, Persephone and Demeter, were named after characters in Ancient Greek Myths.
13. The north star, Polaris, appears to be almost directly above the North Pole.
14. When you reach the Intersection of Broadway and San Pedro Street, turn right, or East.
15. The VCR isn’t working, so I guess we’ll have to listen to CDs.
16. Send your film to P.O. Box 11122, Seattle, WA 99002; you’ll receive your pictures and a free roll of film in about Two Weeks.
17. Does the museum of modern art have any Summer internships for High School students?
18. Unless you live in the southern hemisphere, you won’t be familiar with Constellations such as the southern cross and centaurus.
19. The defense lawyer refused to comment about Judge Mewhirter’s ruling.
20. “In case of an Emergency,” the notice read, “Please call 911 to reach EMS or the Police.”
Commas A

**Exercise**  In each of the following sentences, insert commas where necessary.

**Example 1.** Mr. Wilson, would you initial my schedule change, please?

1. Do you want to walk to school tomorrow morning or should we sleep a little later and catch the bus?
2. This recipe calls for nuts raisins and chocolate chips.
3. On Tuesday October 24 at 4:00 p.m. the junior class will assemble in the auditorium.
4. No I appreciate the invitation but I’ve already made plans for Saturday night.
5. Whenever I see a rainbow I recall my grandmother’s stories about leprechauns and their pots of gold.
6. That man Jesse’s uncle works for one of the airlines in Dallas Texas.
7. Ms. Branter who teaches physical education classes coaches the soccer and volleyball teams.
8. Many people celebrated the end of the millennium on December 31 1999 but others insisted upon waiting until December 31 2000.
9. He wanted to go skateboarding with his friends of course but he hadn’t finished his chores.
10. According to her sister Marty is applying to Georgia Tech Texas A&M and LSU.
11. That was my best broad jump so far Dave.
12. My grandmother who is over seventy gets up every morning at six o’clock walks three miles and then goes for a swim at the YMCA pool.
13. Unfortunately one of our scheduled speakers Dr. F. E. Maxwell Jr. can’t make it today.
14. He apparently missed his connection and is now waiting in the airport in Raleigh North Carolina until the airline can find him a seat on another flight.
15. The crisp clear fall weather was invigorating.
16. Celie despite her cold insisted on running in the 10K race.
17. “Elias we don’t have enough money to buy another car” his father explained “and unless you saved money you couldn’t afford the gasoline not to mention the insurance.”
18. Imelda and Esmeralda my twin nieces will start school next year in the fall.
19. The rehearsals are scheduled for Wednesday December 6 and Friday December 8.
20. After we finish our exams in June we’re all planning a trip to the beach.
Commas B

**EXERCISE**  In each of the following sentences, insert any missing commas and draw a slash (/) through any unnecessary commas.

**Example 1.** My father’s older brother, my uncle Steve, and his partner, are going to show us how to change a flat tire.

1. Camila, and her mother Sra. Alcocer will be preparing all the food for the party.
2. We have games this Friday and Saturday next Friday and Saturday and I believe the following Friday as well.
3. According to the weather forecast the storm, will reach our area in the middle of the night sometime after midnight.
4. Cassie’s address is 1339 Milam Street Apartment 12-B and her phone number is 604-7490.
5. Although he is almost never late for school he overslept, this morning.
6. Next weekend I am going camping with Nate my best friend, since elementary school.
7. On Thursday and Friday the performances of *Fiddler on the Roof* will begin at seven o’clock but on Saturday the curtain goes up at eight o’clock.
8. Please take this flyer to the front office ask Ms. Jameson, to approve it and make thirty copies for the class.
9. My dogs whose names are Wolfie and Bear are huge but gentle.
10. The concert despite the fact that all the tickets were sold out was cancelled.
11. Fortunately we will be able to get our money back but the process will take several weeks.
12. Mom if you have a few minutes could you please show me how to sew this button on?
13. My grandparents who became U.S. citizens only a few years ago never forget to vote.
14. In the dim flickering light of the candles the children’s eyes shone, as they opened their gifts.
15. “Everyone in the class” Mr. Martin said “except for Nelson Glenn and Christine has turned in a permission slip for the field trip.”
16. The Customer Service Department I believe has an 800-number so the call will be free.
17. I have classes, at 9:00 and 10:30 lunch at 12:05 and a meeting after school today.
18. None of the materials on that cart including the magazines may be checked out.
19. She brought a notebook, and a tape recorder to the interview, she had scheduled.
20. There is one item, in that catalog, item number 7767 the rain jacket that would be very useful.
Semicolons and Colons

**Exercise** In each of the following sentences, insert colons and semicolons where appropriate.

**Example 1.** When you’re in Ireland, be sure to include the following on your itinerary: the *Book of Kells*, which is housed at Trinity College; the Ring of Kerry, a scenic route in the western part of Ireland; and of course, Blarney Castle.

1. The flight leaves at 1:30 P.M.; it arrives in Paris at 7:45 A.M. the next day.
2. When you are at the office supply store, please pick up the following supplies for my science fair project: a tri-fold display board, two clear report covers, and a package of graph paper.
3. Some of the relatives at my family reunion came from as far away as Honolulu, Hawaii; Anchorage, Alaska; and Portland, Maine.
4. You can’t buy both the boots and the shoes; you’ll have to choose one or the other.
5. Bettina introduced us to everyone in her family: her mother and father, who came to the United States from Germany when they were in their 20’s; her brother Ralf, who owns a catering business; and her sister Margaret, who is still in elementary school.
6. The castle was begun in 1294 and occupied off and on for the next two centuries; it was conquered and burnt about 1500.
7. My brother plays the piano; I take guitar and flute lessons.
8. My father is a man of many talents: he is an accomplished amateur golfer, an avid gardener, and a published poet.
9. Aaron seldom watches television; he says he has better things to do.
10. Please look in the cupboard and tell me whether we need any of these items from the grocery store: tomato soup, peanut butter, macaroni, vegetable oil, and crackers.
Quotation Marks and Other Punctuation A

**Exercise A** In the following sentences, insert quotation marks where necessary.

**Example 1.** “Nadia!” Rita shouted. “Did you hear about the skating party?”

1. What skating party? asked Nadia, turning to face her friend. When? Where?
2. Let me look at my notes, said Rita, and I’ll tell you all the details.
3. Rita continued, Oh, here they are! This backpack has so many pockets I can never find anything.
4. You were saying . . . ? prompted Nadia.
5. Everyone should meet at Marilyn’s house at four o’clock on Saturday, Rita said.
6. Unfortunately, Rita, said Nadia with a sigh, there’s a little problem.
7. What kind of problem? asked Rita. The rink isn’t expensive, and you can rent skates there.
8. Nadia sighed again and said in a whisper, I don’t know how to skate.
9. Oh, that’s all right! Rita said. You’ll catch on fast, and we can all help you.
10. Do you really think so? asked Nadia. Well then, I can’t wait!

**Exercise B** On the lines provided, rewrite each of the following sentences, underlining any words that should be italicized and inserting quotation marks, apostrophes, hyphens, dashes, parentheses, brackets, and ellipsis points where necessary.

**Example 1.** Do you want to borrow my copy of The Old Man and the Sea or Daniels copy?

11. Well, let me see. I’m sure this is the right direction, said Cecily, looking at her compass.

12. I think it was about 10:00 pm, said the witness. I know that because he the defendant always walked his dogs around the block at that time.

13. Only the sopranos not I are able to reach the high notes in The Star Spangled Banner.


15. Everyone in Ms. Cranfields literature class has to read Shakespeares Julius Caesar.
**EXERCISE**  On the lines provided, rewrite the following dialogue, correcting the punctuation and capitalization. Be sure to start a new paragraph when the speaker changes.

**Example**  
[1] What did you do this weekend asked Kevin, as he and Carl were walking to school.

   “What did you do this weekend?” asked Kevin, as he and Carl were walking to school.

[1] Nothing much I guess, said Carl

[2] Nothing at all?

[3] Not one single thing?

[4] You must have done something!

[5] Well, the basement flooded, and we spent most of the weekend mopping up water said Carl.


[7] How did that happen?

[8] The plumber he’s my brother in law was working on some old cast iron pipes Carl began And he forgot to shut off one of the water lines.

[9] You wouldn’t have believed the mess!

[10] There was a foot maybe even two feet of water in the basement by the time we shut the water off.
Apostrophes

EXERCISE  In each of the following sentences, insert apostrophes where necessary.

Example 1. Maria’s aunts’ names are Clara and Bella.

