

Grammar Pretest
Honors Freshman English

Students who do not demonstrate adequate understanding of grammar and proper use concepts on this pretest may be counseled to reconsider their placement in honors freshman English. This pretest contains questions about elements of proper usage and grammar that you should have learned prior to entering high school.

Capitalization

Rewrite the following sentences adding capital letters where necessary.

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

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

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

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

End Marks

Add the appropriate end mark to the following sentences.

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

Comma Use

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

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

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

Misused/Confusing Words

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

1. Whose going with them to their house?

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

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

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

Parts of Speech

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Subjects and Predicates

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

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

Complete sentences

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

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

