Sentences

REMEMBER THE RULES

• A sentence is a group of words that expresses a complete thought.
  
  *Nitza writes to her pen pal.*

• A sentence fragment is a group of words that does not express a complete thought.
  
  *Her pen pal.*

A. Underline each sentence.

  1. I am a good writer.
  2. We send messages using a secret code.
  3. Only Nitza and I.
  4. I visited my pen pal’s school.
  5. Her friends were very nice to me.
  6. Hugged and hugged.
  7. We walked home through the park.
  8. She also writes to a pen pal in New Mexico.
  10. With my pen pal.

B. Tell which group of words are sentences. Write sentence.

  11. Ran to the door.
  12. I called her on the telephone.
  13. She was delighted to hear my voice.
  14. Nitza and I talked for one hour.
  15. Got very worried.
Declarative and Interrogative Sentences

REMEMBER THE RULES

• A declarative sentence makes a statement. It ends with a period. (.)
  Write your pen pal about your favorite story.

• An interrogative sentence asks a question. It ends with a question mark. (?)
  Would you like to have a pen pal?

A. Write D if the sentence is declarative. Write I if the sentence is interrogative.

1. A pen pal can be from another country. ________________________________

2. What sports do children in other lands play? ___________________________

3. You write your pen pal about yourself. _________________________________

4. A friendship with a pen pal can last forever. ____________________________

5. How many children in your class have pen pals? _________________________

B. Rewrite each sentence. Use a capital letter and a period (.) or a question mark (?).

6. Thanon, my pen pal, lives in Thailand ________________________________

7. His school is the biggest building in the village __________________________

8. Does he wear a school uniform ________________________________

9. How do Thai children greet grown-ups ________________________________

10. Children may put their palms together and bow _________________________

At Home: Find an interesting picture in a book or magazine. Write a statement about it. Then write a question about it.
Imperative and Exclamatory Sentences

REMEMBER THE RULES

• An **imperative sentence** tells or asks someone to do something. It ends with a period (.)
  
  * Stir fry the food quickly.*

• An **exclamatory sentence** shows strong feeling. It ends with an exclamation mark (!)
  
  * That food smells wonderful!*  

A. Write **IM** if the sentence is imperative. Write **E** if the sentence is exclamatory.

  1. Place the wok on the stove, please. __________________________
  2. Pour peanut oil into the pan. ________________________________
  3. How hot the oil is! ________________________________________
  4. Hurry, the oil is ready! ____________________________________
  5. Add the bean sprouts, snow peas, and meat. __________________

B. Rewrite each sentence. Use a capital letter and a period (.) or an exclamation mark (!).

  6. put the loaves of bread on the shelf
     __________________________
  7. look at this rye bread
     __________________________
  8. what a terrific baker you are
     __________________________
  9. give these two loaves to Mr. Brown
     __________________________
 10. you are a great helper
     __________________________

At Home: Write three sentences. Tell someone what steps to follow to make a sandwich. Write your directions as imperative sentences.
Combining Sentences: Compound Sentences

REMEMBER THE RULES

- A compound sentence contains two sentences joined by a comma (,) and the conjunction and, or, or but.

  I ride my bike to school, but other students ride the bus.

A. Read each pair of sentences. Circle the conjunction you would use to join the sentences.

1. After school I biked to Mike’s house. I knocked on the door. and or but

2. Stop your bicycle. Wait for the traffic light to change. and or but

3. I started to pedal. My bike didn’t move. and or but

4. Should we go bicycle riding today? Should we roller blade? and or but

5. Some people prefer bikes with wide tires. Others like bikes with thin tires. and or but

B. Write sentence or compound sentence next to each sentence.

6. Wear a bicycle helmet, and watch the traffic. ________________________________

7. Bicycle riding is good exercise, but some ________________________________ people prefer jogging.

8. My friend hurt his ankle and had to go home. ________________________________

9. Is this a bike path, or is this path for walkers only? ________________________________

10. Ray and I enjoy riding our bicycles and look forward to another day. ________________________________

At Home: Write two related sentences about a sport you enjoy and then use and, or, or but to join them.
Mechanics and Usage: Sentence Punctuation

REMEMBER THE RULES

- Every sentence must begin with a capital letter.
- Declarative and imperative sentences end with periods.
- An interrogative sentence ends with a question mark.
- An exclamatory sentence ends with an exclamation mark.
- A comma is used before and, or, or but in a compound sentence.

A. Make each sentence correct. Add the correct end punctuation or a comma. Use a red pencil or pen.

1. Please save me a seat or I will stand in the back of the auditorium.
2. The musicians are already on stage.
3. Are you enjoying the contest?
4. Wow, the singer is fabulous.
5. My family attended the contest and after we all went to a restaurant.

B. Write five sentences about the kind of music you enjoy. Use one of each of the four kinds of sentences. Then write one compound sentence.

6. ____________________________________________________________
7. ____________________________________________________________
8. ____________________________________________________________
9. ____________________________________________________________
10. ____________________________________________________________

At Home: Look through a magazine to find examples of declarative, imperative, interrogative, and exclamatory sentences.
Mixed Review

REMEMBER THE RULES

- A **declarative sentence** makes a statement. It ends with a **period**. *We are going to see the circus.*
- An **interrogative sentence** asks a question. It ends with a **question mark**. *How many people will be going with us?*
- An **imperative sentence** tells or asks someone to do something. It ends in a **period**. *Come with me to buy the tickets.*
- An **exclamatory sentence** shows strong feeling. It ends with an **exclamation mark**. *That's a great act!*
- A **compound sentence** is made up of two sentences joined by a comma (,) and a **conjunction**, such as *and, or, or but.*

A. Write whether each sentence is declarative, interrogative, imperative, or exclamatory. Add the correct end punctuation to each sentence.

1. Isn’t it time for the circus to come to town ______________________
2. Buy a ticket for each of us ______________________
3. Should I get tickets for this weekend ______________________
4. Check to see if everyone can go then ______________________
5. The tickets I bought are right next to the ring ______________________
6. A tall man in a costume announced the acts ______________________
7. Oh, look at the guy on the trapeze ______________________

B. Write each pair of sentences as a compound sentence. Use a comma and *and, but, or or* to combine them.

8. The circus is finally here. We can hardly wait to go.
   ______________________

9. Mike went last week. We are going this weekend.
   ______________________

10. Will your mother take us? Should we go on the bus?
    ______________________

At Home: Talk to family members about a place you have all been together. Write one declarative, interrogative, imperative, exclamatory, and compound sentence.
Complete Subjects and Complete Predicates

REMEMBER THE RULES

• The subject part of a sentence tells what the subject is about. The complete subject includes all the words in the subject.

• The predicate part of a sentence tells what the subject does or is. The complete predicate includes all the words in the predicate.

  My cousin Ramon visits us next week.

  ↑

  complete subject  complete predicate

A. Draw one line under each complete subject. Draw two lines under each complete predicate.

1. Ramon travels to many countries for his job.
2. My mother will meet him at the airport.
3. Sometimes he stays at our home.
4. Last year Ramon brought us presents from Holland.
5. My family enjoys hearing about Ramon’s adventures.

B. Write the complete subject or the complete predicate for each sentence.

6. My cousin’s favorite place is the Galapagos Islands.
   Complete Predicate: _______________________

7. The islands are in the Pacific Ocean.
   Complete Subject: _________________________

8. Giant tortoises are found only on the Galapagos Islands.
   Complete Subject: _________________________

9. These big reptiles can live to be 100 years old.
   Complete Predicate: _________________________

10. Marine iguanas make their home on these islands, too.
    Complete Subject: _________________________

At Home: Write three sentences about a place you visited. Draw one line under each complete subject and two lines under each complete predicate.
Simple Subjects

REMEMBER THE RULES

- The **simple subject** tells exactly who or what the sentence is about.

> My butterfly **kite** soars above us.

**simple subject**

A. Circle the simple subject in each sentence.

1. The annual kite contest takes place this weekend.
2. Fifty contestants are competing for first prize this year.
3. The rules require that each contestant make his or her own kite.
4. Last year I made a beautiful red box kite.
5. Nine other people also made box kites.
6. Others built diamond, delta, and various kinds of huge kites.
7. A strong wind can blow and snap the string on a kite.
8. Many great kites were lost this time, and that was sad.
9. A fifteen-year old girl was awarded first prize—a brand-new kite.
10. Children around the world fly kites just for fun.

B. Choose a simple subject from the box to complete each sentence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>men</th>
<th>he</th>
<th>kite</th>
<th>soldiers</th>
<th>general</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

11. About a thousand years ago, a ____________ won a battle with a kite.
12. Did ____________ tie a lantern to a kite?
13. The odd-looking ____________ flew above the enemy camp.
14. Many enemy ____________ saw the strange yellow light.
15. All the ____________ threw down their weapons.

---

**At Home:** Choose five sentences from your favorite story. Read them aloud to a parent or guardian. Then point out the simple subject in each sentence.
Simple Predicates

REMEMBER THE RULES

- The **simple predicate** tells exactly what the subject does or is.

Nature provides people with renewable resources.

A. Circle the simple predicate in each sentence.

1. Renewable resources include air, water, and all living things.

2. Some people pollute our air and water.

3. Nonrenewable resources existed a long, long time ago.

4. The remains of plant and animal life become renewable resources.

5. Over a period of millions of years, these remains turned into oil, coal, and gas.

6. Coal supplies about 30 percent of the world’s energy.

7. Natural gas heats homes and factories.

8. Off-shore oil wells transport oil from deep in the ground.

9. Oil comes from plants and animals, too.

10. These plants and animals lived millions of years ago.

B. Choose a simple predicate from the box to complete each sentence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>holds</th>
<th>destroy</th>
<th>make</th>
<th>comes</th>
<th>exists</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

11. The largest rain forest in the world ________________ in South America.

12. The Amazon rain forest ________________ millions of trees.

13. Trees ________________ oxygen.

14. Many people ________________ thousands of trees every year.

15. Sixty percent of the world’s oxygen ________________ from the Amazon.

---

**At Home:** Choose five sentences from a magazine or newspaper article. Read them aloud to a parent or guardian. Then point out the simple predicate in each sentence.
Combining Sentences: Compound Subjects

REMEMBER THE RULES

• A compound subject contains two or more simple subjects that have the same predicate.

  My brother and I take our dog for a walk.

  compound subject

A. Underline the compound subject in each sentence. Circle the conjunction that joins the subjects.

  1. Dad and I always cook dinner on weekends.
  2. Broiled fish or broiled chicken is our specialty.
  3. Mom or Tomas washes the dishes after dinner.
  4. Saturdays and Sundays are my favorite days of the week.
  5. Sometimes my uncle and my cousin join us for card games.

B. Circle the subject in each sentence. Then combine the subjects to write a new sentence. Use and or or.

  6. My brother unpacks the groceries. My sister unpacks the groceries.

  7. Tomatoes go into my spaghetti sauce. Peppers go into my spaghetti sauce.

  8. Apples fill the big blue fruit bowl. Pears fill the big blue fruit bowl.

  9. The snow kept our guests away. The cold kept our guests away.

  10. Luisa will serve the dessert. Tony will serve the dessert.

At Home: Combine these two sentences by creating a compound subject: We sing songs after dinner. We play games after dinner.
Combining Sentences: Compound Predicates

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- A **compound predicate** contains two or more simple predicates.
- The conjunction *and, or, or but* is used to join the words in a compound predicate.

> Today our class reads and learns about the sea.

**compound predicate**

A. Circle the conjunction that joins the compound predicate.

1. Many people live and work on the sea.
2. Fishers on ships haul and process fresh fish.
3. Ultrasound equipment finds and locates fish underwater.
4. We must dramatize or write a story about the sea.
5. I can draw or paint the scenery for our play.

B. Underline the simple predicate in each sentence. Then combine the predicates to write a new sentence. Use *and, or, or but*.

6. A lobster fisher empties a lobster pot. A lobster fisher cleans a lobster pot.


8. The Coast Guard didn’t protect those people. The Coast Guard rescued those people.

9. Marine biologists study the land beneath the sea. Marine biologists investigate the land beneath the sea.

10. We clap our hands for the best story. We raise our hands for the best story.
MECHANICS AND USAGE: CORRECTING RUN-ON SENTENCES

REMEMBER THE RULES

A run-on sentence joins two or more sentences that should stand alone or be joined with a comma and the word and, but, or or.

Run-on: Scientists believe that millions of years ago fish had armor they had no jaws like the fish today.

Correct: Scientists believe that millions of years ago fish had armor, and they had no jaws like the fish today.

A. Circle the run-on sentences.

1. Many kinds of fish form schools. They don’t learn anything.
2. There may be only a few fish in a school, or there may be hundreds.
3. A school of fish is an amazing sight they act as one.
4. They all head in the same direction they all swim at the same speed.
5. Fish in schools are in less danger it is easier for them to find food.

B. Rewrite each run-on sentence as two sentences or a compound sentence.

6. Most fish are about a foot some fish are giants

7. Some of the biggest fish are sharks the very biggest is the whale shark.

8. It may be 60-feet-long it may weigh 30,000 pounds.

9. Another big fish is the manta ray this fish looks like a weird, flying creature.

10. The ocean sunfish seems to be all head it is often called a headfish.

At Home: Correct each run-on sentence in Part A.
Mixed Review

REMEMBER THE RULES

- The **complete subject** includes all the words in the subject.
  
  *All kinds of dogs are at the dog show.*

- The **complete predicate** includes all the words in the predicate.
  
  *The dog show comes to town once a year.*

- A **compound subject** contains two or more simple subjects that have the same predicate. *Dog and cat shows are very popular.*

- A **compound predicate** contains two or more simple predicates that have the same subject. *The dogs run and bark at the show.*

A. Circle the complete subject. Underline the complete predicate.

1. The dog show begins this weekend.
2. This popular event lasts for a whole week.
3. My family and I are going on the last day.
4. Dogs from all over the world compete in the show.
5. Every recognized breed has its own contest.
6. A ribbon and trophy goes to the best of each breed.
7. The big event happens on the last day.

B. Write each pair of sentences as one sentence by forming a compound subject or a compound predicate.

8. Fox terriers are my favorite dogs. Basset hounds are my favorite dogs.

9. The judges watch the dogs carefully. The judges examine the dogs carefully.

10. The terriers jump at each other. The terriers bark at each other.

At Home: Write five sentences about a dog in your family or a dog you know. Circle the complete subject. Underline the complete predicate.
Common Errors: Sentence Fragments and Run-on Sentences

REMEMBER THE RULES

• Correct a sentence fragment by adding a subject or a predicate.
  
  Has very long legs for running.
  The large ostrich has very long legs for running.

• Correct a run-on sentence by rewriting it as two sentences or as a compound sentence.
  Once I saw an ostrich at the zoo it is the world’s largest bird.
  Once I saw an ostrich at the zoo. It is the world’s largest bird.

A. Rewrite each group of words as two separate sentences or as a compound sentence.

  An ostrich eggs is about seven inches long weighs three pounds. Cannot fly its body is heavy and its wings are short. Ostriches live in groups. They live in Africa. An ostrich runs fast. Fast as a horse.

B. Add a subject or predicate to each group of words.

  6. ___________________________ live on the plains.
  7. Ostriches__________________________.
  8. The largest egg ____________________________.
  9. ____________________________ weighs three pounds.
  10. ____________________________ runs very fast.
Study Skills: Note-Taking and Summarizing

To recall important information
• take notes using words, phrases, or full sentences.
• include main ideas with their supporting details in your notes.
• write a summary stating the main idea and supporting details.

A. Read the paragraph about glaciers. Then look at the notes. For each note, circle main idea or detail.

Beginning in the ice age, millions of years ago, the earth formed glaciers—that is, large masses of ice. Everything in their wake—trees, fields, valleys—became buried. Mountains, rocks, and pebbles were crushed when a glacier moved over them. What was left on the ground afterwards was a powder, or silt. As a glacier moved, it sometimes split at a crevasse. Each split that caused a crevasse made a huge booming sound that could be heard for miles. A little chunk of ice that broke off of a glacier became an iceberg. It was an iceberg, for example, that caused the famous 1912 sinking of the Titanic, a great passenger ship. Icebergs and glaciers still occupy northern regions of the earth.

