



Sadhana Education Society

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**COLLEGE OF ARTS & COMMERCE,**

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**FYBA / FYB.COM**

**TUTORIAL WORKBOOK**

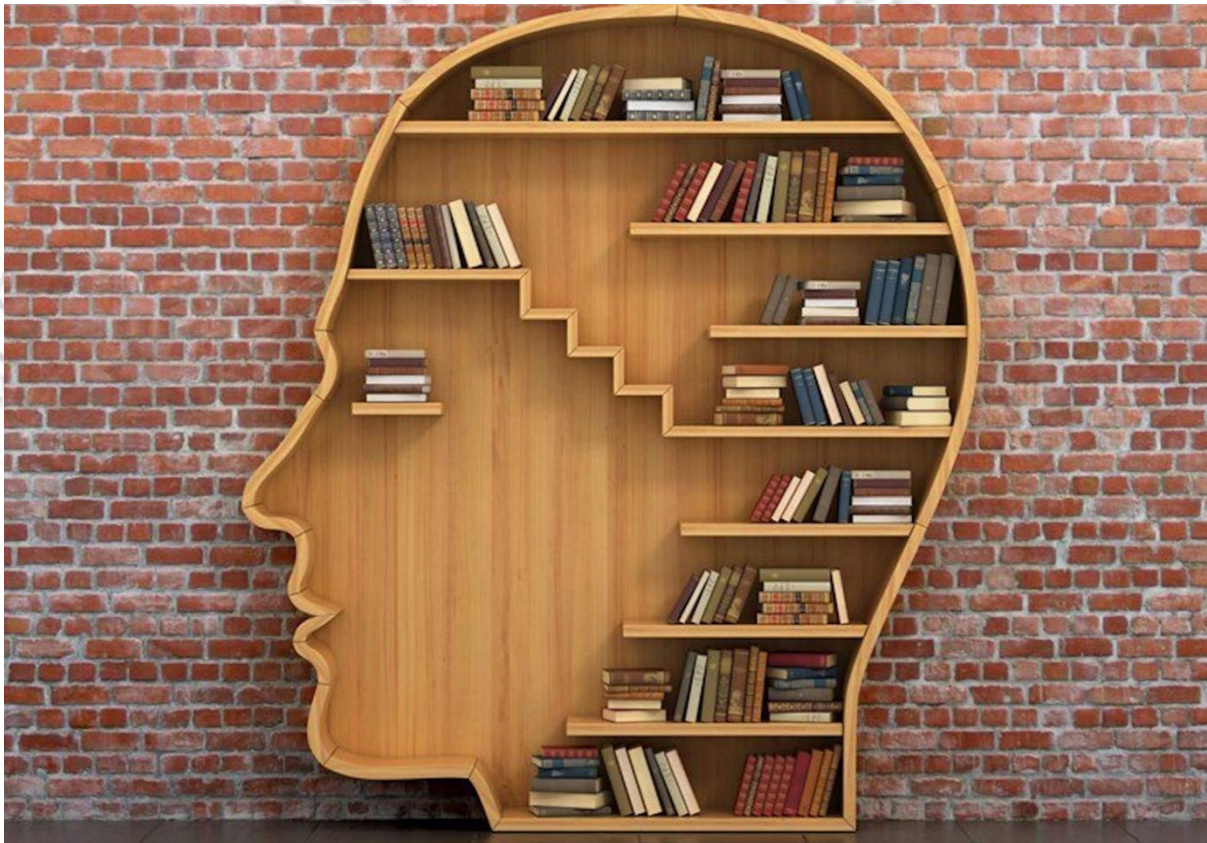
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# SES's L. S. Raheja College of Arts and Commerce

## FYBA / FYB.Com Tutorial Workbook

Semester I & II 2019-20



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Division: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Unit I – Grammar and Language Usage

