

Pretest

Decide which punctuation mark, if any, is needed in each sentence.

1. No I have never been to Europe.

A ,

B ?

C "

D None

3. Hit the brakes

A ?

B !

C ,

D None

2. "Don't forget to lock the door,"
Nathan said.

F ,

G ?

H "

J None

4. Abby whispered, The movie is
about to start."

F "

G ,

H ?

J None

Choose the word or phrase that best completes each sentence.

5. This is the _____ day of the year.

A hotter

B more hot

C hottest

D most hottest

7. A new band _____ at the club last
night.

A will play

B was play

C were played

D played

6. The plane _____ on the runway.

F has landing

G is land

H has landed

J land

8. City workers _____ the trash
every Friday.

F was collecting

G collect

H has collected

J collects

Pretest continued

Choose the sentence that is written properly and shows the correct capitalization and punctuation. Be sure the sentence you choose is complete.

9. A Touching the ball after the whistle.
B The player with the most points.
C Is a season ticket holder.
D The coach spoke to reporters.
10. F the hikers went down into the canyon.
G leave the package by the door.
H "when can we see the new house?" asked Grace.
J When the bell rings, the fight stops.
11. A Before you say anything, listen.
B They went home, after the show.
C If you break it you bought it.
D Call me, when you get there.
12. F The Scotts go to Canada every July.
G Lila always uses coupons at the grocery Store.
H Do you know the letters in the greek alphabet?
J Pam graduated from mercer High School.
13. A The principal themself welcomed us.
B Send your report to I by the end of the day.
C The head chef himself made dessert.
D The boss asked for them names an hour ago.
14. F Manny is from Charleston, South Carolina.
G Ann Arbor, Michigan is the home of the University of Michigan.
H Des Moines, is the capital of Iowa.
J Jane went to Laredo Texas, on vacation.
15. A It's not polite to stare.
B I just know wer'e going to be late.
C Your'e the third person to ask me that question.
D My dog isnt' used to big crowds.
16. F I couldn't never lie to you.
G It won't do no good to cry.
H Aren't there any cupcakes left?
J Phil couldn't hardly remember his lines in the play.

Pretest continued

Read the two underlined sentences. Then choose the sentence that best combines those sentences.

17. Blake drives a minivan.
The minivan is red.
- A When Blake drives a minivan, it is red.
 - B A red minivan is the kind of car that Blake drives.
 - C When Blake drives, his minivan is red.
 - D Blake drives a red minivan.
18. Janette works for the city.
Luis works for the city.
- F Janette and Luis work for the city.
 - G When Janette works for the city, so does Luis.
 - H Either Janette or Luis works for the city.
 - J If Luis works for the city, Janette does, too.
19. Kevin barbecues ribs in his backyard.
Kevin barbecues ribs often.
- A Ribs are often barbecued in Kevin's backyard.
 - B Kevin's ribs are often are barbecued in his backyard.
 - C Kevin often barbecues ribs in his backyard.
 - D When ribs are barbecued, Kevin often barbecues them in his backyard.
20. Clare answered the phone.
Clare took a message.
- F Clare took a message as she answered the phone.
 - G When Clare took the message, she answered a phone.
 - H Clare answered the phone and took a message.
 - J A phone was answered by Clare, who took the message.

Pretest continued

Read each paragraph. Then choose the sentence that best fills the blank.

21. _____ . Little kids dig in the sand. Older children swim and play volleyball. Parents relax on a blanket. And everyone enjoys a picnic supper at the beach.
- A A trip to the beach is fun for the whole family.
 - B Parents must watch their children closely at the beach.
 - C It is hard to find trips that the whole family likes.
 - D Older children often choose not to come on family outings.
22. _____ . E-mail reaches the recipient in an instant. Regular mail may take between two and four days. E-mail often seems cold. A handwritten note, on the other hand, seems warm and friendly.
- F E-mail and regular mail are alike in many ways.
 - G E-mail and regular mail are quite different.
 - H Only people who have time to spare use regular mail these days.
 - J Send your messages by e-mail whenever you can.
23. Anita worked hard on Carla's birthday cake. First she baked the cake. _____ . Next she frosted the cake. Finally, she put three candles on it.
- A Then she chose Carla's favorite kind of cake.
 - B Then she made the frosting.
 - C Then she lit the candles.
 - D Then she cut Carla a slice of the cake.
24. Roy and Maria clean the garage together. _____. Then they sweep the empty garage floor. They hose the floor down and move everything back in. The job is done for another year.
- F They move everything out of the garage.
 - G The garage gets pretty dirty during the year.
 - H They take a short work break.
 - J They drive their cars back into the garage.

Pretest continued

Read each topic sentence. Then choose the answer that best develops the topic sentence.

25. Lila and Charles check for two things before they stay in any motel room.
- A Many motels are part of a chain. Motels in a chain are similar in quality.
 - B Motels by the side of the freeway usually meet their standards. Rooms can be rented most weeknights.
 - C They demand that the room not smell like stale smoke. They also want good beds.
 - D The word *motel* combines *motor* and *hotel*. Motels first appeared after cars were invented.
26. Athletes who like extreme sports are a breed apart.
- F Extreme sports are popular today. One extreme sport is hang gliding.
 - G Some extreme sports are not legal. Climbing the outsides of buildings is one example.
 - H New equipment has made these sports possible. Athletes trust better materials.
 - J A normal, safe sport will not keep these athletes happy. They need an extreme challenge.
27. The northern lights make a great sky show.
- A Another name for the northern lights is *aurora borealis*. There are also southern lights.
 - B They flicker across the sky for thousands of miles. The lights are often green but can also be red and purple.
 - C Northern lights are natural. They happen when bits of energy from the sun are trapped around the earth.
 - D Most people will never see the northern lights. This display can be seen only near the North Pole.