1. millions of years ago: ice age  
   main idea  detail
2. large mass of ice: glacier  
   main idea  detail
3. crushed rocks, mountains: silt  
   main idea  detail
4. split in glacier; crevasse  
   main idea  detail
5. small chunk of glacier: iceberg  
   main idea  detail

B. Answer the following true or false questions about the paragraph above. Circle answers.

6. The main idea of the paragraph talks about glaciers.  
   T.  F.
7. Glaciers were formed thousands of years ago.  
   T.  F.
8. Glaciers make a loud noise when splitting apart.  
   T.  F.
9. Huge chunks of ice from glaciers are called silt.  
   T.  F.
10. The Titanic sunk after hitting an iceberg.  
    T.  F.
Vocabulary: Time-Order Words

A time-order word tells when things happen and in what order. Sometimes a group of words is used to tell time order.

*Tomorrow* we are going to put new chains on my bike.

A. Read each sentence. Write the time-order word or words on the line.

1. The girls’ gymnastic class meets after school every Tuesday.

2. The boys’ gymnastic class meets before art on Wednesdays.

3. Mr. Phillip’s routine is always the same, first we do stretching exercises, then we do broad jumps.

4. Next, we work on the trampoline.

5. Finally, we get to swing on the rings.

B. Choose a word from the box to complete each sentence. Then rewrite the sentence on the line.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>before</th>
<th>finally</th>
<th>first</th>
<th>next</th>
<th>then</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

6. ____________________ planning a party, get permission from parents.

7. The ____________________ thing to do is make a guest list.

8. ____________________, you might make invitations.

9. ____________________, you can decide on a theme for your party.

10. ____________________, choose food, decorations, and games to play.

At Home: Write a paragraph explaining how to make pizza. Use time-order words.
A. Read the paragraph. Use the numbers to answer the questions.

(1) Without my cat Paws, my mother and I would never have found the key to an old trunk full of family photographs. (2) My mother first looked in every drawer in the house, but no keys appeared. (3) Next, she asked me to look behind the couch in the living room; but still no keys appeared. (4) She was about to give up, and I was afraid I’d never get to see the pictures of my family. (5) Finally, when we thought all was lost, my mother and I found Paws swatting at a shiny silver key under the kitchen table.

1. Which sentence is the topic sentence? __________
2. Which sentences develop the main idea with supporting details? __________

What three words does the writer use to connect ideas?
3. __________ 4. __________ 5. __________

B. Use the instructions in parentheses to complete the sentences. Use your imagination!

6. (Main idea/topic sentence) I was sad when I realized ______________ was lost.
7. (Time-order word) ______________, I looked in every room of the house.
8. Next, (supporting detail) _____________________________________________________________________
9. Then, (supporting detail) _____________________________________________________________________
10. Finally, I found it (supporting detail) _____________________________________________________________________

At Home: Write a paragraph about a favorite photograph of you or someone you know. Develop your topic sentence and supporting sentences using the information from the box at the top of this page.
Features of Personal Narrative

A good personal narrative
• tells a story from personal experience.
• expresses the writer’s feelings.
• has an interesting beginning, middle, and end.
• uses time-order words to show sequence of events.

A. Read each of the following narratives. Circle the time-order words that show the sequence of events.

1. The sky became dark. I asked my older brother, “How far are we from home?” First, Carl protected me under a large umbrella that he held above us both. Then, he told me that we were almost home. The wind nearly whisked my small, five-year-old body off the sidewalk. Carl and I looked toward the end of the avenue. The sky began to clear. Finally, what we saw was not darkness but a colorful rainbow.

2. Try, try again. That was the saying my father told me when I lost at a board game. My aunt gave me a great board game for my ninth birthday. First, I challenged my seven-year-old sister to play the game. But, she preferred to draw. Next, I asked my father to play with me, and he did. Well, he won all the games we played until just a few weeks ago. Finally, I discovered a winning strategy, and it paid off. When I asked my father to play, he smiled and said, “You’re good enough to teach your sister.”

B. Use the information from the narratives to answer the following questions.

3. What interesting event happens at the end of the first personal narrative?

4. How do you think the writer feels at the beginning of the narrative? At the end of the narrative?

5. How does the second personal narrative begin?

At Home: Make a list of experiences that you could write a personal narrative about. Choose one experience and write a detail for the beginning, middle, and ending.
Prewrite: Personal Narrative

A personal narrative is a true story about yourself. The events in a narrative happen in a certain order, or sequence. To help you begin a personal narrative, it is a good idea to organize your thoughts. A sequence chart can help.

Plan your own personal narrative. Think about a personal experience you would like to share with others. Then organize your ideas. Think about what happened first, second, and third. You might end your narrative by explaining how the experience made you feel or what you learned from it.

CHECKLIST
• Have you listed important parts of the narrative?
• Are the details listed in logical order?
• Do you need to do any research?

McGraw-Hill Language Arts
Grade 4, Unit 1, Personal Narrative, pages 50–51

At Home: Think of a person who may be able to help you add details to your narrative. List questions you might ask this person.
Revise: Personal Narrative

You can improve your personal narrative by including important ideas and details. This is known as elaborating. When you revise your writing, include your feelings about the event.

**Draft:** When I left school, I saw a puppy alone on the steps. He jumped up at me and followed me.

**Revision:** When I left school on Friday, I saw a brown and white puppy with long floppy ears on the front steps. He yapped and jumped up at me. Then he followed me all the way home.

A. Read the draft below. Then follow the steps to revise it.
   - Add some details. How old is the writer? What is the dog’s name? What kind of cookies were being made?
   - Add some time-order words.
   - Use different types of sentences.
   - Combine some short sentences to make one long interesting sentence.

   When I was young, my granny and I were baking cookies. All of the ingredients were on the counter. We had mixed the batter and were ready to drop some on the cookie sheet.

   Grandma went to answer the phone. I let the dog in from the backyard. The dog’s paws were on the counter. He knocked over the batter onto the floor. He got batter all himself. Grandma ran into the kitchen. I went to pick up the bowl. I knocked over the bag of flour. It was all over the dog. It was all over me, too.

   I was scared. I thought I would be scolded. Granny started laughing, and so did I. Grandpa came in. He said, “When did the tornado hit?” We all laughed again.

B. Write the new paragraphs on a separate piece of paper.
After you revise your narrative, you will need to **proofread** it to correct any errors.

When you proofread a personal narrative you should:
- Indent paragraphs.
- Correct spelling mistakes.
- Include punctuation for every sentence.
- Add commas before *and*, *or*, or *but* in compound sentences.
- Correct run-on sentences.

A. Read the following personal narrative. Use the proofreading marks from the box to mark any errors you find. You can use the “Add” mark to show where punctuation marks should go.

One Sunday afternoon, my Dad took me to a baseball game he bought me a cap a hot dog, and a soda. What a game it was! Our team finally hit a homerun in the ninth inning but so did the other team. Did you hear me yell when we won that game? The best part came when I got my favorite player’s autograph. I was so happy!

B. Use the corrections you marked to rewrite the paragraph on another piece of paper.
Nouns

REMEMBER THE RULES

- A **noun** names a person, place, or thing.

> The geologist talks about glaciers at the university.

- **person**
- **thing**
- **place**

A. Write *person, place, or thing* to identify the underlined noun.

1. My Uncle David is a **professor** of geology. ________________________________
2. He said parts of **North America** once had many glaciers. ___________________
3. A glacier is a giant **mass** of moving ice. ________________________________
4. Some glaciers form when snow accumulates in a high mountain **valley**. ________________________________
5. This type of glacier is called a **valley glacier**. ________________________________

B. Underline the nouns in each sentence.

6. Eventually the ice thickens into a thick, frozen **sheet**.
7. Pressure from the weight of the glacier causes it to move.
8. The moving glacier rubs against the bottom and **sides** of the **valley**.
9. The glacier picks up and carries **rocks** and **sediment** as it moves.
10. The land is eroded to form a wide U-shaped **valley**.
11. A moving glacier leaves behind piles of hard **bedrock**.
12. A geologist can use the scratches to tell the **direction** of movement.
13. Sometimes loose **sediment** is deposited at the edges of the glacier.
14. These mounds of sediment are called **moraines**.
15. Scientists use these hilly formations to tell where a glacier stopped.
Singular and Plural Nouns

REMEMBER THE RULES

• A singular noun names one person, place, or thing.
• A plural noun names more than one person, place, or thing.

one girl → two girls
one gas → two gases
one tax → two taxes
one bench → two benches
one wish → two wishes

A. Write singular or plural to identify the underlined noun.

1. You will need a pack of matches to light the grill. ______________________

2. The old ashes can remain in the bottom of the grill. ______________________

3. A bus with campers will arrive very soon. ______________________________

4. Each camper will need a dish, a spoon, and a fork. ______________________

5. They will be taking classes in archery and swimming. ____________________

B. Underline the correct plural form of each noun and write it on the line.

6. cup (cups, cupes, cupps) ________________________________

7. plate (plats, plaets, plates) ________________________________

8. house (housse, houses, houzes) ______________________________

9. box (boxes, boxs, boxis) ________________________________

10. stitch (stitchis, stitches, stitches) __________________________

11. boss (bosses, bosss, bosses) ______________________________

12. scratch (scratched, scratches, scratchs) ______________________

13. bush (busses, bushes, bushs) ______________________________

14. light (lights, lightes, lites) ________________________________

15. candle (candels, candls, candles) __________________________

At Home: Write the singular and plural form of each underlined noun in Part A.
Nouns Ending with y

REMEMBER THE RULES

• When a noun ends in a consonant + y, change the y to i and add -es to make the noun plural.
  
  one hobby → two hobbies
• When a noun ends in a vowel + y, add -s to make the noun plural.
  
  one play → two plays

A. Write the plural form of each singular noun.

1. toy ___________________ 6. ferry ___________________
2. turkey ___________________ 7. cherry ___________________
3. baby ___________________ 8. dairy ___________________
4. story ___________________ 9. galley ___________________
5. day ___________________ 10. gallery ___________________

B. Write the plural form of the noun in parentheses.

11. Did you meet the new (lady) next door? ___________________
12. The one named Hannah has interesting (hobby). ___________________
13. The opera is one of her (joy). ___________________
14. Hannah’s voice carries like a cage full of (canary). ___________________
15. She has been teaching me a lot about singing these (day). ___________________
16. She will take me to the opera over the (holiday). ___________________
17. An opera is often a story told through beautiful (song). ___________________
18. Only a few (city) present operas each year. ___________________
19. We will have to drive through two (valley) to get there. ___________________
20. Hannah has made (journey) like this many times before. ___________________
More Plural Nouns

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- Some nouns have special plural forms.
  
  *one wife → two wives*

- A few nouns have the same singular and plural forms.
  
  *one moose → two moose*

A. Underline the correct plural form of each noun in dark type.

1. leaf    leafs, leaves, leafies
2. knife   knives, knifes, kniveys
3. child   childs, child, children
4. trout   trout, trouts, troutes
5. ox      ox, oxes, oxen
6. catfish catfishes, catfish, catsfish
7. deer    deers, dears, deer
8. scissors scissor, scissorz, scissors
9. mouse   mice, mouses, mousen
10. goose  goose, geese, gooses

B. Write the plural form of the noun in parentheses to complete each sentence. Use a dictionary if you need help.

11. Conservation is the wise use of resources by _______________. (man)

12. ______________ as well as men can be conservationists. (Woman)

13. Biologists can maintain ______________ at a hatchery. (fish)

14. Conservationists can shelter herds of _______________. (moose)

15. They can also manage forests to supply ______________. (timber)

16. They can improve grazing lands for mule ______________. (deer)

17. Overgrazing results when too many ______________ graze in an area too long. (sheep)

18. Conservationists protect the ______________ of endangered species. (life)

19. Once, packs of ______________ roamed freely. (wolf)

20. Our ______________ will need many resources. (child)

At Home: Write each singular noun from Part B and its plural form.
Common and Proper Nouns

REMEMBER THE RULES

- A **common noun** names any person, place, or thing.
- A **proper noun** names a special person, place, or thing. A proper noun always begins with a capital letter.

  *The city of New York is a gateway to our country.*

A. Write a common noun that could take the place of each proper noun.

1. Friday
2. April
3. Chicago
4. Earth
5. Europe
6. Eleanor Roosevelt
7. Presidents’ Day
8. Mt. Everest
9. Pacific Ocean
10. Broadway Avenue

B. Write the letter of the **proper noun** that best completes the sentence.

11. Many citizens came to ________ from foreign countries.
   a. America    b. Countries

12. Some of the earliest settlers came to this country on a ship called the ________
   a. Mayflower    b. Boat

13. These people, called ________, were seeking their religious freedom.
   a. Puritans    b. Persons

14. Also known as the Pilgrims, they are remembered each ________ holiday.
   a. Immigrants    b. Thanksgiving

15. Many people left ________ because of new opportunities in America.
   a. Continent    b. Europe

**At Home:** Write the names of two holidays and the day and month on which they occur. For example, *Martin Luther King Jr. Day occurs on a Monday in January.*
Mechanics and Usage: Capitalization

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- Capitalize the names of specific persons, places, things, days, months, and holidays.
  
  *Main Street*  *Wednesday*  *October*  *Thanksgiving*

- Capitalize family names and titles of respect.
  
  *Governor Nelson*

- Capitalize the first word and all important words in the titles of books, songs, poems, plays, short stories, and movies.
  
  *Rip Van Winkle*  *Charlotte’s Web*

A. Rewrite each group of words correctly.

1. dr albert einstein
2. new york city
3. uncle bert
4. miss elaine barrett
5. the diary of a young girl

B. Rewrite each sentence using correct capitalization and punctuation.

6. My friend Caitlin volunteers at the local red cross.

7. She is assigned to memorial hospital every tuesday.

8. She delivers *people magazine* and *newsweek* to the patients.

9. A nurse named deb wallace introduced caitlin to the staff.

10. caitlin received a thank-you note from mr and mrs ron arthur.
Mixed Review

REMEMBER THE RULES

• A **singular noun** names one person, place, or thing.
  
  *I like to visit my uncle’s farm.*

• A **plural noun** names more than one person, place, or thing. Add *-s* to form the plural of most nouns.
  
  *There are many farms where I live.*

• Add *-es* to form the plural of nouns ending in *s, x, ch, or sh.*
  
  *This farmhouse has several porches.*

• When a noun ends in a consonant followed by a *y*, change the *y* to *i* and add *-es* to make the plural.
  
  *Many cities are surrounded by farms.*

• A **proper noun** names a particular person, place, or thing and begins with a capital letter.
  
  *Last August, Mr. Evens owns a farm in Colorado.*

A. Write the plural form of each noun in parentheses.

1. Maria paints beautiful (picture) __________________________ of the country.

2. In one picture she painted two red (barn) __________________________.

3. You can see several (ox) __________________________ standing in the barnyard.

4. Look at the wild (canary) __________________________ in the picture.

5. You can almost hear them singing in the (branch) __________________________.

B. Write each sentence. Add capital letters where they are needed.

6. Maria and I visited a farm in July.

7. We went on Independence Day weekend.

8. My father’s friend Mr. Jacobs owns the Michigan farm.

9. It is a typical example of a United States dairy farm.

10. Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs moved to the farm from New York.

At Home: Write five sentences about a relative you visited. Include some singular, plural, and proper nouns. Circle all the nouns you use.
Singular Possessive Nouns

REMEMBER THE RULES

• A singular possessive noun is a singular noun that shows ownership.
• Form a singular possessive noun by adding an apostrophe and an -s (’s) to a singular noun.

\[ \text{The boots of the soldier are made of leather.} \]
\[ \text{soldier + ’s = soldier’s} \]
\[ \text{The soldier’s boots are made of leather.} \]

A. Write the letter of the phrase from the box that correctly matches the given phrase.

1. soldiers of England ______
   a. a nations’ freedom
   b. a nation’s freedom
   c. the colonies’ people
   d. the colony’s people
   e. Bostons’ harbors
   f. Boston’s harbor
   g. Soldier’s England
   h. England’s soldiers
   i. Britain troop’s
   j. Britain’s troops

2. people of the colony ______

3. troops from Britain ______

4. freedom of a nation ______

5. harbor of Boston ______

B. Rewrite each underlined phrase with a phrase that has a singular possessive noun.

6. At first, colonists of America were loyal to England.

7. Yet in 1776, Americans rebelled against rule by the king.

8. The Revolution was in the heart of each person.

9. Laws of Britain controlled the colonists.

10. Leaders in Boston eventually organized the Boston Tea Party.

At Home: How would you like to celebrate Independence Day? Complete this sentence: My family’s tradition for the 4th of July might be…
Plural Possessive Nouns

REMEMBER THE RULES

• A plural possessive noun is a plural noun that shows ownership.
  - the students’ ideas

• Add an apostrophe (’) to a plural noun that ends in -s to form the plural possessive.
  - the citizens’ decision

• To form the plural possessive of a plural noun that does not end in -s, add an apostrophe and -s (’s).
  - the children’s favorite

A. Write the correct plural possessive form of each underlined noun.

1. leaders speeches
2. women opinions
3. committees ideas
4. groups decisions
5. candidates roles

B. Write another phrase for the underlined words.

6. Rights of citizens include the right to vote for a president.

7. Elections of all towns are held on a Tuesday in November.

8. It is the privilege of people to vote for a candidate.

9. The supporters of politicians are usually Republican or Democrat.

10. The platforms of parties are different.

At Home: Rewrite the sentences in Part B using the correct plural possessive noun.
Combining Sentences: Nouns

**REMEMBER THE RULES**
- You can **combine sentences** that have similar ideas.
- You can combine nouns in the subject.
  
  *Mary is baking cookies. Kathy is baking cookies.*

  *Mary and Kathy are baking cookies.*

- You can combine nouns in the predicate.
  