1. She won’t be able to come with us to tonight’s dance performance.
2. In a little over two hours, we can be packed and ready to leave for Grandma Joness house.
3. We shouldn’t have tried to take this test without a good night’s sleep.
4. Didn’t I tell you we should have gone to sleep before two o’clock in the morning?
5. In the late 1990s, many Americans bought large cars, even though smaller cars’ mileage ratings were better.

6. The Gonzalezes ranch is in New Mexico, near its border with Texas.
7. The newspapers’ political editor came to the journalism classes’ awards banquet.
8. Well meet at the Smiths house; then Saras dad will take us to the movies.
9. The company’s president will take you to the conference room on the buildings’ second floor.
10. That’s an incredibly long kite tail; its at least forty or fifty feet long!
11. Carlas family gave the landlord one month’s notice before they moved out of the apartment.
12. Don’t you agree it’s a beautiful morning?
13. My mother always says, “Mind your ps and qs,” but she can’t tell me the origin of the saying.
14. Well, my father’s favorite saying is “Cross all your ts and dot all your is.”
15. Three schools representatives to the District Student Council met to discuss their concerns about the school board’s plans.
16. The dogs’ leashes are on a hook in the closet; Guss leash is the long green one.
17. Now’s the time to ask for your parents’ help.
18. Well all go together in Nathans brothers’ car.
19. The roads’ sharp curves and potholes make it an inexperienced drivers worst nightmare.
20. He’s just gotten his learners permit, and his sisters husband is teaching him to drive.
**All Marks of Punctuation Review A**

**EXERCISE** On the lines provided, rewrite each of the following sentences, underlining any word that should be italicized and inserting appropriate punctuation marks.

**Example 1.** Key West Florida is closer to Cuba about 90 miles than it is to the Florida mainland about 100 miles

*Key West, Florida, is closer to Cuba (about 90 miles) than it is to the Florida mainland (about 100 miles).*

1. Key West the last of the Florida Keys is connected to the mainland by the Overseas Highway

2. In 1905 when Henry Flagler 1830 1913 decided to extend the railroad to Key West Key West was Floridas most populated city

3. It was also the United States closest deep water port to the proposed Panama Canal

4. During the seven year long construction period hurricanes threatened the project several times at one time over four thousand men were working on the rail route

5. Many native born Key Westers a person born on the two by four mile island is called a Conch pronounced konk are descended from early residents who salvaged shipwrecks.

6. When the cry Wreck ashore went up everyone would rush out to see what could be salvaged

7. One of Key Wests well known residents was the author Ernest Hemingway 1899 1961 who owned a house on the island from 1931 until his death

8. Today the Hemingway House is among the islands most popular tourist attractions

9. While he lived in Key West Hemingway wrote several novels including For Whom the Bell Tolls and short stories such as The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber

10. Hemingway owned nearly fifty cats todays visitors still look for those cats descendants especially the six toed ones which are easy to spot
EXERCISE  Proofread the following letter for correct use of end marks, commas, semicolons, colons, apostrophes, hyphens, dashes, parentheses, quotation marks, and italics. Add or delete punctuation as needed.

Example [1] Please bring the following to the meeting: tickets, money, and questions.

[1] 1420 Winston Ave Apt 12
[2] Gwyneth TX 77091
4000 B Academy Blvd
Denver CO 80602
[5] Dear Sir or Madam
[6] Since June 10 1998 I have been a member of Mysteries’ Unlimited. [7] In your last, club newsletter you invited members to send in their original mysteries, for possible publication [8] I have been writing stories for several years but I’ve never submitted anything for publication
[9] I’m enclosing a copy of my story Broken Glasses [10] The story’s setting is Exeter England I grew up there, so the setting is depicted accurately! [11] A cabdriver disappears without a trace except for his’ broken glasses The narrator is Glenda a self confident schoolgirl about my age who lives across the street from the missing driver [12] After finding the glasses in the street Glenda pursues additional clues loud music screeching tires and flashlights at midnight [13] Although she is painfully shy she interviews at least twenty five people friends neighbors and customers of the cab driver in her effort to find him [14] She contacts the police of course but most of them she does make one friend on the police force dismiss her well founded worries as the product of an over active imagination [15] Aren’t they embarrassed when the girl solves the mystery [16] Can you guess how [17] By the way the story contains no violence or weapons
[18] Please consider, publishing my original story in your annual anthology (Best Mysteries). [19] I have enclosed a self addressed stamped envelope for your reply
[20] Sincerely
Francine Gomez
**Spelling A**

**EXERCISE A** In each of the following sentences, two words are underlined. If a word is misspelled, write the word correctly above it. If a word is spelled correctly, write C above it.

**Example 1.** Finally, the team had to **concede** defeat.

1. If you finish early, **proceed** to the next section of the test immediately.
2. Either you **believe** in the movement or you don’t.
3. City **taxes** rarely go for building music **studios**.
4. Insect **larvae** are sometimes found underneath **leaves**.
5. The **bookkeeper** has an accurate record of the bank deposits.
6. After she read the poem, an appreciation of literary **beauty** **seized** her.
7. Scientists often report any **modifications** to their **theories**.
8. **Roofs** in those **countries** are made of natural materials.
9. Those **youngsters’** manners are **awful**, and they are always **disobeying** their parents.
10. Don’t get in an argument about whose **achievement** was the greatest.

**EXERCISE B** In each of the following sentences, underline any misspelled word and write the correct spelling above it.

**Example 1.** 7 miles into the race, the muscles in my **calves** began to ache.

11. I think that television show is **overrated**.
12. The exhibit contained artifacts from an ancient **burial** site.
13. My brother’s collection of **pennies** is truly **amazing**.
14. He was **dissatisfied** with the service he had received at the **restaurant**.
15. Unfortunately, I don’t understand these chemical **formula**.
16. The **questionnaire** was the 4th one she had answered in as many days.
17. The **blizzard** knocked down the power lines and **blanketed** the town in snow.
18. Twelfth-**grader’s** in our school take a class trip every spring.
19. My sister-in-laws are both **sopranos**, and my brothers are **bass’s**.
20. At the zoo, I especially enjoyed **seeing** the wolves, the kangaroos, and the **deers**.
EXERCISE  In each of the following sentences, underline any misspelled word and write the correct word above it.

Example 1. After we finished sewing the costumes, we died them.

1. When he forgets to cross his ts, they look just like his ls.
2. After a satisfying lunch, we all took a nap.
3. Sharon was dismayed when she realized she had missed the rehearsal on Wednesday.
4. My great grandfather founded his business shortly after he came to the United States.
5. Let me check my calendar; I believe I have a practice that afternoon.
6. There are basically only two solutions to this problem.
7. She had been coughing for days and her voice sounded hoarse.
8. His costume was the winner for “Best Character from History.”
9. Please post notices on the bulletin boards so that everyone will know about tonight’s meeting.
10. Wayne is a conscientious student; he is always studying.
11. The batter should have reached the consistency of sour cream or yogurt.
12. My family tried to get a room at the motel, but there were no vacancies.
13. The superintendent of schools has substantial teaching experience.
14. In the part of the county that is outside the city, the sheriff is the chief law enforcement officer.
15. I received a pamphlet explaining the summer programs available for high school students.
16. An extraordinary traffic jam outside the stadium caused us to be late for the tournament.
17. Sadly, he has a tendency to exaggerate things.
18. As the hot-air balloons ascended, the crowd cheered.
19. I have looked in every conceivable place, but I still can’t find my journal.
20. Despite the freezing temperatures, the ski trip was unforgettable.
Words Often Confused

**EXERCISE A** In each of the following sentences, underline the word in parentheses that correctly completes the sentence.

**Example 1.** Did you *(chose, choose)* the pasta or the stew at lunch?

1. Has your family decided what *(rout, route)* to take on the drive to Anchorage?
2. Except for a few *(miner, minor)* errors, Shima’s report is excellent.
3. Job openings are posted on the *(personnel, personal)* director’s bulletin board.
4. Native peoples of the *(plains, planes)* continued to move westward.
5. Citizens of the world hope for *(piece, peace)* among all nations.
6. To boost team *(morale, moral)*, Coach Van Winkle ran laps, too.
7. Do you think having the garage sale was a *(waste, waist)* of time?
8. William doesn’t know *(whether, weather)* to ask Ms. Ling for a retest.
9. The dome on the state *(capital, capitol)* is being cleaned.
10. Their use of *(coarse, course)* language during the formal dinner made a poor impression.

**EXERCISE B** In each of the following sentences, underline any misused word and write the correct word above it. If all the words in a sentence are used correctly, write C after the sentence.

