Diagnostic Exam
for
Parts of Speech, Run-On Sentences, Comma Splicing, and Fragments

1. For each of the following, write **correct** if the words represent sentences that are written correctly and **incorrect** if the words represent sentences that are written incorrectly.

   a. My car broke down I called a tow truck for help. _________
   b. Kyle loves adventure. His dream is to sky dive one day. _________
   c. Richard's class went on a field trip, he had such a good time. _________
   d. I need to know what's going on; that's why I read the newspaper daily. _________
   e. The fence needs painting, the lawn needs mowing too. _________
   f. Shelly loves to read she has many books at home. _________
   g. The tallest building in the U.S. is in Chicago. It has 110 stories. _________

2. For each of the following, state whether the words represent a **fragment** or a **sentence**.

   a. Not a chance. _________
   b. Go away! _________
   c. Lost on the mountain, I feared for my safety. _________
   d. Yellow, orange, blue, pink, and black. _________
   e. You don't understand! _________
   f. All in a day's work. _________
   g. Running is good exercise. _________
   h. If you don't get out of that water. _________
   i. The Brooklyn Bridge in New York City. _________
   j. Already on the table, the pizza was ready to eat. _________
   k. From time to time. _________
   l. At the mall, shoppers rushed to make purchases. _________
   m. The New England Patriots. _________
   n. Won the lottery last year for a million dollars. _________
   o. Up on the roof near the chimney, Rudolph waited. _________
   p. Making homemade jam is Caroline's hobby. _________
   q. Up in the sky high above the clouds. _________

3. Write either a or an before each of the words shown below.

   a. _____ football  b. _____ engine  c. _____ hotel
   d. _____ hour  e. _____ upgrade  f. _____ used car

4. In the spaces provided, write the simple subject and the verb in each of the sentences below.

   a. Jack works during the night.  Subject: _________  Verb: _________
   b. The red roses bloom in June.  Subject: _________  Verb: _________
5. State whether each of the following is a true or false statement.

   ______  a. Every sentence must have a subject.
   ______  b. The sentence, "Help your sister carry the groceries." has no subject.
   ______  c. An imperative sentence gives a command or makes a request.
   ______  d. A sentence must have a subject and a predicate and express a complete thought.
   ______  e. A fragment is a short sentence.
   ______  f. The subject of a sentence is usually a noun or a pronoun.
   ______  g. Every predicate must contain a verb.
   ______  h. Every sentence must have a predicate.
   ______  i. The subject of a sentence is often found in a prepositional phrase.
   ______  j. An exclamatory sentence asks a question.
   ______  k. It is okay to connect two sentences with a comma.
   ______  l. Connecting two sentences with a comma is called comma splicing.
   ______  m. What part of speech a word is depends on how the word is used in a sentence.
   ______  n. An interrogative sentence always expresses strong emotion.
   ______  o. A verb often tells what the subject of a sentence is doing, has done, or will do.
   ______  p. Exclamation points should be used frequently when writing.
   ______  q. Most sentences are declarative and end with a period.
   ______  r. Two sentences run together without any punctuation between them is called a run-on sentence.

Given the sentence, "**Whoa! He watched as the black and white horse galloped quickly into the field,**" match each of the words on the left with the parts of speech shown at the right by writing the appropriate letter in the space provided.

   ______  6. Whoa!  a. noun
   ______  7. He  b. preposition
   ______  8. the  c. adverb
   ______  9. white  d. article
   ______ 10. horse  e. conjunction
   ______ 11. quickly  f. adjective
   ______ 12. galloped  g. pronoun
   ______ 13. and  h. interjection
   ______ 14. into  i. verb

15. The following sentence is not correct. Show three different ways to correct it.

   **The deep sea diver put on his gear then he got into the water.**

   a. __________________________________________________________________________
   b. __________________________________________________________________________
   c. __________________________________________________________________________
Answers

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1.  a. incorrect
    b. correct
    c. incorrect
    d. correct
    e. incorrect
    f. incorrect
    g. correct

5.  a. True
    b. False
    c. True
    d. True
    e. False
    f. True
    g. True
    h. True

2.  a. fragment
    b. sentence
    c. sentence
    d. fragment
    e. sentence
    f. fragment
    g. sentence
    h. fragment
    i. fragment
    j. sentence
    k. sentence
    l. sentence
    m. fragment
    n. fragment
    o. True
    p. False
    q. True
    r. True

6.  h
    7.  g
    8.  d
    9.  f
    10. a
    11. c
    12. i
    13. e
    14. b

3.  (a) a  (b) an  (c) a
    (d) an  (e) an  (f) a

15. a. The deep sea diver put on his gear. Then he got into the water.
    b. The deep sea diver put on his gear, and then he got into the water.
    c. The deep sea diver put on his gear; then he got into the water.

4.  (a) Jack  works
    (b) roses  bloom
## TEST RESULTS

For

Parts of Speech, Run-On Sentences, Comma Splicing, and Fragments

School Year: 
Teacher: 

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