  *Lynn is bringing napkins. Lynn is bringing plates.*

  *Lynn is bringing napkins and plates.*

Write a combined sentence using the word in parentheses.

1. Are you planning a meeting? Are you planning an activity? (or)

2. Cara likes to get involved. Melissa likes to get involved. (and)

3. Girl Scout activities can be found in books. Girl Scout activities can be found on the Internet. (or)

4. Our troop visited a blacksmith. Our troop visited a veterinarian. (and)

5. Do you want to teach art? Do you want to teach physical education? (or)

6. Find art supplies in the locker. Find art supplies in the cabinet. (or)

7. Will the girls eat the cookies first? Will the girls eat the brownies first? (or)

8. Girl Scouts are enthusiastic. Their leaders are enthusiastic. (and)

9. The bake sale begins Friday. The clothes drive begins Friday. (and)

10. Join the Girl Scouts for fun. Join the Girl Scouts for adventure. (and)
Mechanics and Usage: Abbreviations

REMEMBER THE RULES

• An abbreviation is the shortened form of a word.
• Abbreviations are used for days, months, addresses, and titles with names.

Fri., Oct. 1     P.O. Box 98     Mr. I.M. Dent     Rev. John Casey

A. Write the correct abbreviation next to each word.

1. President __________________  6. April __________________
2. Thursday __________________  7. August __________________
3. Street ____________________  8. Mister __________________
4. Wednesday _________________  9. Avenue _________________
5. February _________________  10. November _______________

B. Rewrite each sentence using an abbreviation in place of the underlined words.

11. Mister Fazio and Miss Fazio chose new books for our library.

12. Our school is located at 3201 North Vermont Avenue.

13. Doctor Parsen is our school superintendent.

14. Our art class will study the architecture on Main Street.

15. Senator Tom Patton will talk to us about the last election.

At Home: Write five sentences using abbreviations from Part A.
Mixed Review

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- Add an *apostrophe* and *-s* to a singular noun to make it possessive.
  
  *A zebra’s stripes are black and white.*

- Add an *apostrophe* to a plural noun that ends in *-s* to make it possessive.
  
  *The parrots’ beaks are very strong.*

- Add an *apostrophe* and *-s* to a plural noun that does not end in *-s* to make it possessive.
  
  *The oxen’s tails keep flies away.*

- You can **combine sentences** that have similar ideas.
  
  *The monkeys are in the trees. The monkeys are in the bushes.*
  
  *The monkeys are in the *trees and bushes.*

A. Rewrite each phrase using a possessive noun.

1. the zoo of the children

2. the mane of the lion

3. the tail of the monkey

4. the trunks of the elephants

5. the stripes of the tigers

B. Write each pair of sentences as one sentence.

6. The lions roar. The tigers roar.

7. Miko saw the monkeys. Miko saw the elephants.

8. Did the nature club go to the zoo? Did the nature club go to the aquarium?

9. The bats are nocturnal. The owls are nocturnal.

10. Dan fed the geese. Dan fed the ducks.

---

At Home: Ask family members to name their favorite kind of animal. Then write a phrase that includes a possessive noun about each animal.

McGraw-Hill Language Arts
Grade 4, Unit 2, Nouns,
pages 110–111
Common Errors: Plurals and Possessives

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

A possessive noun shows who or what owns or has something.

- To form a possessive of a singular noun, add an ‘-s’.
  
  *A zebra’s* stripes protect it from other animals.

- To form a possessive of a plural noun that ends in -s, add an ‘.
  
  *The monkeys’* tails help them keep their balance.

- To form the possessive of a plural noun that does not end in -s, add an ‘-s’.
  
  *The geese’s* feathers keep them warm in winter.

**A. Read each group of words. Label the underlined word plural, singular possessive, or plural possessive.**

1. the **lion**’s den __________________________________________
2. the **geese**’s pond __________________________________________
3. the **birds** sing __________________________________________
4. the **horses**’ stalls __________________________________________
5. the **camel**’s hump __________________________________________

**B. Rewrite each sentence. Change the underlined words to a singular possessive noun or a plural possessive noun. Add apostrophes correctly.**

6. The **claws of a lion** were very long and sharp.

7. The **howling of wolves** kept me awake.

8. The **pond belonging to the geese** froze over last winter.

9. The **roar of lions** send chills up your spine.

10. The **quills of porcupines** struck their mark.

---

**At Home:** Choose three objects in your home. Write a sentence about each one. Include a possessive noun in each sentence.
Study Skills: Parts of a Book

These are important part of books.
• A title page shows the title, author, and publisher of a book.
• A copyright page shows the date a book was published.
• A table of contents lists chapter titles with a beginning page number.
• An index lists topics alphabetically with page numbers.
• A glossary lists vocabulary words with pronunciations and definitions.

A. Tell which part of the book you would use to find the following information:
1. the page number for the beginning of a chapter entitled The Aztec Empire

2. the year in which a book was first published

3. the pronunciation of the term Conquistadores

4. the location of the book publisher

5. the page numbers that feature information on the Toltec people

B. Use a nonfiction book to answer each question.
6. What is the name of the publishing company?

7. What is the title and page number for the first chapter?

8. In what year was the book published?

9. What is the second entry in the index?

10. Which word in the glossary interests you most? Write it and its meaning.
A. Underline the compound word or words in each sentence. Put a diagonal line (/) between the smaller words that make up the compound word.

1. I wear my backpack to school everyday. ______________________
2. I also carry my lunchbox to school. ______________________
3. When I go to a football game, I pack a sandwich and a thermos with a hot drink. ______________________
4. After school, I swap trading cards with my classmates. ______________________
5. On Saturday afternoon, I usually visit Granny, who gives me homemade peanut cookies. ______________________

B. Choose words from the word box to complete each compound word in a sentence. Write the compound word on the line.

| cat | sand | sea | some | star | summer |

6. I love the ______________________ time when we can go to the beach.
7. I help my little brother build ______________________ castles.
8. We found a beautiful ______________________ fish that had washed ashore.
9. We always collect ______________________ shells that we can paint.
10. Dad takes us fishing in a ______________________ boat.
Composition: Writing Descriptions

A. Underline the words in each sentence that create a vivid description.

1. The butterfly had a spot on its wing that looked like splattered ink.
2. The moth fluttered wildly around the light bulb.
3. Doesn’t this soup have a spicy aroma?
4. Darma stroked the cat’s warm, silky fur.
5. The lion let out a thunderous cry.

B. Complete each sentence with a vivid description of one or more words.

6. My legs moved as fast as _________________________________.
7. I pulled the ____________________ sweater over my head.
8. Her voice _________________________________ down the hall.
9. The smell of success is _________________________________.
10. Does your beverage have a ________________________________ taste?

A description creates a clear and vivid picture of a person, place, or thing. A good description makes the reader feel as if he or she is actually there. Include a sentence that gives a general idea, or overall impression, of the person, place, or thing you are describing. Use vivid specific details to tell more about the overall idea. Use words that appeal to the senses: sound, sight, smell, touch, and taste.
Features of Writing That Compares

A good example of writing that compares
- explains how two things are **similar**.
- explains how two things are **different**.
- uses **comparison and contrast words** to point out similarities and differences.

A. Read the paragraph. Then, on each side of the Venn Diagram title, write the names of the two topics that are being compared and contrasted.

Linda’s two favorite sports are archery and baseball. For archery, she uses a bow and arrow as equipment. For baseball, she uses a ball, bat, and mitt. She does archery by herself, but she plays baseball with a team. She does well in both sports because she has good eye-hand coordination. She does well in baseball because she can run fast. In archery, she is state champion because she has a very steady hand on the bow and arrow.

1. ______________________ and 2. ______________________

3. _________ 4. _________ 5. _________

B. Use the information from the paragraph to answer the questions and complete the Venn diagram. Write your answer for each question in the numbered space on the diagram.

3. What is something true about archery that is not true about baseball?

4. What is something true about baseball and archery?

5. What is something about baseball that is not true about archery?

At Home: Think of two sports or activities you can compare and contrast. Create your own Venn diagram that shows how they are alike and different.
Prewrite: Writing That Compares

Writing that compares describes how two things are alike and how they are different. When you write a comparison you need to classify your details into two groups. One group should tell how the items are alike and the other group should list how they are different. You can use a chart or diagram to compare information.

Think of two things you want to compare. Then fill in this compare and contrast diagram. You can show ways in which what you compare are alike and different.

**Compare and Contrast Chart**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Both</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CHECKLIST**

- Did you choose things that are both alike and different?
- Have you listed details about each one?
- Can you use those details to compare and contrast?

---

*At Home:* Use a chart like above to compare and contrast two rooms in your school.
Revise: Writing That Compares

Elaborating can help improve and revise your writing. Adding details to your comparison will make it clearer and more interesting to read.

Read the comparison of the hammerhead shark and the swordfish. Add more details to make the comparison clearer and more interesting. Use the detail box.

Both fish swim in warm and temperate waters.  
The hammerhead has an eye and a nostril at each end of its head.  
The swordfish’s sword has two very sharp edges.  
Both fish are fast swimmers.

The hammerhead shark and the swordfish are two interesting fish.

Both fish can grow to 15 feet long. Both fish can be a danger to swimmers.

These fish have very different ways of protecting themselves. The hammerhead has a head shaped like a hammer.

Scientists think the shape of the head helps the shark to move in the water better. Some scientists also think that their nostrils help the fish to “smell” its prey. The hammerhead's sharp teeth helps it eat fish, including skates and other sharks.

A swordfish has a jaw that is shaped like a big flat sword. The adult swordfish doesn’t have teeth, but it doesn’t need them.

B. Use the changes you marked to rewrite the comparisons on another piece of paper.

At Home: Look up information about the hammerhead shark and the swordfish in an encyclopedia. Add two more details to the comparison above.
After you revise your comparison, you will need to proofread it to correct any errors.

- Read for correct capitalization and punctuation.
- Read for spelling errors.
- Make sure every sentence has a subject and a predicate.
- Check to be sure plurals have been formed correctly.
- Indent each paragraph.

A. Read the following comparison. Use the proofreading marks from the box to mark any errors you find.

My report is about two kinds of starfish. One is called the crown-of-thorns.

The other is called brittle star. Like most starfish, the brittle star has five arms, but the crown-of-thorns has 12 to 19 arms. The brittle star can be many different colors the crown-of-thorn is mostly a reddish color. The crown-of-thorns can be found on the great Barrier Reef in Australia and also in southern parts of the Pacific Ocean. It eats mostly coral. The brittle star has been found on coastlines from Massachusetts to Brazil. It eats mostly plankton and it can eat small animals, too.

B. Use the corrections you marked to rewrite the comparison on another piece of paper.

At Home: Write the names of some other marine animals. Think of some ways they are alike and different.
A. Circle the action verb in each sentence.

1. Joey plays a trumpet in the school band.

2. He takes music lessons once a week.

3. The band practices after school and on weekends.

4. The band marches at the football games.

5. It always performs a halftime show.

6. Band members work hard to get each show ready.

7. The fans cheer the band onto the field.

8. They applaud loudly after each number.

9. The band helps keep up the team spirit.

10. The fans encourage the band to do its best.

B. Fill in each blank with an action verb of your own.

11. Joey’s family always ____________________ where they can see the band.

12. They ____________________ when the band comes onto the field.

13. Sometimes they ____________________ along with the music.

14. Joey’s mother ____________________ pictures of the action.

15. The spectators ____________________ during intermission.

REMEMBER THE RULES

- An action verb is a word that expresses action. It tells what the subject does or did.
  
  Joey joined the school band.
Verb Tenses

REMEMBER THE RULES

- A verb in the **present tense** shows an action that happens now.
  
  \(\text{Marco collects insects.}\)

- A verb in the **past tense** shows an action that has already happened.
  
  \(\text{Marco collected insects yesterday.}\)

- A verb in the **future tense** shows an action that will happen. The special verb **will** is used to form the future tense of verbs.
  
  \(\text{Marco will collect another insect tomorrow.}\)

A. Write **present**, **past**, or **future** to tell the tense of the underlined verb.

1. Marco **studies** insects whenever he can. ________________________________
2. He **thinks** they are fascinating creatures. ________________________________
3. He **started** studying them several years ago. ________________________________
4. He **wanted** to become an expert on the subject. ________________________________
5. Many people **consider** Marco an expert already. ________________________________
6. Marco **says** insects are the largest group of animals. ________________________________
7. It **will take** him many years to learn about them. ________________________________
8. Yesterday he **talked** about them in science class. ________________________________
9. Everyone **learned** a lot of interesting facts. ________________________________
10. Someday Marco **will write** his own book about insects. ________________________________

B. Underline the verb in each sentence. Then write **present**, **past**, or **future** to tell the tense of the verb.

11. Scientists **named** about 800,000 kinds of insects. ________________________________
12. They **classify** about 7,000 new kinds every year. ________________________________
13. Insects **live** almost everywhere on earth. ________________________________
14. Scientists **will discover** many more kinds in the future. ________________________________
15. Maybe Marco **will help** them. ________________________________

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At Home: Read an article in a magazine or newspaper. Find two examples each of present-tense, past-tense, and future-tense verbs.
Subject-Verb Agreement

REMEMBER THE RULES

- The subject and verb in a sentence must agree.
- Add -s to most present-tense verbs if the subject is singular.
  
  *Our camera takes great pictures.*
- Add -es to present-tense verbs that end in s, ch, sh, x, or z.
  
  *My sister searches for things to photograph.*
- Do not add -s or -es if the subject is plural or if it is I or you.
  
  *Computers send photos over the Internet.*

A. Circle the present-tense verb form that agrees with the subject in dark type.

1. Carla and Mario (like, likes) to take photographs.
2. Mario (photograph, photographs) things in nature.
3. I (look, looks) for unusual situations to photograph.
4. Mario (fuss, fusses) over every shot he takes.
5. Carla (take, takes) photographs of people and pets.

B. Write each sentence. Use the correct form of the verb in parentheses ( ).

6. Many people (enjoy) taking pictures.

7. You (capture) special moments in time.

8. Carla (send) photographs with her computer.

9. An e-mailed photo (go) anywhere in the world.

10. Carla (reach) many of her friends this way.
Spelling Present-Tense and Past-Tense Verbs

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- **Change the y to i** before adding -es or -ed to verbs that end with a consonant and y.
  
  *Mark hurries to mail a package.*  *Mark hurried to mail a package.*

- **Double the final consonant** and add -ed to verbs that end in one vowel and one consonant.
  
  *He wrapped the package carefully.*  *He moved quickly to get there.*

- **Drop the e** and add -ed to verbs that end in e.

**A.** Write the correct present- or past-tense form of each verb in parentheses.

1. Miko ______________________ some delicate rice paper. (purchase)
2. She ______________________ on several colors of ink. (decide)
3. She also ______________________ out several kinds of pens. (try)
4. Finally, Miko ______________________ home to begin a drawing. (hurry)
5. Miko’s family ______________________ when they saw her work. (clap)

**B.** Look at the tense shown after each sentence. Then write each sentence using the correct form of the verb in parentheses.

6. Miko always (try) to do her best. *present*

7. Sometimes she (copy) something over to get it right. *present*

8. Once she (worry) that she had spoiled a picture. *past*

9. Her parents (notice) that she was a good artist. *past*

10. They (hope) she would keep trying. *past*

**At Home:** List the verbs you wrote on this page under the headings Present Tense or Past Tense.
Mechanics and Usage: Commas in Series

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- Use commas to separate three or more words in a series.
- Do not use a comma after the last word in a series.