**Example 1.** I have an appointment with the career *counselor* this afternoon.

11. He wasn’t aware that the moon effects the tides on earth.
12. One of this political party’s principals is that all meetings should be open to the public.
13. The motion to except the engineering company’s contract past unanimously.
14. Don’t stomp on the brake pedal; press it calmly and steadily.
15. She was formally an attorney in private practice, but now she owns a bookstore.
16. Their trying to give you a complement.
17. Whose planning to submit an application to the personal department?
18. In the dark tunnel, the lights on the minors’ helmets shown eerily.
19. The path lead to a quite picnic area.
20. Did you here the guide’s talk about the history of the capital building?
EXERCISE In each of the following sentences, underline each misspelled or misused word and write the correct word above it.

Example 1. Annie hadn’t meant to brake the window.

1. My grandparents recently sold the house they had owned for 42 years.
2. They have all ready packed everything; the house looks desserted.
3. Occasionally, I here sirens in the night.
4. In the passed, she had always enjoyed family re-unions.
5. You should try a peace of the banana bread; its really delicious!
6. Everytime we loose a game, our moral plummets.
7. Days in the desert sun must have effected his thinking.
8. During the bicycle maintenance class, we were shone how to adjust breaks and fix a flat.
9. You’re parents don’t like to waist money.
10. In my expereince, surprise partys are alot of fun.
11. Last Tuesday, our state senator gave us a personnel tour of the capitol.
12. The commencement ceremony will include a speech by a famous alumni.
13. On the 2nd Wednesday of every month, the nieghborhood association meets.
14. Do any of there friends or aquaintences work for that company?
15. At the end of they’re feild trip to the museum, all the sophomores bought souvenirs.
16. A single, magnificent painting of a pack of wolfs was the dominant object in the room.
17. One of our requirments for graduation is a grammar coarse.
18. Did she loose her sunglasses or merely missplace them?
19. One characteristic of many succesful athletes is self confidence.
20. Its allright; I know you must have been extremly fatigued after the race.
Review A: Usage

**Exercise A**  If a sentence contains a subject-verb or pronoun-antecedent agreement error, underline the incorrect word and write the correct word or words above it. If the sentence is already correct, write C after it.

**Example 1.** Few people know the truth.

1. Thailand, unlike many other Asian countries, were never a European colony.
2. For 15,000 years Aboriginal Australians have used the boomerang to hunt for its food.
3. Tigers that stalk humans is rare.
4. A designer of Italian automobiles often has formal art training in their background.
5. The Chinese people evaporated seawater in wide heated pans to get salt.
6. Sue doesn’t know that the Hebrew word *shalom* means “peace.”
7. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., advocated nonviolent action to make a nation correct their injustices.
8. Some of the inhabitants of Quebec speak French and English equally well.
9. Its mild climate and spectacular scenery make the Riviera a popular destination.
10. No one chose to write their report about the brief war between England and Argentina in 1982.

**Exercise B**  Rewrite each of the following sentences, correcting any errors in the use of modifiers.

**Example 1.** Always sensibly dressed, the weather never worries her.

*She never worries about the weather, for she is always sensibly dressed.*

11. Being that I plan to go into engineering, excellent math skills are required.

12. Its sirens blaring and its lights flashing, the children watched the fire engine speed by.

13. Counting all the leftovers, more apples than oranges were found to have been eaten.

14. Dim but twinkling, the most young boy looked out his bedroom window at the first star.

15. That was one of the most poignant and more touching stories than any I’ve read.
**EXERCISE** Rewrite the following sentences, correcting any punctuation and capitalization errors.

**Example 1.** I couldn't believe what I read, about truffles the other day exclaimed Kanisha.

"I couldn't believe what I read about truffles the other day!" exclaimed Kanisha.

1. What in the world are truffles Kim asked?

2. Well her friend said they're a fungus that looks a little like mushrooms they grow underground and some people consider them a great delicacy

3. Wanting to know more, Kim asked How do truffle hunters know where the truffles are?

4. "Not easily answered Kanisha" In France pigs are trained to sniff them out

5. "I suppose" Kim said shaking her head that a handful of truffles must be incredibly expensive

6. Kanisha had also learned the following, about truffles that they usually grow, around the roots of trees especially Oaks, that they may be as small as a pea or as large as an orange and that they first became popular near the end of the 15th Century

7. The main French *truffières* truffle grounds are in Périgord and Vaucluse.

8. Some People are sensitive to the scent of truffles others look for other signs small yellow flies that hover over the ground for example that truffles are below the surface

9. Truffles a member of the genus, *Tuber* have been prized as food since ancient times!

10. If you're ever offered the chance to eat truffles even a tiny piece try them they're wonderful
Review C: Usage and Mechanics

**EXERCISE**  On the lines provided, rewrite the following letter, correcting any errors in usage and mechanics.

**Example**  One rainy, Saturday afternoon I decided to write a letter to my friend Marcy, who have moved to Albuquerque right before school begun.

One rainy Saturday afternoon, I decided to write a letter to my friend Marcy, who had moved to Albuquerque right before school began.

January 13 2001

dear Marcy

Its been a long time since I had wrote an old fashioned letter but I wanted to use the stationary my Grandmother give me for my birthday Next time Ill e-mail you thats alot more faster While waiting for the rain to stop a letter to a friend is a good way to get back in touch with them Ive been fine how are you doing All of your Classmates particularly Renata Christopher and Sandra sayed to say hi Renata told me to tell you Im quoting her exactly Save a place for me at the university of new mexico maybe you too could be roomates guess what Ms Jimenez shes the teacher in biology II is from new mexico says the sandia mountains are absolute beautiful especially at sunrise and sunset Maybe ill try and visit you someday and see it for myself Until than send me some pictures Are you still planing to visit during the holidays Let me know well have a party

Always Your Friend,

Lynn;
Proofreading Application: E-mail

Good writers are generally good proofreaders. Readers tend to admire and trust writing that is error-free. Make sure that you correct all errors in grammar, usage, spelling, and punctuation in your writing. Your readers will have more confidence in your words if you have done your best to proofread carefully.

Experienced writers sometimes use sentence fragments and, rarely, run-on sentences to create a certain effect, particularly in works of fiction. However in a business letter or e-mail, you should not include fragments and run-ons in your writing, as these may confuse your reader and create a negative impression.

PROOFREADING ACTIVITY

The following is an e-mail request to a chamber of commerce for information. Find and correct any run-on sentences and sentence fragments. Use proofreading symbols to make your corrections.

TO: webmaster@fresnocc.org

SUBJECT: Tourist Information

My family will be visiting Fresno next month, it will be our first time there. I offered to research your fair city. So that our six-day stay will be as interesting and entertaining as possible.

It is an ideal place for me to visit I like old railroad depots. I read that the Santa Fe Depot in Fresno was constructed in 1896. Also, think William Saroyan is a fascinating writer, and I read that a museum highlights his works. In that same museum I would expect to find information about the Forty-Niners who settled around Fresno during the California gold rush, is that true?

My interest was piqued by a mention of the Shin-Zen Friendship Gardens, would you please send information about this? Then we can decide. Whether we want to go there. Also, what are the exact dates in October of the Big Fresno Fair? Hopefully, when we are in Fresno.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in making our visit to Fresno a great one.
Literary Model: Poem

It is in the small things we see it.
The child's first step, as awesome as an earthquake.
The first time you rode a bike, wallowing up the sidewalk.
The first spanking when your heart went on a journey all alone.
When they called you crybaby or poor or fatty or crazy and made you into an alien, you drank their acid and concealed it.

Later, when you face old age and its natural conclusion your courage will be shown in the little ways, each spring will be a sword you'll sharpen, those you love will live in a fever of love, and you'll bargain with the calendar and at the last moment when death opens the back door you'll put on your carpet slippers and stride out.

— from “Courage” by Anne Sexton

EXERCISE A  Write S to the left of the first word of each complete sentence in the two stanzas above. Write F to the left of the first word of each sentence fragment. Write R to the left of each run-on sentence.

EXERCISE B

1. Why do you think Sexton uses fragments to describe some of the remembered “small things” that show courage?

2. Why do you think Sexton uses a run-on sentence in the final stanza to express her prediction for the future?
EXERCISE C  Write a poem about memories and expectations. Use sentence fragments, complete sentences, and run-on sentences to help you express what you want to say about each.

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EXERCISE D  Describe how your use of complete sentences, sentence fragments, and run-on sentences helps reinforce your poem’s message. Use specific details from your poem in your answer.