## Identification of Adjectives and Adverbs

**State whether the keyword is an adjective or adverb:**

1. The ship is still afloat. Here afloat is an ..... (Adjective / adverb)
2. She is the best mother in the world. Here best is an ..... (Adjective / adverb)
3. She danced happily into the room. Here happily is an ..... (Adjective / adverb)
4. We bought the cheapest clothes in the shop. Here cheapest is an ..... (Adjective / adverb)
5. I don't remember him very well. Here very is an ..... (Adjective / adverb)
6. She smiled in a friendly way. Here friendly is an ..... (Adjective / adverb)
7. Her singing was lovely. Here lovely is an ..... (Adjective / adverb)
8. Sorry I didn't post the letter – I clean forgot. Here clean is an ..... (Adjective / adverb)
9. He was dead drunk when he got home. Here dead is an ..... (Adjective / adverb)
10. The plane goes direct from Chicago to Atlanta without stopping. Here direct is an ..... (Adjective / adverb)
11. They sometimes must be bored. Here sometimes is an ..... (Adjective / adverb)
12. When did you last see your father? Here last is an ..... (Adjective / adverb)

## Sentence Correction

### Identify the correct option:

1. The doctor suggested ..... take a vacation.

the patient to

that the patient should

that the patient to

2. Learning ..... isn't easy.

French

the French

3. I need ..... sleep.

good

a good

4. We had ..... time on the top of the mountain.

great

a great

5. I am going to the hospital to see a friend who has undergone ..... operation.

the

an

Either could be used here

6. The more you read the ..... you understand.

less

lesser

7. On the way home, I saw an old beggar accompanied..... a child.

by

with

8. Will you please..... me a copy of 'The Old Man and the Sea'?

lend

borrow

9. The man who knocked ..... the door was a stranger.

on

at

10. What is the difference ..... these cars?

between

among

### Word Forms

**Fill in the blanks with an appropriate word or phrase:**

1. We took a ..... path.

circuit

circuitous

circumvent

2. The ..... motion of the merry go round made the girl dizzy.

circular

circling

circle

3. Her moods are as ..... as the weather.

change

changeable

changing

4. The boy attended school only under .....

coerce

coercion

coercive

5. If the team makes a ..... effort we will win the game.

collection

collective

collected

6. The witness was remarkably ..... under the cross-examination.

collection

collected

collective

7. The diplomat was arrested for acting in ..... with the enemy.

collision

collusion

8. The policemen ..... a taxi to chase the robbers.

commandeered

commanded

commandeered

9. He wanted to make his living in the arts rather than in the ..... world.

commerce

commercial

10. He was known for his ..... approach to life.

common-sense

common sense

commonplace

11. This letter is not very .....

communicative

communicable

communication

12. Being granted a yearly bonus can be considered ..... to getting a raise.

comparable

comparative

comparison



## Tenses

### Fill in the blanks with appropriate tense forms:

1. The party invitations ..... out.  
have sent  
have been sent  
are sending
2. The invention of the space rocket ..... many years.  
took  
has taken  
were taken
3. Alexander Graham Bell ..... the telephone.  
was invented  
has invented  
invented
4. Saint Patrick ..... Christianity to the Irish.  
introduced  
was introduced  
has introduced
5. Fairy tales ..... most children.  
are intriguing  
intrigue  
are intrigued
6. He ..... to 90 days in jail.  
sentenced  
was sentenced  
has sentenced
7. She ..... with joy upon the birth of her grandchild.  
filled

was filled

was filling

8. How did you know I ..... be there?

will

would

shall

9. He wanted to visit the land his father ..... from.

came

come

has come

10. Lately I ..... making my own clothes.

started

have started

had started

11. .... the packages on the table.

Lay

Lie

12. Which route ..... I take to Denver?

do

have

would

## English Vocabulary

From the given options choose the word which means the same as the keyword.