> *Friends are kind, considerate, and respectful of each other.*

A. Add commas where they are needed in each sentence.

1. David Jesse and Sara are best friends.
2. They like to work play and study together.
3. David enjoys drawing painting and sketching.
4. Jesse likes to play soccer baseball basketball and hockey.
5. Sara likes to write poetry stories and plays.
6. The three friends enjoy hiking swimming and jogging together.
7. They often talk about sports music movies and their favorite TV shows.
8. Sometimes they go to movies concerts or plays together.
9. They often write e-mail or fax one another.
10. The three friends are kind loyal and honest with one another.

B. Write each sentence. Add commas where they are needed. Take them out where they are not needed.

11. Marge, Megen and Mike, made a poster about recycling.
12. They used cardboard markers colored paper and paints to make it.
13. Recycling, of paper metal and glass is the theme of the poster.
14. Their teachers thought the poster was clever, thoughtful, and, well made.
15. The message was clear to the point and important.

**At Home:** Write five sentences about your neighborhood to show how commas are used after words in a series.
Mixed Review

REMEMBER THE RULES

- A verb in the present tense shows an action that is happening now.
- A verb in the past tense shows an action that has already happened.
- A verb in the future tense shows an action that will happen.
  turn, turned, will turn

- A verb must agree with the subject of a sentence. Add -s to most verbs if the subject is singular. Do not add -s or -es if the subject is plural or if it is I or you.

  My friend enjoys reading books. All my friends enjoy reading books.

A. Underline each verb. Write present, past, or future to show the tense.

1. People share information in different ways. __________________________
2. Sometimes they write letters to friends. __________________________
3. Yesterday, I used my computer to send information. __________________________
4. This morning I talked to several people. __________________________
5. I called my parents to tell them where I was. __________________________
6. Someday will wear phones on our wrists. __________________________
7. My uncle will buy a cellular phone next week. __________________________
8. Television sends information to everyone. __________________________
9. This morning, I listened to the radio for news. __________________________
10. Someday, I will make a movie to share my ideas. __________________________

B. Write the correct form of the verb in parentheses ( ).

11. I ____________ someone who is writing a book. (know)
12. Most of my friends ____________ a computer to get information. (use)
13. My brother ____________ on the telephone to his friends. (talk)
14. My father ____________ important papers to people. (fax)
15. My mother ____________ to the news on the radio. (listen)
Main Verbs and Helping Verbs

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- The **main verb** in a sentence tells what the subject does or is.
- A **helping verb** helps the main verb show an action or make a statement.

*Mike’s class* **is planning** a talent show.

↑↑
helping main
verb verb

A. Underline each helping verb. Circle each main verb.

1. Our class has decided to have a talent show.
2. It will take a lot of planning.
3. Everyone will need to get involved.
4. Some students are working on announcements.
5. Others were designing the program brochure.
6. Several students are working to set up the auditorium.
7. One person was adjusting the stage lighting.
8. Several people are building props and sets.
9. I am helping on the talent committee.
10. We will find many talented performers.

B. Write a helping verb for each main verb.

11. Today our entire class ________________ excited about the talent show.
12. Yesterday some people ________________ practicing musical numbers.
13. One group ________________ present a gymnastic routine.
14. Soon one person ________________ going to put on a magic show.
15. Now several people ________________ playing musical instruments.

At Home: Write four sentences to describe a talent you have or would like to have. Include a helping verb and main verb in each sentence.
Using Helping Verbs

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- Use the helping verbs *has*, *have*, and *had* with the past-tense form of a verb to show an action that has already happened.

  - *Jill has decided* to visit the aquarium.
  - *I had decided* to go last week.
  - *We have decided* to go together.

A. Circle the correct form of the helping verb in parentheses.

1. I (have, has) visited the aquarium many times before.
2. Jill (have, had) traveled there once, but it was closed.
3. We (has, had) planned to go together for some time.
4. Now we (has, have) kept our promise to go with each other.
5. We (have, has) decided to visit the coral reef exhibit first.
6. The exhibit (have, has) become one of the most popular.
7. The sharks (has, have) added to its popularity since I was there.
8. Sharks (have, has) interested me for a long time.
9. I (has, had) seen the sharks being fed once before.
10. I thought the divers (has, had) shown a lot of bravery.

B. Complete each sentence. Use *has*, *have*, or *had* and the correct form of the verb in parentheses.

11. The aquarium _________________ animal acts for years. (include)
12. By the time we got there, the seals _________________ twice. (feed)
13. Now the porpoises _________________ into the large tank. (come)
14. They _________________ remarkable things in their show. (do)
15. The show _________________ people understand the importance of wildlife. (help)

**At Home:** Write three sentences about something that has happened to you. Use the helping verbs *have*, *has*, or *had* in each sentence.
Linking Verbs

REMEMBER THE RULES

• A linking verb links the subject of a sentence to a noun or adjective in the predicate.
• A linking verb does not show action.
  
  Koalas are animals from Australia.
• The words am, is, are, was, and were are frequently used as linking verbs.

A. Decide if the underlined verb is a linking verb or an action verb. Circle your answer.

1. I am a great koala fan. action verb linking verb
2. I often visit them at my local zoo. action verb linking verb
3. These animals remind people of teddy bears. action verb linking verb
4. A koala is really a relative of the kangaroo. action verb linking verb
5. A koala mother carries her babies in a pouch. action verb linking verb
6. Koalas spend most of their time in trees. action verb linking verb
7. Their claws are long and sharp for climbing. action verb linking verb
8. A koala is a creature of the night. action verb linking verb
9. They sleep most of the day. action verb linking verb
10. Koalas are protected by Australian laws. action verb linking verb

B. Underline the verb in each sentence. Write linking or action to tell what kind of verb it is.

11. Koalas eat mainly the leaves of eucalyptus trees. linking verb
12. Koala fur is soft and thick. linking verb
13. Koalas are from 25 to 30 inches long. linking verb
14. They weigh from 15 to 30 pounds. linking verb
15. The koalas are favorites at my zoo. linking verb
Using Linking Verbs

REMEMBER THE RULES

- A linking verb is a verb that links the subject of a sentence with an adjective or noun in the predicate.
  
  Adam is in my class.

- A linking verb must agree with the subject.

- Different forms of the verb be are most often used as linking verbs.
  
  Yesterday was Adam’s big day.

A. Draw a circle around the linking verb in each sentence.

  1. Adam is editor of the class newsletter.
  2. Several of his classmates are reporters.
  3. They are also writers of several of the articles.
  4. One person is an artist for the newsletter.
  5. It was a difficult job putting out the first issue.
  6. But the first issue was a wonderful surprise.
  7. Everyone thought it was a huge success.
  8. “It is one of the best we have ever had,” Adam’s teacher said.
  9. “I am glad we have one of our own,” said a friend.
  10. Adam and his staff were a happy group.

B. Complete each sentence with a linking verb from the box.

| am | is | are | was | were |

  11. Two years ago, David _______________ a beginning magician.
  12. His shows _______________ always on Saturdays.
  13. A floating ball _______________ a prop for one popular trick.
  14. I _______________ one of his devoted fans.
  15. His friends _______________ surprised by his talent.

At Home: Read a page from a favorite book. List all the linking verbs you find.
Irregular Verbs

REMEMBER THE RULES

- Irregular verbs are verbs that do not add –ed to form the past tense. Instead, the spelling of the verb changes.

I go to park concerts.
I went to a park concert
I have gone to park concerts.

A. Circle the correct past-tense form of the verb in parentheses.

1. Midge (see, saw) a poster at the city pool.

2. We had (swam, swum) there several times before.

3. She (run, ran) over to read the poster.

4. The poster (gave, given) information about a park concert.

5. She and I (make, made) plans to go to the concert.

B. Write each sentence. Use the correct past-tense form of the verb in parentheses.

6. The audience (sing) along to some of the songs.

7. The performers had (give) a great show.

8. The applause (bring) everyone to their feet.

9. Midge and I (run) up to the stage at the end.

10. The performers had (go) by the time we got there.

At Home: Look through a magazine article to find examples of sentences written in the past tense.
More Irregular Verbs

REMEMBER THE RULES

- Irregular verbs do not add -ed to form the past tense. They usually change their spelling.
  
  I wrote a letter to my pen pal.

- The past form of an irregular verb changes when used with has, have, or had.
  
  I have written to my pen pal many times.

A. Circle the irregular verb in each sentence.

1. We had grown up together.
2. We had begun writing because he moved.
3. Sometimes I have drawn pictures to send him.
4. Last year, he flew to visit me.
5. I threw him a surprise party the next day.
6. We swam in the city pool several times.
7. We rode horses at my grandfather’s farm.
8. I had ridden many times before.
9. It took my friend a little time to catch on.
10. My parents also drove us to the county fair.

B. Complete each sentence with the correct form of an irregular verb.

11. Yoshi has __________________ some beautiful pictures.
12. He __________________ drawing when he was very little.
13. Our local newspaper has __________________ an article about him.
14. They also __________________ a photograph of him working.
15. Then they __________________ a party for him.

At Home: Write three sentences about a place you visited. Use irregular verbs in the past tense in each sentence.
Mechanics and Usage: Contractions with *Not*

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- A **contraction** is a shortened form of two words.
- An **apostrophe (’)** takes the place of one or more letters.

_We did not watch television last night._
_We didn’t watch television last night._

**A. Write the contraction for each of the following pairs of words.**

1. has not ___________________________ 6. did not ___________________________
2. will not ___________________________ 7. have not ___________________________
3. is not _____________________________ 8. do not ___________________________
4. are not ___________________________ 9. was not ___________________________
5. were not __________________________ 10. does not __________________________

**B. Write each sentence using a contraction for the underlined words.**

11. I do not watch much television anymore.

________________________________________________________________________

12. The shows have not been very interesting.

________________________________________________________________________

13. I was not able to find anything worth watching last night.

________________________________________________________________________

14. When the shows are not interesting, I read.

________________________________________________________________________

15. It does not hurt to read a good book.

________________________________________________________________________

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McGraw-Hill Language Arts
Grade 4, Unit 3, Verbs, pages 194–195

At Home: List as many contractions as you can think of. Then choose five and write them in sentences.
Mixed Review

REMEMBER THE RULES

• The **main verb** in a sentence shows what a subject does or is.
  
  *Kim paints pictures on pieces of wood.*

• A **helping verb** (*have, has, or had*) helps the main verb show an action or make a statement.
  
  *He has won some prizes at crafts fairs.*

• A **linking verb** connects the subject to a noun or adjective in the predicate. A linking verb does not show action.
  
  *He is a talented artist.*

A. Draw one line under each main verb. Draw two lines under each helping verb. Circle each linking verb.

1. David and I have known each other for many years.

2. He has won many awards for his art work.

3. This morning, he was working in his studio.

4. David had made a sketch early in the week.

5. The sketch is a picture of a local landscape.

B. Write each sentence. Use the correct form of the verb in parentheses ( ).

6. David’s father (*have, has*) painted for many years

7. Some of his painting (*is, are*) hanging in museums.

8. I have never (*seen, saw*) such beautiful work.

9. He (*have, has*) painted many scenes with the sea as the subject.

10. We (*was, were*) happy to see him become so successful.

At Home: Think of something you do well. Describe it in a paragraph. Include some helping and linking verbs in your sentences.
Common Errors: Subject-Verb Agreement

REMEMBER THE RULES

• When the parts of a compound subject are joined by and, use a plural verb.

   A whale and a dolphin swim side-by-side.

• When the parts of a compound subject are joined by or, the verb agrees with the subject that is closer to it.

   A whale or dolphins often come up to the side of the boat.

• Remember: When a verb ends with a consonant and y, change the y to i and add -es to form a singular verb. cry ➔ cries

• Remember: When a verb ends with a vowel and y, add -s to form a singular verb. Do not change the spelling of the verb. pays ➔ pays

A. Write the correct form of the underlined verb.

1. Whales and dolphins is mammals, not fish. ____________________________

2. Kim and I goes whale watching whenever we can. _______________________

3. Tourists and locals enjoys watching the whales. _________________________

4. The captain and crew seems to know exactly where to go. _______________

5. The wind or current carry the ship to its destination. ____________________

B. Write the correct form of the verb in parentheses ( ).

6. Blue whales and fin whales (get) to be over 80 feet long. _______________

7. A beluga or a narwhal (grow) only 10 to 15 feet long. _________________

8. Fin whales and Minke whales (feed) on small fish. ______________________

9. Flippers and flukes (help) whales to swim. ___________________________

10. Some laws (protect) most kinds of whales. ___________________________
Study Skills: Library Media Center and Card Catalog

A. Use the subject card below to answer the questions.

B. Tell whether you would use an author card, title card, or subject card to answer each question.

1. What is the title of the book?

2. Who is the author?

3. When was the book published?

4. What is the call number of the book?

5. How many pages are in the book?

6. Who wrote A Wrinkle in Time?

7. What are titles of books written by E.B. White?

8. What book will help me learn about the rules of soccer?

9. Is there a biography of Jacqueline Kennedy?

10. How many books by Louis Sachar does the library have?
Vocabulary: Prefixes

A prefix is a word part added to the beginning of a base word that changes the meaning of the base word.

disagree: \textit{I disagree with you. I do not agree with you.}

rewind: \textit{Please rewind the tape. Please wind the tape again.}

A. Circle each word that has a prefix. Write it in the box.

Mom had prearranged an appointment with
the dentist for me. Now she has to reschedule it.
I reminded her about my signing up for soccer
just at that time. She apologized and said she
had misunderstood me. She said that my
calendar is so full, she is incapable of keeping
track of where I should be when.

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 

B. Add a prefix to a base word to replace the underlined words. Write the new sentence on the line.

6. Half my math answers were not correct.

7. I am not capable of understanding fractions.

8. I have to do five problems again.

9. My teacher is never not patient with me.

10. Do you agree that it's not possible to subtract 15 from $3\frac{1}{2}$?

At Home: List five other words for each of these prefixes: \textit{pre-}, \textit{im-}, and \textit{mis-}.  

Practice
Composition: Leads and Endings

- A lead is the first part of something written. It should capture a reader's attention.
- You may state your main idea in the lead.
- An ending is the last part of something written.
- Write a good ending to give your reader a feeling of closure, or completeness.

A. Read each pair of leads or endings. Then underline the one that is stronger.

1. Danny walks dogs as part of a dog walking service.
   Name the time, and Danny will be your dog walker.
2. Tomorrow we will have a car wash.
   Picture this: a newly washed car gleaming like the sun.
3. Test your ability to persuade by joining the debate club today.
   You can join the debate club if you would like to.
4. Be ready for an unimaginable adventure when you open The Time Slide.
   The book The Time Slide tells an adventure story that also entertains readers.
5. Come one, come all to a class picnic on Thursday evening.
   There is a class picnic that will take place on Thursday evening.

B. Read each topic. Then, write a strong lead sentence.

6. A favorite book

7. A school soccer team

8. A Science Fair

9. Student volunteers

10. First Day in a New School

At Home: Choose a piece of persuasive writing that you have already written. Now, write a stronger lead or a stronger ending.
Features of Persuasive Writing

Good persuasive writing

- clearly states the **author’s opinion** on a topic.
- supports the opinion with **convincing reasons** and arguments.
- organizes reasons in a **logical order**.
- often saves the **strongest reasons** for last.
- includes **opinion words**.

A. Read the paragraph. Underline the author’s clearly-stated opinion.

1. What should be done with the empty lot next to our school? The best use for the empty lot, I think, would be to plant and maintain a garden. If students could help take care of the garden, they would experience interesting hands-on science lessons about plant life. In addition, students would learn valuable social-studies lessons about helping out in the community. Most of all, an unpleasant piece of unused land would turn into a colorful, lively place. No one in our school or community would lose if flowers and plants replaced dust and trash.

B. Use the paragraph to answer the following questions.

2. What phrase in the second sentence shows that the author will state an opinion?

3. What is one strong reason that supports the author’s opinion?

4. What is one convincing reason the author uses to support his or her opinion?

5. What is another convincing reason the author uses to support his or her opinion?

At Home:

Write a sentence that states your opinion on an issue related to your school or community. List three reasons that support your opinion.
Prewrite: Persuasive Writing

Writing **persuasively** is a good way to share an opinion about something you feel strongly about. You can use both fact and opinion to support your position. Before you write, it is important to understand what exactly is a fact and what is an opinion. A chart can help you keep track of facts and opinions.

Pretend you are a member of a group that has to come up with a topic for a research report. You want to convince others in your group to write about a particular topic. List facts and opinions you can use to convince them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FACT AND OPINION CHART</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Facts</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Opinions</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CHECKLIST**

- Did you list enough facts and opinions to convince your group?
- Are your items listed in an organized way?
- Do you need to do more research?

**At Home:** Write a paragraph to try to convince your real or imaginary brother or sister that you have a right to a later bedtime.
You can elaborate your persuasive writing by adding details and choosing words that will convince your readers to agree with your opinions. When you revise your work, you need to make your argument stronger, or more persuasive.