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WRITING ACTIVITY

It is time to change roles. Instead of taking a test that evaluates your knowledge of key language skills, you are going to create one for someone else to take. Carefully go over the items in the list that appears at the beginning of Chapter 16. As stated in the first paragraph, these are key skills and concepts that many writers often find problematic. These items are also the grammar, usage, and mechanics topics that you will evaluate in the test you are going to create. You will write a passage, consisting of one or two paragraphs, that includes errors to be identified. You will need to make a checklist of the skills and concepts you are testing, with each item in the list followed by how many of that type of error you have incorporated into the passage. You will provide the student taking your test with an adapted version of the checklist, which he or she will use as a test-taking aid. Keep track of the errors you are incorporating. This will facilitate your creating the answer key.

PREWRITING

Decide on the topic of your passage; it should be one that you can easily write one or two paragraphs about. You may want to consult your checklist before making the final decision. Your task will be to write a passage that you will have to deliberately craft with certain types of language and constructions (so that errors are included). It may be that some topics lend themselves more readily than others to such writing.

WRITING

When you begin to write the passage, you may discover that it is difficult to incorporate all of the different types of common errors. Use your checklist to help you create a passage with at least one of each type of error. Remember to create an answer key, as well as a copy of your checklist that will be used by the student taking the test.

REVISING

Set aside your test for a while. Then, take it as if you were seeing it for the first time. Use the checklist as a student taking the test would to make sure that all the errors indicated on the checklist appear in the test.

PUBLISHING

Proofread your test to be sure that you have not unintentionally included errors not listed on the checklist. You do not want to confuse the test-taker! Then, create two copies of your test and checklist and one of the answer key. Give a copy of the test and checklist to a classmate, and ask him or her to complete the test. Grade it using the answer key.

EXTENDING YOUR WRITING

Present your teacher with the clean copy of the test and checklist, plus the answer key, for future use. You may wish to create two or three more tests covering different topics. Be sure to provide your teacher with an answer key for each test.
Chapter 16: Correcting Common Errors, pp. 367–409

Choices: Exploring Common Errors, p. 367
Choices activities are designed to extend and enrich students’ understanding of grammar, usage, and mechanics and to take learners beyond traditional classroom instruction. To use the Choices worksheet, have each student pick an activity that interests him or her. In some cases, you may wish to assign an activity to a particular student or group of students. You may also want to request that students get your approval for the activities they choose. Establish guidelines for what constitutes successful completion of an activity. Then, help students plan how they will share their work with the rest of the class.

Choices activities can be scored with a pass-fail grade or treated as bonus-point projects. Those activities that require students to research or create a certain number of items might be graded in a traditional manner.

Sentence Fragments and Run-On Sentences A, p. 368

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Sentence Fragments and Run-On Sentences B, p. 369

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Revisions will vary.

[1] Bath houses were built by the Romans, for example. [2] Bath houses of the ancient Roman Empire have a well-known history. Often different pools were kept at different temperatures. [3] Some of the Roman bath houses had shops, libraries, and sports facilities. [4] The largest Roman bath house was built when Emperor Caracalla ruled. [5] Wherever the Romans went, they established such bath houses. One in England gave the town its name, Bath. [6] That part of England was a practical location for a bath house because of the area’s natural hot springs. [7] Long after the fall of the Roman Empire, English people enjoyed the public pools. [8] Baths and public pools exist in many parts of the world today. They are very popular in Japan. [9] There are many bath houses both in Budapest, Hungary, and in Moscow, the capital of Russia. [10] Pools attract people in any location. They are a good place to chat, do informal business, or just relax.

Subject-Verb Agreement A, p. 370

**EXERCISE A**

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<th>1. were</th>
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<th>3. appear</th>
<th>4. ride</th>
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<th>7. comes</th>
<th>8. Has</th>
<th>9. remember</th>
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**EXERCISE B**

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<td>12.</td>
<td>How do she find the time to practice that much?</td>
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<td>13.</td>
<td>Both she and her brother wakes up early every morning to practice.</td>
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<td>14.</td>
<td>Do her brother play an instrument, too?</td>
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<td>16.</td>
<td>Neither Jessica nor her brother minds the practice time.</td>
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<td>17.</td>
<td>One of their grandmothers—their mother’s mother—are a professor of music at the university.</td>
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</table>
18. Has

19. Have either Jessica or anyone else in her family ever played in public?

20. C

Subject-Verb Agreement B, p. 371

EXERCISE A

1. C

2. Unless he gets up too late, Ralph usually walks to school.

3. Neither Russell nor his brothers has ever been on an airplane.

4. One of his brothers wants to be a pilot.

5. C

6. They used to be farmers, but neither of them farms any longer.

7. Miguel, together with Alicia and Heather, has prepared a slide show.

8. The layout on these pages of the newspaper looks too crowded to me.

9. C

10. Are either the pool in Garrison Park or the pool in Stacy Park open yet?

EXERCISE B

11. The rehearsal will not begin until all of the musicians have taken their seats.

12. One of the trombone players and one of the clarinetists is missing.

13. If seventy-five percent of the eggs hatch, how many chicks will we have?

14. Marissa, along with several of her classmates, volunteers at the children’s hospital.

15. The price of avocados have varied a lot over the past year.

16. Spaghetti and meatballs is my father’s favorite dish.

17. If the majority of the club don’t want to meet next month, then we’ll cancel the meeting.

18. The highlight of the banquet were the awards.

19. Two fifths of my allowance go into my savings account.

20. How many pieces of chicken do we need for the picnic?

Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement A, p. 372

EXERCISE A

1. Some people say that dogs come when you call (it, them), but cats take a message and get back to you later.

2. One of the girls in my gym class twisted (their, her) ankle on the stairs.

3. The (members of the concert band) will arrive early to tune (its, their) instruments.

4. How long has the United States had (their, its) present system of government?

5. Every citizen should exercise (their, his or her) right to vote.

6. Anyone who is entering a project in the science fair should set up (his or her, their) display.

7. If we work together with the ninth-graders to raise the funds (themselves, ourselves), we won’t have to ask our parents for so much money for the trip.

8. Reggie and Clara reminded (themselves, himself or herself) that the last bus would leave at 6:00 P.M.

9. If they miss that bus, one of them will have to call (his or her, their) parents for a ride.
10. Unless we can use the darkroom, we won’t be able to develop (our, their) photographs.

**EXERCISE B**

11. All three runners from our school have finished her races.

12. C

13. Clay’s younger brother and sister always have peanut butter sandwiches in his or her lunches.

14. C

15. Most of the books looked interesting, but it cost too much.

16. I prefer to use molasses because their taste is stronger and more distinctive.

17. C

18. Rachel, who shares a room with two of her sisters, really enjoys her company.

19. According to my father, when he and his brother were young, he liked spinach.

20. C [or A search party located the boys in the morning after they had looked for them all night.]
Pronoun Forms B, p. 375

EXERCISE

1. *(Whom, Who)* wants to help make posters this weekend?
2. Please show *(us, we)* drama students the plans for the new auditorium.
3. Four of my cousins, Rich, Steve, Karen, and *(he, him)*, are older than I am.
4. Nadia couldn’t remember whether she had invited Carol and *(she, her)* to the party.
5. The most cheerful person in our class is *(her, she)*.
6. The coach asked three members of the team—Nick, Calvin, and *(me, I)*—to stay after practice for a few minutes.
7. Next summer, my father will teach my brother and *(I, me)* how to drive a car.
8. LaShonda didn’t think the tomatoes looked ripe, so she didn’t buy any of *(they, them)*.
9. Either *(she, her)* or her grandmother does most of the family’s grocery shopping.
10. After the children pick up their clothes and make their beds, we will take *(them, they)* to the park.
11. What Simone and *(she, her)* planned to wear to the costume party was a big secret.
12. After we ran into Celie and Carl outside the restaurant, we went inside and sat with *(him or her, them)* for a few minutes.
13. Are the women who own the landscaping business *(them, they)*?
14. *(Them, They)* and my brothers have gone to the same summer camp every year.
15. Didn’t your grandmother ask you to mow the lawn for *(she, her)*?
16. The people you wanted me to call and remind about the meeting are *(who, whom)*?
17. Kristin, Maxine, Lena, and Tom are some of the students *(who, whom)* should be asked to help.
18. Tell Nate or *(I, me)* the combination to your locker so that one of us can bring your books home for you.
19. After the dance performance, my parents gave flowers to my sister and *(me, I)*.
20. Please draw Sam and *(I, me)* a map to your house.

Clear Pronoun Reference A, p. 376

EXERCISE

Revisions will vary.