Pretest continued

Read each paragraph. Then choose the sentence that does not belong in the paragraph.

28. 1. Ida Lewis saved many lives. 2. Ida was the keeper of the Lime Rock Lighthouse. 3. She rescued at least 18 people from drowning. 4. Keeping a lighthouse was a lonely job.
- F Sentence 1
 - G Sentence 2
 - H Sentence 3
 - J Sentence 4
29. 1. Breakfast is an important meal. 2. A good breakfast gives you energy to start the day. 3. Blueberry pancakes are a popular breakfast. 4. People who do not eat a hearty breakfast are more likely to eat junk food before lunch.
- A Sentence 1
 - B Sentence 2
 - C Sentence 3
 - D Sentence 4
30. 1. The local food bank helps people in need. 2. Many cities have people who cannot afford to buy food. 3. At the food bank, volunteers fill bags with different kinds of food. 4. Needy families can pick up these bags of groceries for free.
- F Sentence 1
 - G Sentence 2
 - H Sentence 3
 - J Sentence 4
31. 1. Jim goes to sleep every night at ten o'clock. 2. Much activity goes on in your brain when you sleep. 3. Every night, you have four to six sleep cycles. 4. You dream at least once during each cycle.
- A Sentence 1
 - B Sentence 2
 - C Sentence 3
 - D Sentence 4

Pretest continued

Read the letter and the paragraphs, and look at the underlined parts. Choose the answer that is written correctly for each underlined part.

(32) may 20, 2005

Sawtooth Dude Ranch

(33) 1357 pine street

(34) Boise, ID 83705

(35) Dear Sir or Madam:

(36) Im' planning a trip to Idaho this summer. A friend of mine stayed at your ranch last year. She said she had a wonderful time there. Please send me information about your daily and weekly rates.

(37) Sincerely yours

Rose Fazio

Rose Fazio

32. F May, 20, 2005

G may 20 2005

H May 20, 2005

J Correct as it is

35. A Dear Sir or Madam,

B Dear sir or madam,

C Dear Sir Or Madam

D Correct as it is

33. A 1357 pine street

B 1357 Pine Street

C 1357 Pine street

D Correct as it is

36. F I'm

G I'm'

H Im

J Correct as it is

34. F Boise, ID, 83705

G Boise ID 83705

H Boise ID, 83705

J Correct as it is

37. A sincerely, yours,

B Sincerely yours,

C Sincerely Yours,

D Correct as it is

Pretest continued

- (38) On November 2, people in mexico celebrate a holiday called the Day of the Dead. On that day, they remember family members which have died. People eat bread and candies in the shape of skulls. They happily march in parades with fake coffins. This part of the day is fun. But later people may visit the cemetery.
- (41) There they lights candles and pray for the spirits of those who have passed away.

38. F Mexico Celebrate
G Mexico celebrate
H Mexico. Celebrate
J Correct as it is

40. F happier
G more happier
H happy
J Correct as it is

39. A whose
B that
C who
D Correct as it is

41. A light
B is lighted
C is lighting
D Correct as it is

- (42) The sun can be your skins worst enemy. Its rays can cause problems from sunburn to skin cancer, for that reason, you should take steps to protect yourself from the sun. try to stay indoors from 10 A.M. to 3 P.M. Wear sunscreen. When you are outdoors. Respect the power of the sun.

42. F skins's
G skins'
H skin's
J Correct as it is

44. F sun. Try
G sun, Try
H sun, try
J Correct as it is

43. A skin cancer for
B skin cancer. For
C skin cancer for,
D Correct as it is

45. A Wear sunscreen. when you
B Wear sunscreen, When you
C Wear sunscreen when you
D Correct as it is

Pretest Answer Key and Evaluation Chart

This Evaluation Chart will help you find the language skills you need to study. Circle the questions you answered incorrectly and go to the practice pages covering those skills.

Key

1.	A	28.	J
2.	J	29.	C
3.	B	30.	G
4.	F	31.	A
5.	C	32.	H
6.	H	33.	B
7.	D	34.	J
8.	G	35.	D
9.	D	36.	F
10.	J	37.	B
11.	A	38.	G
12.	F	39.	C
13.	C	40.	J
14.	F	41.	A
15.	A	42.	H
16.	H	43.	B
17.	D	44.	F
18.	F	45.	C
19.	C		
20.	H		
21.	A		
22.	G		
23.	B		
24.	F		
25.	C		
26.	J		
27.	B		

Tested Skills	Question Numbers	Practice Pages
pronouns	13	23–26, 27–30
antecedent agreement	39	31–34
verbs	6, 7	35–38, 39–42, 43–46
subject/verb agreement	8, 41	47–50
adjectives and adverbs	5, 40	51–54, 55–58, 59–62
use of negatives	16	63–66
sentence recognition	9, 43, 45	71–74, 75–78
sentence combining	17, 18, 19, 20	79–82, 83–86, 87–90, 91–94
topic sentences	21, 22	99–102, 103–106
supporting sentences	25, 26, 27	107–110, 111–114
sequence	23, 24	115–118, 119–122
unrelated sentences	28, 29, 30, 31	123–126
proper nouns and proper adjectives	12, 38	131–134, 135–138
first words	10, 44	139–142
end marks	3	147–150
commas	1, 11, 14	151–154, 155–158, 159–162, 163–166
quotations	2, 4	171–174, 175–178
apostrophes	15, 36, 42	179–182, 183–186
letter parts	32, 33, 34, 35, 37	187–190