A. Pretend you wrote this persuasive writing. Revise it by adding opinion words or phrases. Choose from the word box or use your own. You can also add your own opinions or facts to improve the writing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>believe</th>
<th>exciting</th>
<th>interesting</th>
<th>great</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>best</td>
<td>wonderful</td>
<td>famous</td>
<td>largest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Let’s research how and why the pyramids were built. The Great Pyramid and is one of the Seven Wonders of the World. It was built as the tomb of Pharaoh Khufu. It was 480 feet high. Each of its sides was 756 feet wide at the base.

I’m sure you’ll want to know how the workers built the pyramids and why they built them, too. I’ve done some research and found out that the Egyptians believed in life after death.

Everybody is always interested in mummies. We can find out what the Egyptians used to preserve them. We can learn to write some hieroglyphics, too. We can find pictures of statues of pharaohs and famous queens. Don’t you agree that this is a topic to study?

B. Write the new paragraphs on a separate sheet of paper.
After you have revised your persuasive writing, you will need to **proofread** it to correct any errors.

- Read each sentence to check for correct use of capital letters.
- Check the end of each sentence for proper punctuation.
- Check for errors in grammar.
- Reread for spelling errors.
- Combine sentences to make the writing smoother.

### A.
Read the following paragraphs from a persuasive book report. Use the proofreading marks from the box to mark any errors you find.

One chapter of this book was about Martin Luther King, Jr. If you read this book I know you will agree that he was a very brave man. You should know about how he helps African americans use their civil rights.

Do you know Rosa Parks. When she refused to give up her seat on a crowded bus so a white person could sit down She was arrested. Dr. King led a boycott. He got people to refuse to rode the bus for 381 days. That boycott was an important point in the civil rights movment.

You just have to read this book

### B.
On another sheet of paper, use your corrections to rewrite the paragraphs.

---

At Home: Read a book about Martin Luther King, Jr., or look his name up in an encyclopedia. Find out more about him.
Adjectives

REMEMBER THE RULES

- Adjectives are words that describe nouns.
  
  *I live in a friendly neighborhood.*

- Adjectives can tell what kind or how many.
  
  *There are three new families on my street.*

A. Underline the adjective in each sentence. Circle the noun it describes.

1. I live in an interesting neighborhood.
2. Tall trees line the streets.
3. The houses have large lawns.
4. Flower gardens are just about everywhere you look.
5. There is an unusual statue across the street.
6. It is a small copy of a pyramid.
7. A special friend of mine lives in an apartment.
8. Her apartment building is next to the park.
9. It has a fancy fountain in front of it.
10. During the cold winter the fountain froze.

B. Complete each sentence with an adjective of your own.

11. A large, old _______________ tree grows in our yard.
12. My grandfather planted the tree _______________ years ago.
13. The tree provides _______________ shade for our house.
14. Once during a storm a _______________ limb broke off the tree.
15. My grandfather used the wood to build a _______________ table.

At Home: Look for an article in a magazine or newspaper that sounds interesting. Read the first paragraph. List the adjectives you find.
Articles: *a, an, the*

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- *A, an*, and *the* are special adjectives called articles.
- Use *a* before singular nouns that begin with a consonant sound.
- Use *an* before singular nouns that begin with a vowel sound.
  
  *Yosemite is a national park. It is an interesting place to see.*
- Use *the* before singular nouns that name a particular person, place, or thing, and before plural nouns.
  
  *The views are breathtaking.*

A. Circle the article or articles in each sentence.

1. Yosemite National Park is a great wilderness area.
2. It is located in the Sierra Nevada Mountains of California.
3. There is also a grove of giant redwood trees.
4. The waterfalls are breathtaking during the spring.
5. Bicycling is an interesting way to see the valley.

B. Rewrite each sentence with the correct article.

6. Yosemite is *(a, an)* year-round park.

7. *(The, An)* park has more than 60 kinds of animals.

8. You might see *(a, an)* deer or bear at your cabin door.

9. You might hear *(a, an)* mountain lion roar in *(the, a)* night.

10. *(A, An)* visit to *(an, the)* park is *(a, an)* unforgettable experience.
Adjectives After Linking Verbs

REMEMBER THE RULES

- When an adjective comes after the noun it describes, the two are connected by a linking verb.

The sky was dark. A storm is threatening.

A. Draw one line under the adjective. Draw two lines under the noun it describes. Circle the linking verb.

1. Hurricanes are strong.
2. A hurricane is dangerous.
3. The winds are powerful.
4. The rain is heavy.
5. During a hurricane, waves are huge.
6. Flooding is serious.
7. Damage from a hurricane is costly.
8. This year the storms were severe.
9. The hurricane was forceful.
10. The damage to homes was unbelievable.

B. Complete each sentence with an adjective that makes sense. Circle the noun the adjective describes.

11. The clouds were _______________ with rain.
12. The wind was _______________ with tremendous force.
13. The storm is _______________ near the shore.
14. The damage from the wind was _______________.
15. Storms like this are _______________.

At Home: Describe your favorite kind of weather. Use linking verbs and adjectives.
Mechanics and Usage: Proper Adjectives

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- **Proper adjectives** are formed from proper nouns.
- **Proper adjectives** are always capitalized.

*I like to eat Chinese restaurants.*

A. Underline each proper adjective. Circle the noun it describes.

1. You have probably eaten many European foods.
2. For example, have you ever tasted Irish stew?
3. The Midwest is known for its German sausages.
4. James likes Canadian bacon.
5. There are also wonderful Mexican foods.
6. Almost everyone has eaten a Chinese meal.
7. America is also known for its foods, like Maine lobster.
8. A favorite at many holiday meals is Virginia ham.
10. More good foods can be found in Italian restaurants.

B. Rewrite each sentence. Capitalize each proper adjective.

11. Have you ever eaten a Mexican tortilla?

12. Have you ever tried a Chinese stir fry?

13. Have you ever made Japanese tempura?

14. Have you ever tasted an Indian curry?

15. Have you ever ordered Italian lasagna?

---

**At Home:** Ask family members to name the foods from different countries they like. Write three adjectives to tell about each food. Include a proper adjective.
Mixed Review

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- An **adjective** is a word that describes a noun. Adjectives tell *what kind* and *how many*.
  
  *My friend made an [origami](#) figure.*

- When an adjective comes after a noun it describes, the two are connected by a **linking verb**.
  
  *The figure was [beautiful](#).*

- **Proper adjectives** are formed from proper nouns and are always capitalized.
  
  *Origami is a [Japanese](#) craft.*

A. Underline each adjective. Circle the noun that the adjective describes.

1. Origami developed as a [Japanese](#) art.
2. Origami is a method of folding paper.
3. The paper is folded into [decorative](#) objects.
4. Traditional figures make up most of the objects.
5. The [Japanese](#) paper used most is called [washi](#).

B. Rewrite each sentence. Capitalize each proper adjective.

6. Have you ever painted a [Japanese](#) garden?

7. Have you ever been to the [Egyptian](#) pyramids?

8. Have you ever seen native American [pottery](#)?

9. Have you ever been to the [Galapagos](#) Islands?

10. Have you ever ordered Italian [lasagna](#)?

---

**At Home:** Write about a hobby you or a family member has. When you finish writing, underline the adjectives you used and circle the words they describe.
Adjectives That Compare

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- Add *-er* to most adjectives to compare two people, places, or things.
  
  *A Maltese has longer fur than a Chihuahua.*

- Add *-est* to most adjectives to compare more than two.

  *Pugs are the largest of all toy dogs.*

A. Underline the adjective that compares.

1. The Chihuahua is the smallest of all dogs.
2. A Shar Pei has the loosest skin of any dog.
3. Collies have narrower heads than boxers.
4. The Irish wolfhound is the tallest dog in the world.
5. Boxers have shorter hair than German shepherds.
6. German shepherds have straighter hair than poodles have.
7. A Kerry blue terrier’s coat is softer than a collie’s coat.
8. Pekingeses have broader faces than terriers.
9. Terriers are some of the bravest of all dogs.
10. Retrievers are faster swimmers than hounds.

B. Write the correct form of the adjective in parentheses ( ).

11. A dog’s sense of smell is the ________________ of all its senses. (strong)
12. Some people think hounds have the ________________ bark of any dog. (deep)
13. The terrier group is ________________ than the toy group of dogs. (large)
14. Dachshunds are ________________ than greyhounds. (small)
15. An Irish terrier’s coat is ________________ than a Smooth fox terrier’s coat. (dark)

**At Home:** Write five sentences describing a pet you have or would like to have. Include at least three adjectives that compare.
Spelling Adjectives That Compare

A. Underline the adjective that compares. Write the root word on the line.

1. Rhode Island is the smallest of all the states. __________

2. Alaska is the biggest of all the states. ________________

3. North Carolina is hillier than Nebraska. ______________

4. Oregon is rainier than New Mexico. ________________

5. Hawaii may have the prettiest beaches of all. _________

B. Rewrite each sentence. Use the correct form of the adjective in parentheses ( ).

6. Alaska is the (wide) of the states.

7. Utah is (close) than Nebraska is to the Pacific Ocean.

8. Iowa may be the (flat) of all the states.

9. New Mexico is probably the (square) of all the states.

10. Nevada is probably the (sandy) state of all.

REMEMBER THE RULES

• Change a final y to i before adding -er or -est.
  Which state is the rainiest of all the states?

• Drop a final e before adding -er or -est.
  Is Nevada or Utah closer to Mexico?

• Double the final consonant after a single vowel before adding -er or -est.
  Which state is the hottest state of all?

At Home: Read an article from a magazine or newspaper. Look for adjectives that change their spelling when they compare. Make a list of the ones you find.
Comparing with *More* and *Most*

**REMEMBER THE RULES**
- Use *more* to compare two people, places, or things.
  
  \[ I \text{ think hiking is more fun than swimming.} \]
- Use *most* to compare more than two.
  
  \[ I \text{ think hiking is the most fun of all outdoor activities.} \]

**A. Complete each sentence with more or most.**

1. The zoo trip was ________________ fun than the one to the library.
2. The hiking trip was the ________________ interesting trip all year.
3. It was the ________________ beautiful day of the summer.
4. This hiking trail was ________________ difficult than last year’s.
5. Our hike was ________________ exciting than last year’s, too.

**B. Rewrite each sentence. Use the correct form of the adjective in parentheses ( ).**

6. The winding trail was (fascinate) than the one we took before.
   
   ________________________________________________

7. The mountains provided the (scenic) view of all.
   
   ________________________________________________

8. The view from the top was (impressive) than the view from below.
   
   ________________________________________________

9. The hike down was (interesting) than the hike up.
   
   ________________________________________________

10. People were (relaxed) than they were at the beginning.
    
    ________________________________________________

**At Home:** Choose two or three things at home that you can compare. Write comparisons about them using the words *more* and *most.*

McGraw-Hill Language Arts
Grade 4, Unit 4, Adjectives, pages 276–277
Comparing with *Good* and *Bad*

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- The words **better** and **worse** are used to compare two things.
  
  *The animal exhibits were better than last year.*
  *The performers were worse than the year before.*

- The words **best** and **worst** are used to compare more than two things.
  
  *The roller coaster is the best ride of all.*
  *The Ferris wheel is the worst ride of all.*

A. Underline the form of **good** or **bad** that is used to compare.

1. Our county fair is the best fair in the state.
2. This year’s fair is even better than the one last year.
3. The crowds are worse in the evening than in the afternoon.
4. The worst crowds of all are on the weekends.
5. The rides are the best part of the fair.

B. Rewrite each sentence. Choose the correct form of the adjective in parentheses (**()**).

6. My sister thinks the food choices were (good) this year than last.

7. The variety of food was the (good) it has ever been.

8. The hot dogs were (bad) than the hamburgers.

9. My friend thinks cotton candy is the (good) food of all.

10. I think cotton candy is the (bad) food I can eat.

**At Home:** Ask family members what they like to do best and what they do not like to do. Write their responses using forms of **good** and **bad**.
Combining Sentences: Adjectives

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- Combine sentences that tell about the same person, place, or thing.
- An adjective can be added to one of the sentences.

*Chin has a cat.*
*The cat is gray.*

Chin has a **gray** cat.

**A.** Write each pair of sentences as one sentence.

1. Mark has a dog. The dog is black and white.

2. His dog can do tricks. The tricks are clever.

3. Cora has a parrot. The parrot is colorful.

4. The parrot lives in a cage. The cage is large.

5. Kim bought an aquarium. The aquarium holds twenty-five gallons.

**B.** Write an adjective to complete each sentence.

6. Jessie has a ____________ guinea pig.

7. Jessie built a ____________ cage for her guinea pig.

8. Mark bought a ____________ iguana.

9. The iguana has a very ____________ tail.

10. The iguana has ____________ claws.

At Home: Write three pairs of sentences about a pet you have had or would like to have. Then see if you can combine each pair of sentences.
Mechanics and Usage: Letter Punctuation

A. Write these letter parts. Add the correct punctuation mark or capital letter.

1. dear Jim ____________________________
2. Sincerely ____________________________
3. yours truly ____________________________
4. Boston Massachusetts ____________________________
5. July 15 2001 ____________________________
6. Dear Mr Johnson ____________________________
7. detroit michigan ____________________________
8. september 21 2001 ____________________________
9. your pal ____________________________
10. dear friend ____________________________

B. Write the following parts of a letter. Punctuate and capitalize correctly.

11. Write your favorite greeting. ____________________________
12. Write today’s date as you would in a letter. ____________________________
13. Write your favorite closing. ____________________________
14. Write your city and state as you would in a letter. ____________________________
15. Write another closing you might use. ____________________________

REMEMBER THE RULES
- Begin the greeting and closing of a letter with a capital letter.
- Use a comma after the greeting of a friendly letter and the closing.
  Dear Midge, Sincerely,
- Use a comma between the names of a city and state.
  Columbus, Ohio
- Use a comma between the day and year in a date.
  January 5, 2002
Mixed Review

REMEMBER THE RULES

• Add -er or more to adjectives to compare two people, places, or things. This talent show was bigger than the last one.
• Add -est or most to adjectives to compare more than two.
• Use better or worse to compare two people, places, or things.
• Use best or worst to compare more than two.

All the acts were better than last year. The magician had the best act of all.

• Combine sentences that tell about the same person, place, or thing.

People liked the acts. Their were a large number of acts.

People liked the large number of acts.

A. Underline the correct form of the word or words in parentheses ( ).

1. The first half of the talent show was (better, best) than the second half.

2. The dog act was the (worse, worst) of the entire show.

3. The costumes were (fancier, fanciest) than they were last year.

4. The singers were the (more popular, most popular) act of all.

5. The juggling act was the (more unusual, most unusual) I have seen.

B. Write each pair of sentences as one sentence.

6. We had tickets to the talent show. The talent show was sold out.

7. We saw several acts. The acts were excellent.

8. The singers sang several songs. The songs were popular.

9. The magician performed many acts. The magician’s acts were astounding.

10. The audience applauded loudly. The audience was large.

At Home: Think of a place you and your family have been. Write a paragraph about what you saw. Include some comparative and superlative adjectives.
Common Errors: Adjectives

REMEMBER THE RULES

• For most short adjectives, add -er to compare two nouns and -est to compare more than two nouns.

  Cheetahs run faster than lions.
  Kangaroos jump the highest of all animals.

• For long adjectives, use more to compare two nouns and most to compare more than two nouns.

  Monkeys are more popular than snakes.
  Monkeys are the most playful of animals.

• Never use -er or -est with more or most.

  A hippopotamus has a more bigger mouth than an alligator
  Elephants have the most longest tusks of any animal.

A. Write the correct form of the adjective in parentheses ( ) to complete each sentence.

1. The cheetah is the ______________ running animal on earth. (fast)
2. The hummingbird is the ______________ of all birds. (small)
3. The giraffe is the ______________ of all the animals. (tall)
4. Parrots are some of the ______________ of all birds. (colorful)
5. An elephant lives ______________ than a hippopotamus. (long)

B. Complete each sentence by supplying the correct form of an adjective.

6. The ostrich is the ______________ of all birds.
7. The leopard is one of the ______________ graceful of all animals.
8. A giraffe is ______________ than an elephant.
9. A parrot is ______________ colorful than a sparrow.
10. A mouse is ______________ than a squirrel.

At Home: Write five sentence that compare different kinds of animals. Be sure you use the correct form of the adjectives that compare.
Study Skills: Maps

- A map depicts the earth or part of the earth in a special way.
- A political map shows borders, a physical map shows land features, and a road map shows roads.
- On a map, the compass rose shows directions, the scale shows distances between locations, and the legend or key shows the map symbols.