1. Before Ann and Miriam started their research, Ann had to sharpen her pencils.
2. Whenever the sky looks that threatening, we can usually expect a bad thunderstorm.
3. The reason that my brothers are always at Neil’s house is that they like to jump on the trampoline.
4. The newspaper article did not say when the parade will start.
5. My aunt and uncle will not be able to go to the concert. They told my parents the news.
6. In my school, there is an assembly every Friday morning.
7. C
8. My father told my brother, “You need to get the car washed.”
9. If we want to be on time, we’d better leave in the next ten minutes.
10. Julie repeated the instructions to Cynthia until Cynthia was sure that Julie could do the problem.
Clear Pronoun Reference B, p. 377

**EXERCISE**

Revisions will vary.

1. Because Raul admired sketches of buildings, he thought of being an architect.

2. C

3. The bank apologized for the inconvenience, but this apology was no comfort to the clients in line.

4. Even though rain was predicted, the forecast didn’t stop them from counting on this picnic.

5. The specialist and the patient discussed the problems the patient had been having.

6. On the radio, the newscaster said the price of gasoline is going up again.

7. The choir’s first selection was a medley of spirituals.

8. The visiting authors talked to the students about the students’ writing.

9. Rosanne reminded Matty to choose a recipe that would be easy to prepare.

10. C

Verb Tense, p. 378

**EXERCISE A**

1. Last Friday night, we had gone to the game after we ate dinner.

2. C

3. When we visited the Bahamas last summer, we have seen some amazing fish.

4. Despite the advances that medical science remains to be done.

5. If the train leaves at 4:00 P.M., we will have arrived before dark.

6. When she called, I had already begun to cook dinner.

7. I have removed the hinges and sanded the door, so now I was ready to paint.

8. The dog had dug a hole under the fence escaped and has escaped from the yard.

9. Before the alarm begins to ring, I was already up and dressed.

10. On Saturday mornings, we usually eat a late breakfast, run errands, and have done chores.

**EXERCISE B**


Verb Forms A, p. 379

**EXERCISE**

1. At the bookstore, I chose a biography and two books of poetry.

2. By the time we reached the station, our train had already left.

3. Please set the vase of flowers in the middle of the dining room table.

4. The team was disappointed because they had lost the game.

5. I could have bought three new sweaters for the amount of money that jacket cost.

6. She would have enjoyed the campout more if she had brought her scarf and hat.

7. The children slowly dragged the toboggan up the hill.
8. I would have **ate** more of my lunch, but I ran out of time.
9. That old dog has been **laying** in the shade all day.
10. By tonight, I will have **wrote** more than ten pages of my paper.
11. I wish my mother had talked to me before she **threw** my old shoes away.
12. All night long, the wind from the ocean **blew** strongly.
13. Before my grandfather could **become** a U.S. citizen, he had to pass a test.
14. Nicholas and his sister have **swam** in this lake before.
15. My family **sought** advice from our mechanic when we wanted to buy a new car.
16. The horse must have **ran** away during the night.
17. How many times do you think we have **rode** this bus to school in the past two years?
18. I couldn’t hear her very well, but I think that’s what she **meant**.
19. Ray turned on the news, hoping that his team had **won**.
20. The girls had already **sent** the pictures to their grandparents.

**Verb Forms B, p. 380**

**EXERCISE A**

1. began  
2. driven  
3. forgotten  
4. become  
5. went  
6. given  
7. spoke  
8. ridden  
9. sworn  
10. got

**EXERCISE B**

11. **rise, raise** Every morning, just before the sun **rises**, our neighbor’s rooster begins to crow.
12. **sit, set** I never **set** my alarm clock.
13. **lie, lay** Even on Sundays, when most people **lie** in bed a little longer, I am up at the crack of dawn.
14. **lie, lay** Last Sunday, I **laid** my head back down, and covered my ears with my pillow.
15. **rise, raise** Our neighbors have **raised** chickens, ducks, and geese for many years.
16. **sit, set** Whenever we **sit** outside in the yard, the chickens and ducks come over to visit.
17. **rise, raise** When my little brother chased one of the geese, it **raised** its wings and scared him off.
18. **sit, set** The hens are usually **sitting** on their eggs.
19. **lie, lay** One of the hens **laid** her eggs under our porch.
20. **sit, set** Don’t **set** your glass of lemonade on the ground; one of the ducks will drink it.

**Comparative and Superlative Forms A, p. 381**

**EXERCISE A**

1. longer  
2. more quickly  
3. most interesting  
4. ready  
5. More  
6. most aggressive
7. many
8. better
9. well
10. more

**EXERCISE B**

11. Believe it or not, the world ocean—called that because all oceans are connected—is the most largest region on earth.

12. Many find its scenery more spectacular than any landscape.

13. Learning that seventy percent of the earth's surface is water, people are more respectful of the world ocean.

14. If Mount Everest were submerged in the deepest part of the ocean, its peak would be a mile below the surface.

15. In the future, gooder research of ocean life may help solve the problem of food shortages.

**Comparative and Superlative Forms B, p. 382**

**EXERCISE A**

1. Most
2. lowest
3. badly
4. most delightful
5. better
6. ripe
7. more
8. more informal
9. fewest
10. better

**EXERCISE B**

11. I agree; this is probably the most boringest show I've seen in a long time.

12. We should spend least time watching TV.

13. Well, some programs are a lot more better than this one is.

14. Why are some of the people on television paid mucher money than others?

15. You and I did watch a gooder series about space exploration recently.

**Misplaced Modifiers, p. 383**

**EXERCISE**

*Revisions may vary.*

1. The tourists listened to the old people of the village singing an ancient spiritual song.

2. We watched the sun set over the vast and calm Pacific Ocean.

3. As the runner rounded the bases, the crowd cheered, stomping and whistling loudly.

4. The hurricane that had been stalled out in the ocean finally hit the coast.

5. The man placed a saucer of food in front of the kitten, which was twitching its tail and meowing hungrily.

6. The woman, who had bought two ice cream cones, gave one of the cones to a man.

7. As we walked among the towering and ancient trees, we could hear the songs of the birds.

8. The man ran after his car that was rolling down the hill backwards.

9. The woman comforted the little girl who skinned her knee when she fell off the tricycle.

10. The purple martin house that we put up last fall is now occupied by sparrows.

**Dangling Modifiers, p. 384**

**EXERCISE**

*Revisions will vary.*

1. While we were waiting in line, the music started.

2. Before we could visit my grandparents, the flat tire had to be fixed.

3. To teach someone to drive, a teacher must have patience and a calm manner.

4. When sledding down the big hill near my house, I encountered a rock in the path of the sled.
5. Prepared and well-rested, I found the final exam in geometry to be not at all difficult.

6. The road was blocked by cows that had left through a gate that someone had left open.

7. Determined to unravel the mystery, the detectives re-examined all the clues.

8. As I was hurrying through the crowd as the final whistle blew, the train pulled out of the station.

9. As a stranger in the city, she found the one-way streets and traffic circles confusing.

10. For nomads weary from days of traveling under the hot desert sun, the oasis provided shade and water.

Misplaced and Dangling Modifiers, p. 385

**Exercise**

Revisions will vary.

1. Our supervisor selected two trainees who will assume regular duties after next week.

2. While reaching for the second prize, Pete knocked over the first place trophy.

3. To achieve a higher grade on finals, students would be wise to learn steadily throughout the term.

4. After being left in disrepair, the cabin roof let in rain and wind.

5. On her way to the dentist, Aunt Lyla saw a poodle.


7. While we were walking the dogs in the park on Sunday afternoon, it began to rain hard.

8. The neighbors admired the historic cottage that had been repainted from top to bottom.

9. Over the loudspeaker, the principal said there was too much trash on the floor.

10. Having filled out the application, Janie scheduled an interview with a supervisor.

Double Negatives and Other Errors, p. 386

**Exercise A**

Revisions may vary.

1. We were so tired that we couldn’t barely put one foot in front of the other.

2. There weren’t any sandwiches left by the time I got through the cafeteria line.

3. That store doesn’t accept any employment applications by telephone.

4. She looked for graph paper everywhere in the house, but she didn’t find any.

5. Jerome didn’t want to read either of those books for his report.

6. My mother said that we can’t go swimming in the river any more.

7. Don’t tell me you haven’t ever eaten Italian food!

8. Why didn’t anybody remember to bring a camera?

9. Wasn’t nobody available to unlock the gymnasium doors?

10. The little boys were so excited that they couldn’t hardly sleep the night before the trip.

**Exercise B**

Revisions may vary.

