

DIRECTIONS: Do the practice exercises in each section below *after* reading the appropriate section in the textbook. If you are unsure of what section to read, check your course outline.

ERROR 1: RUN-ON SENTENCES

Correct each of the following run-on sentences twice; once by breaking them into two or more shorter sentences, and the second time by using a conjunction.

1. It rained last night the roads are all wet and very slippery.

2. Jane didn't hear about the dance until Wednesday, she had to change her plans at the last minute.

3. Choosing an MP3 player is difficult, there are many good ones for sale these days.

4. Will you help me with my homework, I am desperate, I didn't get a good mark on the last test?

5. Some young people spend their allowance foolishly, they don't know the value of a dollar.

ERROR 2: SENTENCE FRAGMENTS

Correct each of the following sentences fragments by using the most appropriate method.

6. Your beautiful new outfit.

7. Until they have to work for it.

8. During the Triassic Period.
9. If I hadn't dropped the ball.
10. Because of the lousy weather.

ERROR 3: COMMA ERRORS

Correct each of the following sentences by adding commas if there are too few, or removing commas if there are too many.

11. She likes to eat pastry chocolate fruit and taco chips after school.
12. The cruise was a horrible experience because of the rough seas strong wind and rainy weather.
13. Jane, the Grad Class President, called a meeting, to discuss the Grad Banquet.
14. The girl in the red coat who is waiting for the bus looks sad.
15. Your job is to peel the potatoes wash them cut them into slices and put them in the pot.

ERROR 4: VAGUE PRONOUN REFERENCES

Each of the following sentences has a problem with vague pronoun references. Correct each one using any of the three repair methods.

16. When Sarah told Mary they had won first prize in the raffle, she nearly screamed with joy.

17. Wendy never told her mom she was going to the Mall. She got very angry.

18. John put the milk carton into the fridge and noticed it wouldn't close properly.

19. My brother and his best friend Tom are going to the concert although he hates rap music.

20. Jason and Terry had to sweep the floor, wash the walls, and dust. He had never done this before.

ERROR 5: WRONG PRONOUN - NUMBER, GENDER OR PERSON

Correct each of the following sentences by fixing the wrong pronoun in each, using either of the two repair methods.

21. When the CD came by courier, we listened to them on our Discman.

22. The hottest new music technology is MP3, and music sounds terrific recorded on them.

23. The Mazda Protegé comes with an MP3 player, and they sound wonderful.

24. How does the two of them get along?

25. Jeffery used a slide rule when she was in school.