Use the map to answer the questions. Circle your answer.

1. Which state is just to the west of Vermont?
   New York    New Hampshire

2. What is the capital of Delaware?
   Dover    Philadelphia

3. About how many miles is it from Bangor to Portland, Maine?
   100    200

4. Which body of water lies east of the states of the Northeast?
   Lake Erie    Atlantic Ocean

5. In which direction do you travel from the Adirondack Mountains to the Catskill Mountains?
   north    south

At Home: Think of three questions that the information on the map of the Northeastern United States could answer. Try out your questions on a friend or family member.
Vocabulary: Synonyms and Antonyms

- **Synonyms** are words that have the same or almost the same meaning.
  - repair/fix  cry/sob  work/labor  press/iron
- **Antonyms** are words that have opposite meanings.
  - stop/go  break/mend  shout/whisper  forget/remember

A. Choose a synonym from the word box for each underlined word or words. Write the synonym on the line.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>disappointed</th>
<th>jumpy</th>
<th>improve</th>
<th>pounds</th>
<th>wild</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>call</td>
<td>friendly</td>
<td>rarely</td>
<td>tiny</td>
<td>largest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. I was **sad** when I didn’t make the cheerleading squad. ________________
2. My gym teacher said I had to **work** on my twirling skills. ________________
3. I get **nervous** during tryouts. ________________
4. My heart **beats** fast, and my hands get clammy. ________________
5. I think I’ll **phone** Granny to tell her about it. ________________

B. Write an antonym for each underlined word. Choose from the word box above.

6. Sharks are **domestic** animals. ________________
7. The whale shark is the **smallest** fish of all. ________________
8. It is a **mean** animal. ________________
9. It **often** appears at the water’s surface. ________________
10. He eats **huge** plankton and small fish. ________________

At Home: Make a set of cards that show synonyms and antonyms, one word on each card. Then play “Concentration” with a family member.
Composition: Organization

- It is important to use logical order in your writing so that readers can follow your ideas and understand how they are organized.
- **Time-order words** tell when things happen and in what order.
- Some time-order words and phrases are: *first, next, then later, after that, as soon as, and a long time ago.*
- **Spatial words** tell where something is found or located.
- Some spatial words and phrases are: *inside, outside, over, beside, above, near, next to, and on top of.*

A. Circle the word or phrase that shows how each sentence is organized. Then place a ✔ in the box labeled SO if the sentence is organized by spatial order or TO for time order.

<p>| | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Austin loves to make blueberry muffins first thing every morning.</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. He uses the flour stored on top of the refrigerator.</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Then he goes into the garden and picks fresh blueberries.</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. He mixes the ingredients inside of a big bowl.</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. By eight o’clock his muffins are finally baked and ready to be eaten.</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Complete each sentence with one of the spatial or time-order words in the box. Use each word only once.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>as soon as</th>
<th>outside</th>
<th>under</th>
<th>after</th>
<th>then</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

6. Every morning, Jake goes __________________ with his dog Sport.

7. __________________ a while, Sport always wants to play with a Frisbee.

8. Jake throws the Frisbee, __________________ Sport tries to catch it.

9. Sometimes the Frisbee slides __________________ a bush.

10. __________________ Sport catches the Frisbee, his tail wags like crazy.

---

*At Home:* Write five sentences that tell about something you like to do when you go outside. Include spatial or time-order words in each sentence.
Features of Explanatory Writing

A good explanation

- **informs or explains** how to complete a certain task.
- gives **step-by-step directions** in a logical order.
- provides **clear details** that are easy to follow.
- uses **time-order words** or **spatial words** to make the directions clearer.

A. Read the paragraph. Underline the sentence that tells what is being explained.

1. Where are the elephants? Here are directions to the elephant area of the zoo. First, enter the zoo at the pool of sea lions. Stop, if you like, and watch these wonderful creatures swim and dive. Behind the sea lion pool, turn to the right. Then, when you reach the snake and turtle displays, turn to your left. In front of you will be a very large, grassy area. At last, you’ve found the elephants!

B. Use information from the paragraph to list the animals you would see in order on the way to the elephants.

2. 

3. 

4. 

5. List some of the time-order and spatial words that make this paragraph clearer?
When you use **explanatory writing**, you inform your reader about how to do something. You might explain in writing how to follow a recipe or how to get from school to your home. This kind of writing usually requires directions, step by step. To help organize your ideas, use a flow chart.

Plan your own explanatory writing. Brainstorm something you would like to explain, such as how to play a game or bake cookies, or get to the baseball park from your house. Use the flow chart to help organize your thoughts, step by step.

**CHECKLIST**
- Are your step-by-step directions easy to follow?
- Did you leave out any important steps?
- Do you need to do any more research?

**At Home:** Make up a flow chart to show how you set the dinner table at home. What do you do first, second, third?
Revise: Explanatory Writing

A good way to improve, or revise, explanatory writing is to add some details or take out text that may confuse your reader. When giving directions to a location, it helps to use spatial words and phrases to help make the directions clearer. right left next to far from around across from south north east west

A. Pretend a new neighbor knocked at your door at 236 Maple Street. The neighbor asked for directions to get to the nearest mall. You wrote the following directions for your neighbor. Study the map. Then add details to your directions to improve them.

Go down to Barton. Turn and go to Jones Place. Turn on 13th and head toward the traffic circle. Whatever you do, don’t go onto George St. It will lead you out of town. Keep going around the circle. That will lead you directly to the mall.

B. Use the changes you marked to rewrite the directions on another piece of paper.

At Home: Write directions explaining how to get from your house to the nearest mall, library, or supermarket. Then revise your writing.
After you have revised your explanatory writing, you will need to **proofread** it to correct any errors. Reread for punctuation. Check carefully for spelling mistakes. Look for capitals at the beginning of each sentence and look at the beginning of street names, city names, and dates.

A. Pretend you wrote the following letter to a friend. Now it is time to proofread it. Use the proofreading marks from the box to mark any errors you find.  

587 langston Rd.
Short Hills, nJ
Oct. 12 2003

Dear Mike,

I was so happy to get your letter. I loved the jokes you sent. Now I have something to share with you I learned a new game today. Here is what you do:

1) IT leaves the room while the others choose a homograph, such as the word *tide (tied)*. That is the secret word or words.

2) Then IT returns to the group.

3) The rest of the players give clues by saying sentences using the secret word but they don’t say the word *tide*. They use a different word. Here is an example: “In the ninth inning the score was (clock).”

4) IT has three turns to guesses the secret homographs. Then the next player goes.

Well, I have to go do my homework now. Write soon.

your friend,

Charles

B. On another sheet of paper, rewrite the letter with your corrections.

---

**At Home:** Write a letter to a friend. Include a joke or riddle or explain how to play a game. Then proofread your work.
Pronouns

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- A pronoun is a word that replaces one or more nouns. It should always match the noun it refers to.

  A *geologist* spoke to the *students*.
  
  *He* spoke to *them*.

A. Write the pronoun that refers to the underlined noun. Write *S* if the pronoun is singular, or *P* if the pronoun is plural.

1. As the *students* listened to the teacher, they learned many things.

2. The *man* knew a lot about rocks, and he showed us several samples.

3. The igneous *rock* was dense, and it had a dark black color.

4. Most of the sedimentary *rocks* had layered stripes going through them.

5. My *friends* were glad the teacher had enough rock samples for each of us.

B. Write a pronoun that can take the place of the underlined word or words.

6. I didn’t know a *geologist* could be as interesting as ____________ was.

7. The *children* know that’s where ____________ will find igneous rocks.

8. She will ask her *father* if ____________ can take students there.

9. If the girl’s *father* is able to go, the *students* will thank ____________.

10. Before *you and I* can find a special type of *rock*, ____________ have to learn where to look for it.

At Home: Tell a family member whether each pronoun you wrote in Part B is singular or plural.
Subject Pronouns

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- A **subject pronoun** is used as the subject of a sentence. It shows whom or what a sentence is about.
- A **subject pronoun** can be singular or plural.
  - **Singular**: I, you, he, she, it
    - *She plans to attend the sports banquet with her parents.*
  - **Plural**: we, you, they
    - *They will sit with six other people at a large table.*

**A. Underline the subject pronoun in each sentence.**

1. I am planning an awards banquet for the coaches.
2. They told us our families should attend.
3. We asked Coach Jeffers to present our awards.
4. He enjoys recognizing his favorite athletes.
5. You should ask Susan to bring her camera.
6. It will be nice to have some pictures taken.
7. Will she be happy to do this favor for us?

**B. Write the subject pronoun that will complete the second sentence.**

8. Will Donald win an award? ___________ won last year.
9. The coach brought his wife. ___________ will help him.
10. Everyone will take home a trophy. ___________ will like that.
11. I saw the best effort award. ___________ is the biggest trophy!
12. Lisa deserves to win the award. ___________ works hard!
13. Alex, call our house if you need a ride. ___________ can ask us to pick you up.
14. My mother won’t mind. ___________ live very close to you.
15. Please sit with me. ___________ will save a seat for you.

**At Home:** For each subject pronoun you wrote in Part B, underline the noun in the first sentence that the pronoun refers to.
Object Pronouns

REMEMBER THE RULES

- An object pronoun is a pronoun used after an action verb or after a word such as for, at, of, with, or to.
- Object pronouns can be singular or plural.

  * Singular: me, you, him, her, it
  * Plural: us, you, them

*High school counselors will help him plan his college search.*
*Most students choose colleges that are perfect for them.*

A. Write an object pronoun for each sentence.

1. College recruiters may contact ________________ someday.
2. You will want to visit with ________________ when they do.
3. I hope that they will grant you and ________________ an interview.
4. They will expect both of ________________ to take a test.
5. We will work hard to prepare for ________________.
6. One boy said he brought his calculator with ________________.

B. Write the letter C next to the sentence that uses the correct object pronoun.

7. ______ Angie told us she applied to several colleges.
   ______ Angie told we she applied to several colleges.
8. ______ A scholarship was offered to her.
   ______ A scholarship was offered to she.
9. ______ Angie must sign and return the offer to they.
   ______ Angie must sign and return the offer to them.
10. ______ Our counselor has some suggestions for you and I.
    ______ Our counselor has some suggestions for you and me.

At Home: Underline the word that comes before each correct object pronoun in Part B. Tell whether the underlined word is a verb or a special word.
Rewrite and correct each sentence that needs quotation marks and capital letters. If a sentence is correct, write Correct on the line.

1. There are so many decisions to make, Dad said.
Correct

2. Let’s look in magazines for ideas, Mom suggested.
Correct

3. The architect asked, how do you like the plans I drew up?
Correct

4. the family room is going to be beautiful! said my mom.
Correct

5. it certainly looks big enough, she added.
Correct

6. My father nodded his head in approval.
Correct

7. The architect asks, do you like where I placed the garage?
Correct

8. My dad responds, yes, but where is the driveway going to be?
Correct

9. The architect told them that he put it on the left side of the house.
Correct

10. That will work out well for us, Dad answered.
Correct

At Home: Look in the newspaper for examples of dialogue. Underline the exact words people are saying.

REMEMBER THE RULES

• Dialogue is the exact words spoken by the characters in a story.
• Quotation marks are placed at the beginning and end of the words being spoken.
• A speaker’s words begin with a capital letter.
• A new paragraph begins when a new person speaks.

“I think it is about time to plan our dream home,” said Dad.
“I’ll ask Aunt Kay whom she used last year,” said Mom.
Mixed Review

REMEMBER THE RULES

• A subject pronoun is used as the subject of a sentence. *We often visit the park near our house.*

• An object pronoun follows an action verb or words such as *for, at, of, with,* and *to.* *Sometimes my grandparents go with us.*

• Use quotation marks at the beginning and end of a person’s exact words. *“Who wants to see the concert in the park?” Mom asked.*

A. Complete the sentence pairs with a subject or object pronoun.

1. My friend and I like to go to the park. ____________ like to watch what's going on.

2. There are many squirrels in the park. ____________ chase each other through the trees.

3. Once we saw a raccoon. ____________ slowly lumbered across our path.

4. Some people go to the park to look at birds. There are many different kinds of ____________ to see.

5. Once my mom saw a rare kind of swallow. ____________ said it was very beautiful.

B. Add quotation marks and capital letters to rewrite each sentence.

6. let’s go to the boat pond, mark said.

7. they are having a model boat race today, luis explained.

8. look, mark yelled, there are about a dozen boats in the water.

9. haven’t you ever been here before? asked luis.

10. not since yesterday, laughed mark.

At Home: Write down a conversation between you and a family member. Add quotation marks around exact words. Use some subject and object pronouns.
Pronoun-Verb Agreement

REMEMBER THE RULES

- To make most action verbs in the present tense agree with the pronouns he, she, or it, add -s or -es.
  
  She plans to cook steaks for her guests.
  He pushes the baby carriage in the park.

- When using the pronouns I, we, you, and they, do not add -s or -es to present-tense action verbs.
  
  They plan to arrive at seven o’clock.
  We push the baby carriages in the park.

A. Write the correct present-tense verb from the pair in parentheses.

1. Sometimes we (ask, asks) our friends Ellen and Marty to help. __________
2. It (make, makes) entertaining easier when you have help. __________
3. Marty (wishes, wish) to prepare the rice. __________
4. Ellen knows how to bake. She (want, wants) to bring dessert. __________
5. I (figure, figures) we have enough food for eight guests. __________

B. Rewrite the second sentence of each pair of sentences using the correct present-tense form of the verb in parentheses.

6. Marty brought his rice steamer. It _______ on the countertop. (fit)

7. Ellen’s pies look delicious. I would like to _______ a slice right now! (cut)

8. Our guests are prompt. They _______ on time. (arrive)

9. A buzzer from the kitchen interrupts us. It _______ loudly. (ring)

10. Ellen runs to the kitchen. She _______ the roast hasn’t burned. (hope)
Combining Sentences

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- You can combine sentences by joining two subject or object **pronouns**.

  - *You* plan for a trip. *I* plan for a trip. → *You and I* plan for a trip.
  - Climate affects *you*. → Climate affects *you and me*.

**A.** Join the pronouns in each pair of sentences. Write them on the lines.

1. He can describe what climate is. I can describe what climate is. __________
2. Will rain bother him? Will rain bother her? __________________________
3. I will wear new clothing. You will wear new clothing. __________________
4. We prefer cotton. They prefer cotton. ________________________________
5. You will select light-colored clothes. I will select light-colored clothes. __________

**B.** Rewrite each pair of sentences as one new sentence.

6. You planted cactus. He planted cactus. ________________________________
7. They harvested corn. We harvested corn. ______________________________
8. She enjoys the warm climate. He enjoys the warm climate. ________________
9. Garments protect them from the cold. Garments protect us from the cold. __________
10. Climate influences the kind of home you live in. Climate influences the kind of home I live in. ________________________________
Possessive Pronouns

REMEMBER THE RULES

- Possessive pronouns replace possessive nouns.
- Some possessive pronouns are used before nouns. Others stand alone.

  Dale is scheduling his dentist appointment.
  Annie is scheduling hers.

A. Underline the possessive pronoun in each sentence.

1. It was time for his annual checkup at the dentist’s office.
2. Annie thought it was her time to go, also.
3. Dale and Annie called their dentist for an appointment.
4. When could he fit them in for their checkups?
5. No one’s schedule is busier than his.
6. The receptionist asked them, “When is your schedule free?”
7. She told them that Monday was her only day off from work.
8. Dale said that was his best day to come in also.
9. The woman said, “It looks like his first opening is next Monday.”
10. I looked at my calendar to see if we were busy.

B. Complete each sentence with a possessive pronoun.

11. We decided to rearrange ____________ plans.
12. The receptionist put our names in ____________ book.
13. The receptionist told Dale ____________ teeth would be cleaned first.
14. Then she told me ____________ would be worked on next.
15. ____________ would be the first appointments that day she told us.

At Home: Think of sentences using the possessive pronouns yours, hers, mine, and ours. Say them aloud to a family member.

McGraw-Hill Language Arts
Grade 4, Unit 5, Pronouns, pages 358–359
REMEMBER THE RULES

- A contraction can be formed from a pronoun and a verb.
- Do not confuse it’s, you’re, they’re with its, your, and their.

It’s time for the squirrel to prepare for winter.
Its coat is brown and gray.
You’re coming to the park.
They’re coming along, too.
Your jacket is unbuttoned.
Their jackets all have hoods.