11. Nobody’s come up with that idea before.

12. We can’t bag any more trash until the trucks haul this load away.

13. Losing her temper, my little sister said, “Nobody can tell me what to do!”

14. Don’t you want a second helping of these mashed potatoes?

15. The streets were so confusing that we could scarcely tell which way to turn.
Standard Usage A, p. 387

EXERCISE A
1. really; badly
2. lend
3. a lot; fewer
4. used; himself
5. their; inferred
6. emigration
7. teach
8. Whom
9. that; supposed
10. effected

EXERCISE B
Revisions may vary.
11. She ought not to have turned off the alarm clock, but she was rather tired this morning.
12. The reason she can hardly keep her eyes open is that she stayed up late last night.
13. We probably should have planted fewer flowers and more vegetables this year.
14. A number of students were standing in the hallway as if they had nowhere to go.
15. Unless they catch a later train, they have but two hours to tour the museum.

Standard Usage B, p. 388

EXERCISE A
1. The candy and trinkets were divided among the triplets.
2. You will burn up less calories walking than jumping rope.
3. Beside American history and chemistry, Mia studies algebra.
4. Being that it is noon, lunch hour begins now.
5. In Shakespeare’s works are many allusions to mythology.
6. That there dog doesn’t like the mail carrier.
7. She read where the tickets would go on sale at seven o’clock in the morning.
8. He would of called, but he was already late.
9. Don’t he know that the moon affects the tides?
10. Do you think you can get this strawberry jam stain off of my shirt?

EXERCISE B
Revisions may vary.
[11] I would not have believed what my friend Ike wore to his job interview if I had not seen him with my own eyes. [12] Besides a tuxedo with plaid lapels, he wore a top hat with a bent brim. [13] He looked as if he might have been going to a prom during the days of Charles Dickens! [14] I told him that wearing that kind of clothing for an interview at the ice cream shop could backfire somewhat, but my warning had no effect on him. [15] I hope he learned his lesson, but he is still looking everywhere for a place to earn money this summer.

Capitalization A, p. 389

EXERCISE A
1. Jean lives with her family in the Hancock Arms apartments on forty-fifth street.
2. Mom and dad’s business advisor, uncle Raymond, developed the advertising campaign.
3. Greta read me an article about Buddhist monasteries in Tibet.
4. Most passenger trains in the US, such as the Sunset Limited, are run by Amtrak.
5. Everyone in the ecology club voted for a trip to the Atlantic coast.
6. Classes at Tubman High School begin August 30, but the next Monday, Labor Day, is a holiday.
7. “I asked dad,” Reggie began, turning to look at Frank, “if he could take us fishing at Lake Jefferson.”
8. Visitors to Yosemite and Yellowstone national parks have the opportunity to see some of the most beautiful areas of the American West.
9. Your parents or grandparents probably remember exactly where they were when they heard that President John F. Kennedy was assassinated on November 22, 1963.

10. Every year on Halloween, our radio station replays Orson Welles’s adaptation of H.G. Wells’s novel The War of the Worlds.

**EXERCISE B**


**Capitalization B, p. 390**

**EXERCISE**

1. Mom and Dad always watch Meet the Press and Washington Week in Review on Sunday mornings.

2. Simms & Sons, on Fifty-Seventh Street, is a company that specializes in restaurant furniture.

3. In The Westing Game, a novel by Ellen Raskin, the lyrics of “America” provide clues to the mystery.

4. “Ladies and Gentlemen,” the speaker began, “we are gathered here to let the Mayor and City Council know exactly how we feel about the plans to put a Natural Gas pipeline through our neighborhoods.”

5. In England, Boxing Day, the day after Christmas, is the traditional day to exchange gifts.

6. That airline does not fly to New Mexico’s capital, Santa Fe.

7. Our neighbor, Dr. Pat Kelly, has a Ph.D. degree in American history, not an M.D. degree.

8. The University of Texas at Austin and the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor have tens of thousands of students.

9. Does Mr. Keaton expect us to read this whole chapter, “The Westward Expansion,” in one night?

10. I didn’t see that program last Tuesday because our town does not have an NBC affiliate.

11. The audience waited while Senator Bates organized her notes and adjusted the microphone.

12. The cats, Persephone and Demeter, were named after characters in Ancient Greek Myths.

13. The north star, Polaris, appears to be almost directly above the north pole.

14. When you reach the intersection of Broadway and San Pedro Street, turn right, or east.

15. The VCR isn’t working, so I guess we’ll have to listen to CDs.
16. Send your film to PO Box 11122, Seattle, WA 99002; you’ll receive your pictures and a free roll of film in about Two Weeks.

17. Does the museum of modern art have any summer internships for High School students?

18. Unless you live in the Southern Hemisphere, you won’t be familiar with constellations such as the Southern Cross and centaurus.

19. The defense lawyer refused to comment about Judge Mewhirter’s ruling.

20. “In case of an Emergency,” the notice read, “Please call 911 to reach EMS or the police.”

Commas A, p. 391

Exercise
Optional commas are underscored.

1. Do you want to walk to school tomorrow morning, or should we sleep a little later and catch the bus?

2. This recipe calls for nuts, raisins, and chocolate chips.

3. On Tuesday, October 24, at 4:00 P.M., the Junior class will assemble in the auditorium.

4. No, I appreciate the invitation, but I’ve already made plans for Saturday night.

5. Whenever I see a rainbow, I recall my grandmother’s stories about leprechauns and their pots of gold.

6. That man, Jesse’s uncle, works for one of the airlines in Dallas, Texas.

7. Ms. Branter, who teaches physical education classes, coaches the soccer and volleyball teams.

8. Many people celebrated the end of the millennium on December 31, 1999, but others insisted upon waiting until December 31, 2000.

9. He wanted to go skateboarding with his friends, of course, but he hadn’t finished his chores.

10. According to her sister, Marty is applying to Georgia Tech, Texas A&M, and LSU.

11. That was my best broad jump so far, Dave.

12. My grandmother, who is over seventy, gets up every morning at six o’clock, walks three miles, and then goes for a swim at the YMCA pool.

13. Unfortunately, one of our scheduled speakers, Dr. F. E. Maxwell, Jr., can’t make it today.

14. He apparently missed his connection and is now waiting in the airport in Raleigh, North Carolina, until the airline can find him a seat on another flight.

15. The crisp, clear fall weather was invigorating.

16. Celie, despite her cold, insisted on running in the 10K race.

17. “Elias, we don’t have enough money to buy another car,” his father explained, “and, unless you save money, you couldn’t afford the gasoline, not to mention the insurance.”

18. Imelda and Esmeralda, my twin nieces, will start school next year in the fall.

19. The rehearsals are scheduled for Wednesday, December 6, and Friday, December 8.

20. After we finish our exams in June, we’re all planning a trip to the beach. [Or After we finish our exams, in June . . .]

Commas B, p. 392

Exercise
Optional commas are underscored.

1. Camila, and her mother, Sra. Alcocer, will be preparing all the food for the party.

2. We have games this Friday and Saturday, next Friday and Saturday, and, I believe, the following Friday as well.

3. According to the weather forecast, the storm will reach our area in the middle of the night, sometime after midnight.
4. Cassie’s address is 1339 Milam Street, Apartment 12-B, and her phone number is 604-7490.

5. Although he is almost never late for school, he overslept this morning.

6. Next weekend I am going camping with Nate, my best friend since elementary school.

7. On Thursday and Friday, the performances of Fiddler on the Roof will begin at seven o’clock, but on Saturday the curtain goes up at eight o’clock.

8. Please take this flyer to the front office, ask Ms. Jameson to approve it, and make thirty copies for the class.

9. My dogs, whose names are Wolfie and Bear, are huge but gentle.

10. The concert, despite the fact that all the tickets were sold out, was cancelled.

11. Fortunately, we will be able to get our money back, but the process will take several weeks.

12. Mom, if you have a few minutes, could you please show me how to sew this button on?

13. My grandparents, who became U.S. citizens only a few years ago, never forget to vote.

14. In the dim, flickering light of the candles, the children’s eyes shone as they opened their gifts.

15. “Everyone in the class,” Mr. Martin said, “except for Nelson, Glenn, and Christine, has turned in a permission slip for the field trip.”

16. The Customer Service Department, I believe, has an 800-number, so the call will be free.

17. I have classes at 9:00 and 10:30, lunch at 12:05, and a meeting after school today.

18. None of the materials on that cart, including the magazines, may be checked out.

19. She brought a notebook and a tape recorder to the interview she had scheduled.

20. There is one item in that catalog, item number 7767, the rain jacket, that would be very useful.

Semicolons and Colons, p. 393

Exercise Colons may be substituted for semicolons in items 4, 8, and 9 if the word following the colon is capitalized.

