

Diagnostic Grammar Quiz Answers (page 1 of 3)

By Dr. Karen Petit

For each sentence, the initial incorrect one is stated first; the correct answer is then given. While each category has one or more errors that are referenced by the heading, some of the incorrect sentences have added errors beyond the ones referenced in the heading for its category. Additional helpful online handouts, PowerPoint presentations, links to different websites, and exercises are available at <http://www.ccri.edu/writingcenter/resources>.

Capitalization

1. The community college in the state of rhode island has many great courses, such as *math 1005*.
 - b. The community college in the state of Rhode Island has many great courses, such as *Math 1005*.
2. The community college of rhode island has many english, art, literature, and science classes.
 - a. The Community College of Rhode Island has many English, art, literature, and science classes.
3. While driving north to south dakota in the spring, my uncle joe stopped to visit his aunt.
 - a. While driving north to South Dakota in the spring, my Uncle Joe stopped to visit his aunt.
4. I love to read newspapers, so i'm reading the *warwick beacon* in doctor smith's office.
 - b. I love to read newspapers, so I'm reading the *Warwick Beacon* in Doctor Smith's office.

Homonyms

5. 4 people were allready 4 the wheather, sew their're now enjoying their're walk threw the snow.
 - c. Four people were all ready for the weather, so they're now enjoying their walk through the snow.
6. The hotel allready has its sidewalks plowed; its receiving 5 stars from many vacationers.
 - a. The hotel already has its sidewalks plowed; it's receiving five stars from many vacationers.
7. Wheather the snow is heare or theare, you can still enjoy the wheather by shopping for knew boots.
 - c. Whether the snow is here or there, you can still enjoy the weather by shopping for new boots.
8. 2 drivers were unable to break there cars, so the cars' bumpers did break in an accident.
 - b. Two drivers were unable to brake their cars, so the cars' bumpers did break in an accident.

Plural and Possessive Nouns

9. A deers eyes were watching two squirrels that were finding food in a yards fenced-in section.
 - b. A deer's eyes were watching two squirrels that were finding food in a yard's fenced-in section.
10. Two childrens voices were heard by the squirrels ears.
 - b. Two children's voices were heard by the squirrels' ears.
11. Two doors in Joe and Jane house were suddenly opened to let they're three dogs run outside.
 - a. Two doors in Joe and Jane's house were suddenly opened to let their three dogs run outside.
12. The squirrels wagged their tails because of the dogs presence and the children voices.
 - a. The squirrels wagged their tails because of the dogs' presence and the children's voices.

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Parallel Structure

13. Studying can not only include reading, but it can also include writing papers and practice exercises.
- Not only can studying include reading, but it can also include writing papers and practicing exercises.
14. Either people will set their alarm clocks or late.
- Either people will set their alarm clocks, or they will be late.
15. My writing process includes free writing, outlining, to type on a computer, and to edit drafts.
- My writing process includes free writing, outlining, typing, and editing.
16. Learning a course's content can entail both memorizing information and practice activities.
- Learning a course's content can entail both memorizing information and practicing activities.

Subject – Verb Agreement

17. Shopping at the mall with its food and many stores (is/are) fun; everybody like(s) to shop.
- Shopping at the mall with its food and many stores is fun; everybody likes to shop.
18. Running or walking (is/are) a great way to exercise; running and walking (is/are) both a lot of fun.
- Running or walking is a great way to exercise; running and walking are both a lot of fun.
19. Most shoppers use(s) their credit cards; most of the shopping improve(s) the economy.
- Most shoppers use their credit cards; most of the shopping improves the economy.
20. There (is/are) bread and bagels in the first aisle; bagels or bread (is/are) in the grocery cart.
- There are bread and bagels in the first aisle; bagels or bread is in the grocery cart.

Pronouns

21. Joe or Jim wrote the blog posting; he was happy to be an author that could write well.
- Joe or Jim wrote the blog posting; Joe was happy to be an author who could write well.
22. Him and me both enjoy doing their reading and writing assignments.
- He and I both enjoy doing our reading and writing assignments.
23. Peer review sessions helped me to revise my papers; they told me that you should fix the pronouns.
- Peer review sessions helped me to revise my paper; people told me that I should fix the pronouns.
24. Everyone that likes to visit with their friends can enjoy texting on your cell phone.
- Everyone who likes to visit with friends can enjoy texting on his/her cell phone.
25. I went to the state house; it helps citizens by creating new laws and fixing old laws.
- I went to the state house; politicians help citizens by creating new laws and fixing old laws.

Fragments

26. Joe wanted the larger slice of pie. For dessert. So his brother chose the smaller one.
- Joe wanted the larger slice of pie for dessert, so his brother chose the smaller one.

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27. In the oven. That was in the kitchen's corner. Another pie was cooking.
a. In the oven that was in the kitchen's corner, another pie was cooking.
28. One of the cupboards had more dessert. Such as: a chocolate cake.
b. One of the cupboards had more dessert, such as a chocolate cake.
29. Because the brothers were hungry. They had fun. Helping each other to cook and to eat some food.
b. Because the brothers were hungry, they had fun while helping each other to cook and to eat some food.

Run-ons

30. The car did not stop it went through the red light.
a. The car did not stop; it went through the red light.
31. Two police officers saw what was happening quickly they pulled the driver over.
a. Two police officers saw what was happening; quickly, they pulled the driver over.
32. The driver was speeding and driving through a red light he was given two tickets.
b. The driver was speeding and driving through a red light; he was given two tickets.
33. The police officers were doing a great job for example they were trying to keep people safe.
c. The police officers were doing a great job; for example, they were trying to keep people safe.

Punctuation

34. Reading at the beach can be fun and writing while camping can be even more fun.
a. Reading at the beach can be fun, and writing while camping can be even more fun.
35. To be more effective readers people can use SQ3R survey question read recite and review.
b. To be more effective readers, people can use SQ3R: survey, question, read, recite, and review.
36. After I write a paper I analyze its parts content organization and grammar while editing.
c. After I write a paper, I analyze its parts (content, organization, and grammar) while editing.
37. I love to write papers because I enjoy doing an indepth exploration of my ideas.
a. I love to write papers because I enjoy doing an in-depth exploration of my ideas.
38. Im writing a research paper that is focused on my helpful interesting education.
b. I'm writing a research paper that is focused on my helpful, interesting education.
39. Writing a research paper which has content about our exciting educational system is informative.
b. Writing a research paper, which has content about our exciting educational system, is informative.
40. Too many simple sentences make a paper appear simplistic therefore sentence variety is needed for professional looking papers.
c. Too many simple sentences make a paper appear simplistic; therefore, sentence variety is needed for professional-looking papers.
41. The article says Being a writer is fun but having happy readers is even more fun Smith 101.
c. The article says, "Being a writer is fun, but having happy readers is even more fun" (Smith 101).