A. Write the word in parentheses that means the same as the given words.

1. I am (I’m, I’m’s) ____________
9. I would (I’ve, I’d) ____________
2. belonging to you ____________
10. belonging to them
(your, you’re) ____________
(there’s, their) ____________
3. he is (his, he’s) ____________
11. they are (there, they’re) ____________
4. I had (I’m, I’d) ____________
12. your are (your, you’re) ____________
5. I have (I’ve, I’d) ____________
13. she is (she’s, she’d) ____________
6. belonging to it (it’s, its) ____________
14. she will (she’s, she’ll) ____________
7. he will (he’ll, he’d) ____________
15. she would (she’d, she’ll) ____________
8. it is (its, it’s) ____________
16. I will (I’d, I’ll) ____________

B. Rewrite each sentence using a contraction.

17. It is time for some animals to hibernate.

18. They are looking for a place to sleep during the winter.

19. You will also see them gathering nuts and seeds.

20. It will keep them busy until winter snows cover the ground.
At Home: Find out what kind of entertainment your family and friends enjoy. Write a sentence about each person. Include some possessive pronouns and contractions.

REMEMBER THE RULES

- Present tense verbs must agree with their subject pronouns.
  
  *He listens* to classical music. *They listen* to rock music.

- A possessive pronoun shows who or what owns something. *What happened to their CD player?*

- A contraction is a shortened form of two words, such as a pronoun and a verb. *We’ve got tickets for tonight’s concert.*

- Do no confuse the contractions *it’s, they’re,* and *you’re* with the possessive pronouns *its, their,* and *your.*

A. Circle the correct form of the verb in parentheses ( ).

1. Entertainment (come, comes) in many different forms.

2. It (improve, improves) the quality of life for most people.

3. Television (entertain, entertains) some people for hours.

4. Others (read, reads) books for enjoyment and relaxation.

5. They (take, takes) their entertainment wherever they go.

B. Rewrite each sentence. Form contractions from the underlined words and substitute possessive pronouns for underlined possessive nouns.

6. You have never watched Terri’s and my television program?

7. I have got to read my sister’s latest poems.

8. We are going to see Joe and Andrew’s movie thriller.

9. It is going to be an interesting night at Tony’s art show.

10. They are going to get tickets for Michael’s and Betty’s play.
Common Errors: Pronouns

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- Use a **subject pronoun** (*I, you, he, she, it, we, they*) as the subject of a sentence.
  
  *We want to take a trip to see the pyramids.*

- Use an **object pronoun** (*me, you, him, her, it, us, them*) after an action verb or after words such as *for, at, of, with,* or *to.*
  
  *My family has always wanted to see them.*

- An apostrophe shows where a letter has been left out of a contraction of a pronoun and a verb. Possessive pronouns do not have apostrophes.
  
  *Such a trip would be learning at its best.*

A. Circle the correct pronoun in parentheses () to complete each sentence.

1. The Egyptian pyramids amaze (*I, me*).
2. (*They, Them*) were built as tombs for Egyptian kings.
3. Some of (*they, them*) were built about 4,500 years ago.
4. A king was buried in a pyramid to protect (*he, him*) after he died.
5. The pyramid of Cheops is the largest of (*they, them*).
6. (*He, Him*) was an Egyptian pharaoh.
7. The pyramid is 450 feet tall, and (*its, it’s*) base covers about 13 acres.
8. (*We, Us*) can visit the great pyramids in Giza in Egypt.
9. (*I, me*) am planning a trip to see (*them*) next year.
10. Why don’t (*we, us*) travel there together?

B. Write a pronoun to complete each sentence correctly.

11. The agency planned a tour just for ________________.
12. ________________ are going to see the pyramids in the fall.
13. The agency is sending along ________________ best tour guide.
14. ________________ will tell ________________ about the pyramids.
15. My friends and ________________ can hardly wait.

---

**At Home:** Write five sentences about a place you have been to with your family or a friend. Include a pronoun in each sentence.
Study Skills: Dictionary

A dictionary includes
• **guide words** that show the first and last entries on a page.
• **entry words** that appear alphabetically.
• a **respelling** for pronunciation,
  an abbreviation for the **part of speech**,  
• a **definition**, and often an **example sentence** for every entry word.
• a **pronunciation key** that explains respellings of words in entries, usually found at the bottom of every other dictionary page.

Answer these questions about using a dictionary. Circle or write your answers on the lines. Refer to a dictionary if you need to.

1. Between which two guide words would the word *pioneer* appear?  
   pinafore/pinion  pinstripe/pipe  pique/pitch

2. Between which two guide words would *impression* appear?  
   imperial/impinge  impish/impresario  impress/improvise

3. What do the letters *v.* or *n.* in a dictionary entry tell you?  
   pronunciation  part of speech  guide words

4. What symbol is used to show the pronunciation of the word *bake*?

5. In which order would you find the following words listed?  
   gild  ghoul  giant  geyser  ghost

---

**At Home:** Study a dictionary entry for a word that is unfamiliar to you. Then, try to use that word in your next conversation or your next piece of writing.
Vocabulary: Homophones and Homographs

• Homophones are words that sound alike but have different spellings and different meanings.
  kernel colonel tale tail weigh way brake break
• Homographs are words that are spelled the same but have different meanings and often have different pronunciations.
  When the baby tears my homework, you can see my tears.
  Sometimes our mail is delivered by a female and sometimes by a male.

A. Choose a word from the word box that fits each definition.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ate</th>
<th>chest</th>
<th>close</th>
<th>clothes</th>
<th>eight</th>
<th>read</th>
<th>scene</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>seen</td>
<td>weak</td>
<td>week</td>
<td>wind</td>
<td>wood</td>
<td>would</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. it comes from a tree: _______________________
2. past tense of will: _______________________
3. moving air: _____________________________
4. without energy _________________________
5. part of a play _________________________

B. Complete each sentence with the correct word from the word box.

6. It is time to ________________________ the grandfather clock.
7. At _______________________ o’clock, I get to watch my favorite TV show.
8. Afterwards Dad will ______________________ a chapter of Treasure Island to me and my brother.
9. Then I will take the ______________________ that I will wear tomorrow out of my closet.
10. I will set everything on my cedar ______________________.

At Home: Look in the dictionary for two ways to pronounce perfect. Then write a sentence with each homograph.
Composition: Writing Dialogue

• **Dialogue** is conversation between two or more characters in a story.
• Put **quotation marks** around a character’s exact words.
• Always tell who is speaking by using words such as *said Maria* or *he explained*.
• Each time there is a new speaker, begin a new paragraph.
• Capitalize the first word in a quotation.
• Put the end punctuation inside the quotation.

  “It’s the most beautiful bracelet I’ve ever seen,” cried Luisa.
• If the speaker’s name comes first, put a comma before the quotation.

A. Read the paragraphs. Put a quotation mark before the first word of every quotation.

1-5. As they prepared for school, Monica said, Tamika, I can’t find my list of spelling words for this week.”

   Did you look under the bed?” her sister Tamika asked. A few moments later Tamika added, You might be surprised if you do look.”

   Monica lifted the hem of the bright orange quilt. She exclaimed, Oh, no!” Mittens, their new kitten, was shredding paper to bits. Monica said, I memorized the spelling words for the week, but can you help me check the spelling in the dictionary, Tamika?”

B. The dialogue in the sentences that follow need punctuation and capitalization. Add quotation marks, capital letters, and end punctuation.

6. Tamika picked up a dictionary and said, Monica tell me the first word on your list

7. The first word is *monopoly*, Monica replied.

8. What does that word mean Tamika asked her sister.


10. Tamika said, monica the dictionary has another meaning for *monopoly*
Features of A Story

A good story
• has **characters** that move the action along.
• has a **beginning, middle, and end**.
• has a plot **with a problem** that is solved at the end.
• describes a **setting**, telling where and when the story takes place.
• uses **dialogue words** that show how the characters are speaking.

**A. 1.- 2.** Read the story. Underline the name of the main character and the problem he or she faces.

“Oh! no!” Nelson cried out. Unfortunately, nothing he said could bring back his kite. It flew up and out of the park.

“Excuse me,” a friendly little girl stepped up to Nelson. He was standing on the park path with his eyes fixed to the sky. “What are you looking for?”

“I lost my kite,” Nelson said. “Not just any old kite, but a birthday present from my Uncle Shandon.”

The little girl told Nelson not to worry.

He thanked the kind little girl and then decided to go home for lunch.

When Nelson opened the door to his house, he called, “I’m home!”

Strangely, his mother didn’t answer. Nelson walked to the kitchen and looked out the back door. There was his mother on a ladder, climbing down from the roof.

“Look what our old chimney stopped in mid flight!” Nelson’s mother said.

**B. Use the information from the story to answer the following questions.**

3. What is the setting of the story at the beginning? ________________________

4. What event forms the middle of the story?

5. What event helps solve the problem at the end of the story?

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McGraw-Hill Language Arts
Grade 4, Unit 5, A Story,
pages 384–385

At Home: Write a story about a problem that could happen to you one day in the park. Try to include dialogue in the beginning, middle, or end of your story.
Prewrite: A Story

A story is a form of writing that is created from the author's imagination. The purpose is to entertain readers. A story should have a beginning, middle, and a satisfying ending. A story map will help you list the events of your story.

Plan your own story by brainstorming ideas for a plot, setting, and characters. Think about a problem the character or characters might have to solve. Figure out a way for them to solve the problem. Then fill in the story map.

STORY MAP

| Title:    |
| Setting:  |
| Characters: |
| Problem:  |

Events

Solution:

CHECKLIST

• Have you listed story ideas from your imagination?
• Have you selected an interesting setting and characters?
• Are your ideas organized?

At Home: Think about some of your favorite storybook characters. Write a paragraph stating why this character is so interesting to you.
One way to revise your story writing is to elaborate. You can elaborate by adding details to your story. You might describe the setting and the characters with more details. Another way to elaborate a story is by adding dialogue.

**Dialogue words:** cried, retorted, asked, chuckled, whispered.

**Draft:** Martha told everyone she wanted to go to the museum, but she also wanted to visit the Statue of Liberty. Bill told her she had to choose.

**Revise:** Martha stood up and announced to everyone in class, “I want to go to the Science Museum, but I also want to visit the Statue of Liberty.” Bill told her, “Martha, you have to choose.”

Revise the following beginning paragraphs from this familiar story by adding details and dialogue. Use another sheet of paper if you need it.

There was once a young girl who wore a cape with a hood. She was on her way to her grandmother’s house. Along the way she met a wolf who asked where she was going. The girl told the wolf.

The wolf ran to the grandmother’s house. He put the grandmother in the closet. Then he waited for the girl to come.
Proofread: A Story

After you revise your story, you will need to proofread it to find and correct any errors. When you proofread your story you should:

• Correct spelling errors.
• Correct run-on and incomplete sentences.
• Use quotation marks around a speaker’s exact words.
• Punctuate the dialogue properly.

A. Read this story. Use the proofreading marks from the box to mark any errors you find.

Martha and her class were on the ferry heading toward Liberty Island, the home of the Statue of Liberty. She and Bill was sitting on the outside part of the ferry when the wind whipped up. Bill’s favorite baseball cap flew off his head. It twirled and spun until it finally landed in the cold waters of New York Harbor.

Martha said, “don’t worry, you can always get another cap.”

Bill said, “Not really. That cap was a gift from my grandfather.

Martha said, “Oh, Bill, I am so sorry.”

Then right before their eyes, a huge seagull swept down into the water and picked up the cap with its beak. It flew toward the ferry railing and it sat right in front of where Martha and Bill stood.

Bill quickly grabbed the cap. “Thank you” he said. Then he and Martha watched the seagull flew into the horizon.

B. Use the corrections you marked to rewrite the story on another sheet of paper.

At Home: Write another ending to the story and proofread your writing.
Adverbs That Tell How

REMEMBER THE RULES

• An adverb tells more about a verb.
• Some adverbs tell how an action has been done.
• Many adverbs end in –ly.

Beth thoughtfully chose a topic for her science paper.

A. Write the adverb that describes the underlined verb.

1. Beth eagerly reads her chemistry books.
2. Chemistry usually deals with the makeup of substances.
3. Chemistry students diligently study the names of elements.
4. Beth carefully researched the topic of gases.
5. She completely understands what elements make up water.

B. Underline the verb and write the adverb.

6. Sara expertly identified the properties of gas.
7. An empty jar really contains matter.
8. Ordinarily people call one kind of gas, air.
9. Young children usually recognize ice as a solid.
10. All elements behave differently.
11. Liquids always take the shape of their containers.
12. Solids consistently maintain their shapes.
13. Balloons easily fill with a gas so we know gases take up space.
15. Teachers frequently use a model of the atom to help their students.

At Home: Rewrite each sentence in Part A using a different adverb.
Adverbs That Tell When or Where

REMEMBER THE RULES

• An adverb tells more about a verb. You know that an adverb can tell how. An adverb can also tell when or where an action takes place.
  
  Travelers often tour the island of Oahu. (tells when)
  The rainforests outside the city is filled with beautiful birds. (tells where)

Write the adverb and underline the verb it describes. Some verbs are formed with two words.

1. A volcano called Mauna Loa is located here. __________________________

2. Mauna Loa irregularly erupts with streams of fiery lava. __________________________

3. The unpredictable volcanic activity discourages people from living there. __________________________

4. Oahu always draws both tourists and immigrants. __________________________

5. Historically, the name Pearl Harbor has significance. __________________________

6. Naturally, it reminds us of the United States entry into World War II. __________________________

7. Oahu proudly claims Honolulu, the state capital. __________________________

8. Pearl Harbor is shown clearly on the map. __________________________

9. Visitors usually enjoy the islands’ scenic beauty. __________________________

10. Brilliantly colored flowers readily flourish. __________________________

At Home: Rewrite any three sentences of your choice using a different adverb.
**Adverbs That Compare**

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- **Adverbs** can be used to make comparisons.
- Add **–er** to short adverbs to compare two actions. Add **–est** to compare more than two actions.

  *A lion runs **fast**.*
  *A pronghorn antelope runs **faster** than a lion.*
  *The cheetah runs the **fastest** of all land animals.*

**A. Write the correct form of the adverb in parentheses to complete the sentence.**

1. The elephant stands _________________ than the rhinoceros.  
   (tallest, taller).

2. Of all mammals, the blue whale grows the _________________.  
   (largest, larger)

3. The hyrax appears _________________ than a guinea pig.  
   (smallest, smaller)

4. A lion lives _________________ than a leopard. (longer, longest)

5. Some mammals grasp _________________ with their hands than with their feet. (tightest, tighter)

**B. Write a form of the adverb in parentheses that best completes the sentence.**

6. Monkeys and opossums grasp _________________ with their tails.  
   (tight)

7. Of all monkeys, the tailless potto grips the _________________ with its hands and feet. (strong)

8. The giant anteater has the _________________ tongue of all mammals. (long)

9. The Asian elephant is _________________ in weight than the African elephant. (light)

10. Bats fly _________________ than flying lemurs. (high)

---

*At Home:* Decide what mammal is your favorite animal. Write phrases with adverbs that compare it to other animals.
More Adverbs That Compare

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- Longer adverbs and adverbs that end in –ly can be used with the words **more** and **most** to form comparisons.
- Use **more** to compare two actions. Use **most** to compare more than two actions.

> Jennifer competed **more energetically** than Ali.
> Among all the runners, Deanna competed **most energetically**.

A. Underline the verb and circle the complete adverb.

1. Of all students, Sean approaches school most seriously.
2. Sean studies more diligently than his brother.
3. He answers test questions more successfully than others do.
4. Krista is treated more warmly by her friends than her tennis coach.
5. Krista should practice tennis more regularly than she has been.

B. Rewrite each sentence using the correct form of the adverb.

6. Of all members on the cross country team, Sara wins (more, most) regularly.

7. Sara runs (more, most) willingly at practice than her friend does.

8. Her new running shoes fit (more, most) comfortably than her old ones.

9. She reached the finish line (more, most) quickly this time than last week.

10. Her dad cheered for her (more, most) enthusiastically of all.

**At Home:** For each sentence in Part B, tell a family member who or what the adverb is comparing.
Mechanics and Usage: **Good and Well**

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- The adjective *good* describes a noun.
  
  *A *good* magnet will pick up paper clips.*

- The adverb *well* tells more about a verb.
  
  *Some magnets work *well*.*

- *Well* is used as an adjective when referring to someone’s health.
  
  *I am *well* today.*

A. Write C next to the sentence that uses the word *good* or *well* correctly.

1. ______ Magnets are good for picking up small metal objects.
    
    ______ Magnets are well for picking up small metal objects.

2. ______ You know good how a magnet works.
    