1. The flight leaves at 1:30 P.M.; it arrives in Paris at 7:45 A.M. the next day.

2. When you are at the office supply store, please pick up the following supplies for my science fair project: a tri-fold display board, two clear report covers, and a package of graph paper.

3. Some of the relatives at my family reunion came from as far away as Honolulu, Hawaii; Anchorage, Alaska; and Portland, Maine.

4. You can’t buy both the boots and the shoes; you’ll have to choose one or the other.

5. Bettina introduced us to everyone in her family: her mother and father, who came to the United States from Germany when they were in their 20’s; her brother Ralf, who owns a catering business; and her sister Margaret, who is still in elementary school.

6. The castle was begun in 1294 and occupied off and on for the next two centuries; it was conquered and burnt about 1500.

7. My brother plays the piano; I take guitar and flute lessons.

8. My father is a man of many talents; he is an accomplished amateur golfer, an avid gardener, and a published poet.

9. Aaron seldom watches television; he says he has better things to do.
10. Please look in the cupboard and tell me whether we need any of these items from the grocery store: tomato soup, peanut butter, macaroni, vegetable oil, and crackers.

**Quotation Marks and Other Punctuation A, p. 394**

**EXERCISE A**


2. “Let me look at my notes,” said Rita, “and I’ll tell you all the details.”

3. Rita continued, “Oh, here they are! This backpack has so many pockets that I can never find anything.”

4. “You were saying . . .?” prompted Nadia.

5. “Everyone should meet at Marilyn’s house at four o’clock on Saturday,” Rita said.

6. “Unfortunately, Rita,” said Nadia with a sigh, “there’s a little problem.”


8. Nadia sighed again and said in a whisper, “I don’t know how to skate.”

9. “Oh, that’s all right!” Rita said. “You’ll catch on fast, and we can all help you.”

10. “Do you really think so?” asked Nadia. “Well then, I can’t wait!”

**EXERCISE B**

11. “Well, let me see. I’m sure this is the right direction,” said Cecily, looking at her compass.

12. “I think it was about 10:00 p.m.,” said the witness. “I know that because he [the defendant] always walked his dogs around the block at that time.”

13. Only the sopranos, not I, are able to reach the high notes in “The Star-Spangled Banner.”


15. Everyone in Ms. Cranfield’s literature class has to read Shakespeare’s *Julius Caesar*.

**Quotation Marks and Other Punctuation B, p. 395**

Some marks of punctuation may vary.

**EXERCISE**


[5] “Well, the basement flooded, and we spent most of the weekend mopping up water,” said Carl.


[8] “The plumber—he’s my brother-in-law—was working on some old cast-iron pipes,” Carl began. “And he forgot to shut off one of the water lines. [9] You wouldn’t have believed the mess! [10] There was a foot, maybe even two feet, of water in the basement by the time we shut the water off.”

**Apostrophes, p. 396**

**EXERCISE**

1. She won’t be able to come with us to tonight’s dance performance.

2. In a little over two hours, we can be packed and ready to leave for Grandma Jones’s house.

3. We shouldn’t have tried to take this test without a good night’s sleep.

4. Didn’t I tell you we should have gone to sleep before two o’clock in the morning?

5. In the late 1990s [or 1990’s], many Americans bought large cars, even though smaller cars’ mileage ratings were better.
6. The Gonzalezes' ranch is in New Mexico, near its border with Texas.

7. The newspaper's political editor came to the journalism classes' awards banquet.

8. We'll meet at the Smiths' house; then Sara's dad will take us to the movies.

9. The company's president will take you to the conference room on the building's second floor.

10. That's an incredibly long kite tail; it's at least forty or fifty feet long!

11. Carla's family gave the landlord one month's notice before they moved out of the apartment.

12. Don't you agree it's a beautiful morning?

13. My mother always says, "Mind your p's and q's," but she can't tell me the origin of the saying.

14. Well, my father's favorite saying is "Cross all your t's and dot all your i's."

15. Three schools' representatives to the District Student Council met to discuss their concerns about the school board's plans.

16. The dogs' leashes are on a hook in the closet; Gus's leash is the long green one.

17. Now's the time to ask for your parents' help.

18. We'll all go together in Nathan's brother's car.

19. The road's sharp curves and potholes make it an inexperienced driver's worst nightmare.

20. He's just gotten his learner's permit, and his sister's husband is teaching him to drive.

All Marks of Punctuation Review A, p. 397

Exercise
Optional commas are underscored. Answers to sentences 4 and 5 may vary.

1. Key West, the last of the Florida Keys, is connected to the mainland by the Overseas Highway.

2. In 1905, when Henry Flagler (1830–1913) decided to extend the railroad to Key West, Key West was Florida's most populated city.

3. It was also the United States' closest deep-water port to the proposed Panama Canal.

4. During the seven-year-long construction period, hurricanes threatened the project several times; at one time over four thousand men were working on the rail route.

5. Many native-born Key Westers (a person born on the two-by-four-mile island is called a Conch [pronounced "konk"]) are descended from early residents who salvaged shipwrecks.

6. When the cry, "Wreck ashore!" went up, everyone would rush out to the wreck to see what could be salvaged.

7. One of Key West's well-known residents was the author Ernest Hemingway (1899–1961), who owned a house on the island from 1931 until his death.

8. Today, the Hemingway House is among the island's most popular tourist attractions.

9. While he lived in Key West, Hemingway wrote several novels, including For Whom the Bell Tolls, and short stories, such as "The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber."

10. Hemingway owned nearly fifty cats; today's visitors still look for those cats' descendants, especially the six-toed ones, which are easy to spot.
All Marks of Punctuation Review B, p. 398

EXERCISE
Optional commas are underscored.

[2] Gwyneth, TX 77091
4000 B Academy Blvd.
Denver, CO 80602
[5] Dear Sir or Madam:

[6] Since June 10, 1998, I have been a member of Mysteries Unlimited. [7] In your last club newsletter, you invited members to send in their original mysteries for possible publication. [8] I have been writing stories for several years, but I've never submitted anything for publication. [9] I'm enclosing a copy of my story “Broken Glasses.” [10] The story’s setting is Exeter, England. I grew up there, so the setting is depicted accurately! [11] A cabdriver disappears without a trace, except for his broken glasses. The narrator is Glenda, a self-confident schoolgirl about my age who lives across the street from the missing driver. [12] After finding the glasses in the street, Glenda pursues additional clues: loud music, screeching tires, and flashlights at midnight. [13] Although she is painfully shy, she interviews at least twenty-five people—friends, neighbors, and customers of the cabdriver—in her effort to find him. [14] She contacts the police, of course, but most of them—she does make one friend on the police force—dismiss her well-founded worries as the product of an over-active imagination. [15] Aren’t they embarrassed when the girl solves the mystery? [16] Can you guess how? [17] By the way, the story contains no violence or weapons.

[18] Please consider publishing my original story in your annual anthology (Best Mysteries).
[19] I have enclosed a self-addressed, stamped envelope for your reply.
[20] Sincerely,
Francine Gomez

Spelling A, p. 399

EXERCISE A
1. If you finish early, proceed to the next section of the test immediately.
2. Either you believe in the movement or you don’t.
3. City taxes rarely go for building music studioes.
4. Insect larvae are sometimes found under-neath leaves.
5. The bookkeeper has an accurate record of the bank deposits.
6. After she read the poem, an appreciation of literary beauty seized her.
7. Scientists often report any modifications to their theories.
8. Roofs in those countrys are made of natural materials.
9. Those youngsters’ manners are awful, and they are always disobeying their parents.
10. Don’t get in an argument about whose achievement was the greatest.

Exercise B
11. I think that television show is overrated.
12. The exhibit contained artifacts from an ancient burial site.
13. My brother’s collection of pennys is truly amazing.
14. He was dissatisfied with the service he had received at the restaurant.

15. Unfortunately, I don’t understand these chemical formulas (or formulae).

16. The questionnaire was the fourth one she had answered in as many days.

17. The blizzard knocked down the power lines and blanketted the town in snow.

18. Twelfth-graders in our school take a class trip every spring.

19. My sister-in-law’s are both sopranos, and my brothers are bass’s.

20. At the zoo, I especially enjoyed seeing the wolves, the kangaroos, and the deer (or C).

Spelling B, p. 400

Exercise

1. When he forgets to cross his ts, they look just like his ls.

2. After a satisfying lunch, we all took a nap.

3. Sharon was dismayed when she realized she had missed the rehearsal on Wednesday.

4. My great-grandfather founded his business shortly after he came to the United States.

5. Let me check my calendar; I believe I have a practice that afternoon.

6. There are basically only two solutions to this problem.

7. She had been coughing for days and her voice sounded hoarse.

8. His costume was the winner for “Best Character from History.”

9. Please post notices on the bulletin boards so that everyone will know about tonight’s meeting.

10. Wayne is a conscientious student; he is always studying.

11. The batter should have reached the consistency of sour cream or yogurt.

12. My family tried to get a room at the motel, but there were no vacancies.

13. The superintendent of schools has substantial teaching experience.

14. In the part of the county that is outside the city, the sheriff is the chief law enforcement officer.

15. I received a pamphlet explaining the summer programs available for high school students.

16. An extraordinary traffic jam outside the stadium caused us to be late for the tournament.

17. Sadly, he has a tendency to exaggerate things.

18. As the hot-air balloons ascended, the crowd cheered.

19. I have looked in every conceivable place, but I still can’t find my journal.

20. Despite the freezing temperatures, the ski trip was unforgettable.

Words Often Confused, p. 401

Exercise A

1. route

2. minor

3. personnel

4. plains

5. peace

6. morale

7. waste

8. whether

9. capitol

10. coarse

Exercise B

11. He wasn’t aware that the moon affects the tides on earth.
12. One of this political party’s principles is that all meetings should be open to the public.

13. The motion to except the engineering company’s contract was passed unanimously.

14. C

15. She was formerly an attorney in private practice, but now she owns a bookstore.

16. They’re trying to give you a compliment.

17. Whose planning to submit an application to the personal department?

18. In the dark tunnel, the lights on the miners’ helmets shown eerily.

19. The path lead to a quite picnic area.

20. Did you here the guide’s outline of the history of the capital building?

Spelling and Words Often Confused, p. 402

EXERCISE

1. My grandparents recently sold the house they had owned for 42 years.

2. They have already packed everything; the house looks deserted.

3. Occasionally, I here sirens in the night.

4. In the past, she had always enjoyed family reunions.

5. You should try a piece of the banana bread; it’s really delicious!

6. Everytime we lose a game, our moral plummets.

7. Days in the desert sun must have affected his thinking.

8. During the bicycle maintenance class, we were shown how to adjust the brakes and how to fix a flat.

9. Your parents don’t like to waste money.

10. In my experience, surprise parties are a lot of fun.

11. Last Tuesday, our state senator gave us a personal tour of the capitol.

12. The commencement ceremony will include an alumni speech by a famous alumnus.

13. On the 2nd Wednesday of every month, the neighborhood association meets.

14. Do any of their friends or acquaintances work for that company?

15. At the end of their field trip to the museum, all the sophomores bought souvenirs.

16. A single, magnificent painting of a pack of wolves was the dominant object in the room.

17. One of our requirements for graduation is a grammar course.

18. Did she lose her sunglasses or merely misplace them?

19. One characteristic of many successful athletes is self-confidence.

20. It’s all right; I know you must have been extremely fatigued after the race.

Review A: Usage, p. 403

EXERCISE A

1. Thailand, unlike many other Asian countries, was never a European colony.

2. For 15,000 years Aboriginal Australians have used the boomerang to hunt for their food.

3. Tigers that stalk humans are rare.

4. A designer of Italian automobiles often has formal art training in his or her background.

5. C
6. Sue doesn’t know that the Hebrew word shalom means “peace.”

7. Martin Luther King, Jr., advocated non-violent action to make a nation correct its injustices.

8. Some of the inhabitants of Quebec speak French and English equally well.

9. C

10. No one chose to write their report about the brief war between England and Argentina in 1982.

**Exercise B**

**Revisions will vary.**

11. Because I plan to go into engineering, I need to have excellent math skills.

12. The children watched the fire engine speed by, its sirens blaring and its lights flashing.

13. After counting all the leftovers, we deduced that more apples than oranges had been eaten.

14. The youngest boy looked out his bedroom window at the first star, dim but twinkling.

15. That was one of the most poignant and touching stories I’ve ever read.

**Review B: Mechanics, p. 404**

**Exercise**

**Corrections will vary.**

1. “What in the world are truffles?” Kim asked.

2. “Well,” her friend said, “they’re a fungus that looks a little like mushrooms. They grow underground, and some people consider them a great delicacy.”

3. Wanting to know more, Kim asked, “How do truffle hunters know where the truffles are?”

4. “Not easily,” answered Kanisha. “In France pigs are trained to sniff them out.”

5. “I suppose,” Kim said, shaking her head, “that a handful of truffles must be incredibly expensive.”

6. Kanisha had also learned the following about truffles: that they usually grow around the roots of trees, especially oaks, that they may be as small as a pea or as large as an orange, and that they first became popular near the end of the fifteenth century.

7. The main French truffières (truffle grounds) are in Périgord and Vaucluse.

8. Some people are sensitive to the scent of truffles. Others look for other signs—small yellow flies that hover over the ground, for example—that truffles are below the surface.

9. Truffles, a member of the genus Tuber, have been prized as food since ancient times!

10. If you’re ever offered the chance to eat truffles, even a tiny piece, try them. They’re wonderful!

**Review C: Usage and Mechanics, p. 405**

**Exercise**

**Revisions will vary.**

January 13, 2001

Dear Marcy,

It’s been a long time since I have written an old-fashioned letter, but I wanted to use the stationery my grandmother gave me for my birthday. Next time I’ll e-mail you, that’s a lot faster. While I’m waiting for the rain to stop, writing a letter to a friend is a good way to get back in touch. I’ve been fine. How are you doing? All of your classmates, particularly Renata, Christopher, and Sandra, said to say hi. Renata told me to tell you—I’m quoting her exactly—“Save a place for me at the University of New Mexico.” Maybe you two could be roommates.

Guess what? Ms. Jimenez (she’s the teacher in Biology II) is from New Mexico, and she says the Sandia Mountains are absolutely beautiful, especially at sunrise and sunset. Maybe I’ll try to visit during the holidays? Let me know—we’ll have a party!

Always your friend,

Lynn
TO: webmaster@fresnocc.org

SUBJECT: Tourist Information

My family will be visiting Fresno next month, it will be our first time there. I offered to research your fair city so that our six-day stay will be as interesting and entertaining as possible.

It is an ideal place for me to visit. I like old railroad depots. I read that the Santa Fe Depot in Fresno was constructed in 1896. Also, I think William Saroyan is a fascinating writer, and I read that a museum highlights his works. In that same museum I would expect to find information about the Forty-Niners who settled around Fresno during the California gold rush. Is that true?

My interest was piqued by a mention of the Shin-Zen Friendship Gardens, would you please send information about this? Then we can decide whether we want to go there. Also, what are the exact dates in October of the Big Fresno Fair? Hopefully, when we are in Fresno.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in making our visit to Fresno a great one.

Exerciser B

Responses will vary. A sample response is given.

1. The fragments in the first stanza create a series of brief snapshots of important events from the past. The fragments represent the perspective of a child.

2. The run-on sentence in the final stanza creates a slower pace. It seems to represent the perspective of an older and wiser person.

Exercise C

Poems will vary. A sample response is given.

Little did I know, drawing pictures of the future in kindergarten, what the future would really bring. The hover craft floating just above the ground seemed certain, and I still don’t understand why we don’t have ‘em,

But I never thought of automatic doors, rivers burning, whole towns being abandoned as toxic dumps, ATM machines, all-night stores, drive-through espresso bars.
Now a new century, a new millennium. 
Small children today have the same relationship to this century 
That my grandparents did to the last one. 
And the boomers, wild and free, 
What will become of us?

**EXERCISE D**
*Responses will vary. A sample response is given.*
The run-on sentence in the first stanza helps show the narrator’s sense of wonder at how the world has turned out compared to how he pictured it as a child. The complete sentences express more concisely and precisely the narrator’s musings. The fragment at the beginning of the second stanza helps make the transition from the narrator’s comments on the past and present to his confusion over the future.

**Writing Application: Test, p. 409**
Writing Applications are designed to provide students immediate composition practice in using key concepts taught in each chapter of the *Language and Sentence Skills Practice* booklet. You may wish to evaluate student responses to these assignments as you do any other writing that students produce. To save grading time, however, you may want to use the following scoring rubric.

**Scoring Rubric**
The test covers all the skills and concepts listed at the beginning of Chapter 16.

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**Total Score**
5 = highest; 1 = lowest