    ______ You know well how a magnet works.

3. ______ A well bar magnet has two poles.
    
    ______ A good bar magnet has two poles.

4. ______ A compass is a good example of a small bar magnet.
    
    ______ A compass is a well example of a small bar magnet.

5. ______ The tip of a good compass needle always points north.
    
    ______ The tip of a well compass needle always points north.

B. Complete each sentence with *good* or *well*.

6. Bar magnets are ________________ for keeping doors closed.

7. Horseshoe magnets work ________________ in slot car motors.

8. Disk magnets in radio speakers distribute electrical impulses ____________.

9. Some people believe wearing magnets will help you feel ____________.

10. No scientific evidence proves magnets are ________________ for you.

---

**REMEMBER**

- The adjective *good* describes a noun.
- The adverb *well* tells more about a verb.
- *Well* is used as an adjective when referring to someone’s health.

**At Home:** Explain to a family member why each sentence in Part A is either correct or incorrect.
Mixed Review

REMEMBER THE RULES

- An adverb adds details about a verb by telling how, when, or where.
  
  *I suddenly remembered my mother's birthday.*

- Short adverbs ending in -er and -est can be used to make comparisons. *I plan harder for this year's party than last year's.*

- Long adverbs and adverbs ending in -y can be used with more and most to make comparisons.

A. Underline adverbs. Write whether the adverb tells how, when, or where.

1. My mother's birthday is nearly here. ____________________________
2. We secretly planned a birthday party for her. ____________________________
3. We carefully chose a birthday present that she would like. ____________________________
4. We had the store elaborately wrap her gift. ____________________________
5. We went there because we knew they would do a neat job. ____________________________
6. I cleverly hide the gift where she would never find it. ____________________________
7. Today, my aunt made a beautiful cake for the party. ____________________________
8. The party guest came here for the celebration. ____________________________
9. Everyone quickly signed my mother's birthday card. ____________________________
10. She was really surprised when she walked into the room. ____________________________

B. Choose the correct adverb in parentheses to complete each sentence.

11. I work ________________ of all at putting this party together. (harder, hardest)
12. Of all my parties, this one went the _________________. (more smoothly, most smoothly)
13. The quests arrived ________________ this year than last year. (more quickly, most quickly)
14. They stayed ________________ this time than last time. (longer, longest)
15. The party ended ________________ than the one before. (later, latest)

At Home: Think of a party you or a family member have had. Write a paragraph about it. Include some adverbs and circle each one.
Negatives

**REMEMBER THE RULES**
- A **negative** is a word that means “no.” Many negatives contain the word *no* within them.
  - **not, nobody, nowhere, none, no one**
- Some negatives include the contraction –*n’t.*
  - **can’t, don’t, won’t, isn’t**

A. Write the negative word that appears in each sentence.

1. Try not to have a negative outlook. __________________________

2. No one is more discouraging than a pessimist. __________________

3. Complaining usually accomplishes nothing. ______________________

4. Looking at things the wrong way will get you nowhere. ____________

5. Nobody wants to be with someone who is gloomy. ________________

B. Rewrite each sentence using the correct word in parentheses.

6. No one is going to talk negatively around me (no, any) more.

_______________________________________________________________

7. I don’t want to hear (nothing, anything) that is discouraging.

_______________________________________________________________

8. I’m not (ever, never) going to listen to a critical word.

_______________________________________________________________

9. Isn’t it time we tried (nothing, something) to correct this problem?

_______________________________________________________________

10. Wouldn’t (nobody, anybody) like to join me?

_______________________________________________________________

**At Home:** Write a list of rules for choosing a positive attitude. Include negatives in your list of rules. For example: *Nobody should whine.*
Prepositions

REMEMBER THE RULES

A preposition comes before a noun or pronoun. It relates the noun or pronoun to another word in the sentence.

You might choose a trip to Argentina one day.

Argentina is the second largest country in South America.

Huge ranches are found around the Pampa and Patagonia.

A. Write the preposition in each sentence.

1. Argentina follows Brazil in population and area. ________________

2. The Andes Mountains run along the country’s western boundary. ______

3. A grassy plain called “The Pampa” appears near the middle. __________

4. Cowboys, called gauchos, herded cattle throughout “The Pampa.”

5. Argentina is known for its well-aged beef. ________________

B. Choose the correct preposition to complete each sentence.

6. Argentina was once (across, under) Spanish rule. ________________

7. Many people emigrated (from, under) Europe. ________________

8. Many immigrants settled (near, under) Buenos Aires. ______________

9. Most people speak Spanish (behind, throughout) Argentina. __________

10. (In, Near) Brazil, however, the people speak Portuguese. ____________

At Home: Choose five prepositions from above and write sentences with them.
Prepositional Phrases

REMEMBER THE RULES

• A prepositional phrase is a group of words that begins with a preposition and ends with a noun or a pronoun.

>You have control over the substances you put into your body.<br>

A. In each sentence, write the preposition. Then underline the noun or pronoun that follows it.

1. Doctors sometimes prescribe drugs for us. ______________________

2. Many people take medicine for an illness. ______________________

3. Medicines have saved millions of lives. ______________________

4. Some medicines can be bought over the counter. ______________________

5. All medicines should be used with supervision. ______________________

B. Write the prepositional phrase that appears in each sentence.

6. You can make wise choices on health matters. ______________________

7. You can gather health information from many sources. ______________________

8. Information can be found at your library. ______________________

9. You can access information you need from the internet. ______________________

10. You know that the best medicine of all is “prevention.” ______________________
Combining Sentences: Complex Sentences

**REMEMBER THE RULES**

- A complex sentence contains two related ideas joined by a conjunction, such as when, because, or unless.

  Kelly chooses her time wisely. Kelly wants to get good grades.
  Kelly chooses her time wisely because she wants good grades.

A. Underline the conjunction that connects the two parts of the sentence.

1. Kelly will study hard tonight since she has a test tomorrow.

2. She writes notes on cards because it helps her remember.

3. Kelly tries to recall the information before she looks at the cards.

4. This method usually works unless she writes the wrong notes.

5. She does not take her books wherever she goes.

B. Write one sentence using a conjunction to combine each pair of sentences.

6. Kelly turns off the radio. She is studying.

7. You can choose to study hard. You want good grades.

8. School is fun. Our teacher makes it interesting.

9. I will not do well. I choose to study.

10. I must study hard. The test is given.

At Home: Write five complex sentences using the following conjunctions. as while after unless although
Mechanics and Usage: Commas

REMEMBER THE RULES

- **Commas** are used to show a short pause in your writing.
  
  _Hey, have you ever heard of Paul Revere?_

- Use a **comma** to set off a name in a direct address.
  
  _Matthew, haven’t you heard of this famous American patriot?_

- Use a **comma** to set off introductory words.
  
  _Yes, let me tell you about him._

A. Insert commas where they are needed.

1. Karen have you ever read the poem about Paul Revere’s Ride?
2. No but I know who wrote it.
3. How did you happen to know about the author Karen?
4. Well the poem is listed in a poetry book I have at home.
5. Please Karen can you bring the book to school?

B. Rewrite each sentence using commas where needed.

6. Oh the poem has to do with the Revolutionary War.

7. Remember class someone had to inform Lexington that the British were coming.

8. Yes Paul Revere warned patriot leaders of their danger.

9. Did you know that Paul Revere rode through the countryside calling men to arms class?

10. Amazingly class Revere’s exploits inspired Longfellow to write his poem.

---

At Home: Underline examples in a magazine or newspaper that show a comma being used to set off an introductory word or separate the name of a person who is being addressed.
Mixed Review

REMEMBER THE RULES

- A **negative** means “no”. Never use two negatives in a sentence.
- A **preposition** comes before a noun or pronoun and links it to the rest of the sentences. *I enjoy hiking with friends*. 
- A **prepositional phrase** begins with a preposition and ends in a noun or pronoun. *I begin hiking in the early morning*. 
- **Complex sentences** combine two ideas by using words that tell where, when, why, how, and under what circumstances. 
  
  *I enjoy looking for animals as I hike through the forest.*

A. Circle the preposition and underline the prepositional phrase.

1. I really enjoy going on a nature hike.
2. I wake up very early in the morning.
3. Starting with a healthy breakfast is a good idea.
4. I like hiking deep into the forest.
5. The forest is full of interesting sights and sounds.

B. Combine sentence pairs with joining words. Correct the double negatives.

6. I like going on a hike. The weather is nice outside.

7. I haven’t never gone on a hike in winter. The weather is cold.

8. I take cover in a safe place. The weather turns bad.

9. I don’t make no noise. I want to hear the sounds of the forest.

10. I like sharing my experiences. My hike is over.

At Home: Think about some things you have seen in nature. Write five sentences about them. Include some prepositional phrases.
Common Errors: Adverbs

REMEMBER THE RULES

- An adjective describes a noun. An adverb tells more about a verb.
- Good is an adjective. Well is an adverb.
  
The heart works well at pumping blood through the body.
- Do not use two negative words together in a sentence.
  
A bad diet doesn’t do nothing anything to help the heart.
- Remember: Many adverbs can be formed by adding -ly to an adjective.
  
The heart quickly pumps blood to all parts of the body.

A. Write the word in parentheses ( ) that completes each sentence correctly.

1. I (recent, recently) read an article about the heart.
2. The heart is (constant, constantly) pumping blood.
3. The blood flows (swift, swiftly) through the body.
4. The heart (actual, actually) beats about 36 million times a year!
5. Your heart beats (quick, quickly) when you exercise.

B. Rewrite each sentence correctly.

6. Doctors can listen close to the sound your heart makes.

7. Small valves constant regulate the flow of blood.

8. These valves must work good all the time.

9. Doctors can quick tell if something is wrong.

10. The heart doesn’t work no more than it has to.

At Home: Write five sentences about how something works. Use an adverb in each sentence.
**Study Skills: Encyclopedia**

- **An encyclopedia** is a reference work that contains articles on many subjects. Most encyclopedias are made up of a set of books, or volumes.
- The information in an encyclopedia is arranged in the volumes alphabetically by subject.
- The spine of each volume is usually numbered to let you keep each one in order. The spine also has letters or words to tell which part of the alphabet is in that volume.
- The last volume in an encyclopedia is the index, which lists all the subjects written about in the encyclopedia.

**A. Draw a line from the title of an article to the volume of the encyclopedia in which it is found.**

1. Julius Caesar  
   Volume 14
2. how tornadoes form  
   Volume 4
3. oceanography  
   Volume 2
4. famous battles of the Civil War  
   Volume 3
5. how the brain works  
   Volume 19

**B. Write an entry for something interesting you found in the following volumes of the encyclopedias pictured above.**

6. A  
7. B  
8. H  
9. JK  
10. M  
11. QR  
12. Ssn  
13. SoSz  
14. UV  
15. WXYZ

**At Home:** List three topics that you would like to know more about. List entry words you think you’ll find the topics listed under. Use an encyclopedia to see if you were correct.
Vocabulary: Suffixes

• A suffix is a word part added to the end of a base word. It changes the meaning of the base word.

  Common Suffixes: able, ible, er, or, ful, less, ly, ment, y

  wash + able = washable  means “capable of being washed”

  harm + less = harmless  means “without harming anyone or anything”

A. Underline the words with suffixes. Write the words in the box. Then circle the suffixes.

On a rainy day, I like to sit quietly and work crossword puzzles. Sometimes I draw colorful pictures. I also get enjoyment from baking cookies and listening to music on the radio or CD player.

1. ____________________
2. ____________________
3. ____________________
4. ____________________
5. ____________________

B. Add a suffix to a base word in the box to complete each sentence.

   excite       mind       smooth       snow       skate

  6. On ____________________ days, I love to take my sled to the park.

  7. I feel such ____________________ when sliding down a big hill.

  8. Dad always reminds us to be ____________________ of nearby trees or real small kids.

  9. I also am an ice ____________________.

 10. I love to ____________________ glide across the ice.

At Home: Write a paragraph about what you like to do on a rainy or snowy day. Include five words with suffixes in your work.
Composition: Outlining

- An outline lists the main topics in a report or article.
- Each main idea can be one paragraph in a report.
- Use a Roman numeral followed by a period before each main topic.
- Each subtopic is a detail that supports or explains the main topic.
- Use a capital letter followed by a period before each subtopic.

A. Leslie jotted down some ideas for a social studies report. The title of her outline is “The United States and Wars: The First 100 Years.” Next to each idea, circle whether it should appear as a main topic or a subtopic.

1. Revolutionary War (1775-1783) main topic subtopic
2. Colonies fight for independence from Britain main topic subtopic
3. War of 1812 (1812-1815) main topic subtopic
4. Trade conflict with Britain main topic subtopic
5. White House burns in 1814 main topic subtopic

B. 6-10. Organize Leslie’s notes in an outline. In the boxes, write a Roman numeral or capital letter. On the lines, write the information that would be included in this part of the report.

The United States and Wars: The First 100 Years

At Home: Write another main topic that could be included in Leslie’s report. See if you can write one or two subtopics for the main topic.
Features of Expository Writing

Good expository writing
• presents a **main idea** based on factual information about a specific topic.
• includes **supporting details**, including facts, examples, and descriptions.
• **summarizes** information from a variety of different resources.
• **draws conclusions** based on the information presented.
• uses **transitional words and phrases** to connect ideas.

A. Read the paragraph. Underline the sentence that presents the main idea.

1. People can protect nature and help themselves at the same time. For example, salmon swim upstream in rivers to breed and to die. When they cannot make it upstream, they cannot survive. People have built dams on rivers to create low-cost electricity. The dams keep the salmon from making it upstream. What did people in Washington state do? They built steps into the dams, and salmon jump up step-by-step to the water above. Washington state and salmon are in a win-win situation. Finally, the result is new generations of salmon and low-cost electricity for people.

B. Use the paragraph to answer the following questions.

2. What example does the author give to support the main idea?

   ________________________________________________________________

3. What are two transition words or phrases the author uses in the paragraph?

   ________________________________________________________________

4. Where is the conclusion stated in the paragraph?

   ________________________________________________________________

5. Write a summary of this paragraph using one or two sentences.

   ________________________________________________________________
The purpose of **expository writing** is to inform. It requires the writer to use details and facts to support a main idea. Both the writer and his or her readers should be able to draw conclusions about the information presented. **Outlining** is a good way to organize your main ideas and supporting details.

Think of a topic you would like to research and then write a report about. After you do some research and list ideas about your topic, fill in the outline.

### OUTLINE

I.

A.

B.

II.

A.

B.

C.

III.

A.

B.

### CHECKLIST

- Have you listed ideas about your topic?
- Have you listed the main ideas and details to support them?
- Do you need to do more research?

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**At Home:** Ask a parent if he or she knows anything about the topic you have chosen. Ask for suggestions on how to find out more about your topic.
When you revise your expository writing, you should check to make sure you have:

• main ideas supported by facts and details
• important information
• a variety of sources
• conclusions about the topic
• transition words, such as therefore, as a result, for example, on the other hand

A. Revise the following report by adding a title, main idea, some transition words, and a conclusion.

Some clouds are high in the sky. These are called cirrus clouds.

Cirrus clouds are thin and look airy. Cumulus clouds are white and puffy. They look like soft cotton. These clouds usually float in the middle of the sky. Another kind of cloud is the stratus. Stratus clouds look like large sheets. The clouds that bring the rain are called nimbus. These clouds sit low over our heads, and they are dark and gray.

Can you guess which cloud type is the coldest? The cirrus clouds are. They are mostly made of ice crystals. Do you know why scientists study clouds?

B. Use another sheet of paper to rewrite the report with your changes.
After you revise your report, you will need to **proofread** it to correct any errors. When you proofread your expository writing you should:

- Read to make sure your subjects and verbs agree.
- Add commas to separate items in a series and after introductory phrases.
- Check for capitalization of proper nouns and other punctuation.
- Combine short sentences.
- Check for spelling errors.

**A.** Read the following expository writing. Use the proofreading marks from the box to mark any errors you find.

Have you ever heard the term *air pressure* when you listen to a weather report on radio or TV? Air pressure plays an important role in weather. If the air pressure is rising, it means that the weather is going to improve. When air pressure falls, bad weather may be on its way. Most storms happen in low-pressure areas. Scientists measure air pressure. Scientists use a barometer.

Air is all around us. It pushes against us all the time. I did an experiment with air to find out just how strong it is. I used a ruler, a table, and a sheet of paper. I put the ruler on the table so that about 1/3 of it stuck over the edge. Then I put the paper over the ruler. Next, I hit the ruler to try to make the paper fly into the air. Guess what happened.

**B.** Rewrite the paragraphs with your changes on another sheet of paper.