1. The fox tried desperately to free itself from the trap. Which of the following words means 'free'?

exuberant

extenuate

extricate

2. The students rejoiced at the last day of school. Which of the following words means rejoiced?

exalted

exulted

extolled

3. The king was honored by his subjects. Which of the following words means honored?

extolled

exulted

exalted

4. When the guest speaker failed to arrive, the chairman of the club gave an unprepared talk on environmental issues. Which of the following words means unprepared?

extemporaneous

impromptu

extemporary

All of the above

5. He was not fined for speeding because his need to get to the hospital quickly was a justifiable circumstance. Which of the following words means justifiable?

extemporaneous

extenuating

extraneous

6. The witness's irrelevant remarks were struck from the record. Which of the following words means irrelevant?

exquisite

extraneous

expedient

7. Using postal codes quickens the delivery of mail. Which of the following words means quickens?

expedites

expends

exonerates

8. During World War II many German refugees settled in the United States. Which of the following words means refugees?

compatriots

expatriots

expatriates

9. The older boy's admirable behaviour had a good influence on the younger. Which of the following words means admirable?

exemplary

exhilarating

exacting

10. The deceased was lauded by his closest friend. Which of the following words means lauded?

eulogized

lampooned

languished

11. Shun fattening foods if you want to lose weight. Which of the following words can mean shun?

eschew

abdicate

abstain

12. Some fields of science seem hopelessly cryptic to the layman. Which of the following words means cryptic?

esoteric

aesthetic

exasperate

## Subordinate Clauses

State whether the subordinate clause used in the following sentences are adjective clause, noun clause or adverb clause:

1. Here is the money that you lent me.

Noun clause

Adjective clause

Adverb clause

2. The person who leaves last should put the lights out.

Noun clause

Adjective clause

Adverb clause

3. This is the house that I told you about.

Noun clause

Adjective clause

Adverb clause

4. People are sleeping out on the streets because there are not enough houses.

Noun clause

Adjective clause

Adverb clause

5. I knew that I should write to her, but I forgot.

Noun clause

Adjective clause

Adverb clause

6. Does anyone know where Janet lives?

Noun clause

Adjective clause

Adverb clause

7. James replied that he was feeling better.

Noun clause

Adjective clause

Adverb clause

8. Come in quietly so that she does not hear you.

Noun clause

Adjective clause

Adverb clause

9. I always knew that I could trust you.

Noun clause

Adjective clause

Adverb clause

10. The scales broke when I was weighing myself this morning.

Noun clause

Adjective clause

Adverb clause

11. If you are ever in London, come and see me.

Noun clause

Adjective clause

Adverb clause

12. The woman who was sitting behind the reception desk gave me a big smile.

Noun clause

Adjective clause

Adverb clause



## Simple, Complex or Compound

State the whether the following sentences are simple, complex or compound:

1. If you eat too much you will get fat.

Simple

Complex

Compound

2. I will have a think and let you know.

Simple

Complex

Compound

3. Having been there before he knew what to expect.

Simple

Complex

Compound

4. We got our roof blown off in the storm last week.

Simple

Complex

Compound

5. I went to see him, but he told me to get out.

Simple

Complex

Compound

6. It was John who paid for the drinks.

Simple

Complex

Compound

7. My grandfather died in a hospital.

Simple

Complex

Compound

8. I thought it strange that she hadn't written.

Simple

Complex

Compound

9. I looked a real fool when I fell in the river.

Simple

Complex

Compound

10. I wasn't the cleverest but I was the most beautiful.

Simple

Complex

Compound

11. You don't have to carry identity papers in England.

Simple

Complex

Compound

12. That's the girl who lives in the flat upstairs.

Simple

Complex

Compound



## Grammar Review

### Fill in the blanks:

1. I met her in Ireland .....

six months before

before six months

six months ago

2. The two sisters are very much .....

like

alike

Either could be used here

3. Have you been here .....?

ago

before

Either could be used here

4. .... the people were singing and dancing.

All

All of

Either could be used here

5. I would quite like to go out, ..... it is a bit late.

although

though

Either could be used here

6. 'Lovely day.' 'Yes. Bit warm, .....

although

though

Either could be used here

7. It is important that she ..... told.

be

should be

Either could be used here

8. She looks ..... she is going to cry.

like

as if

Either could be used here

9. Those candies were wonderful. Could I have ..... one?

other

another

more

10. Those peas were delicious. Could I have .....

another

other

some more

11. I didn't like ..... the movies.

any

any of

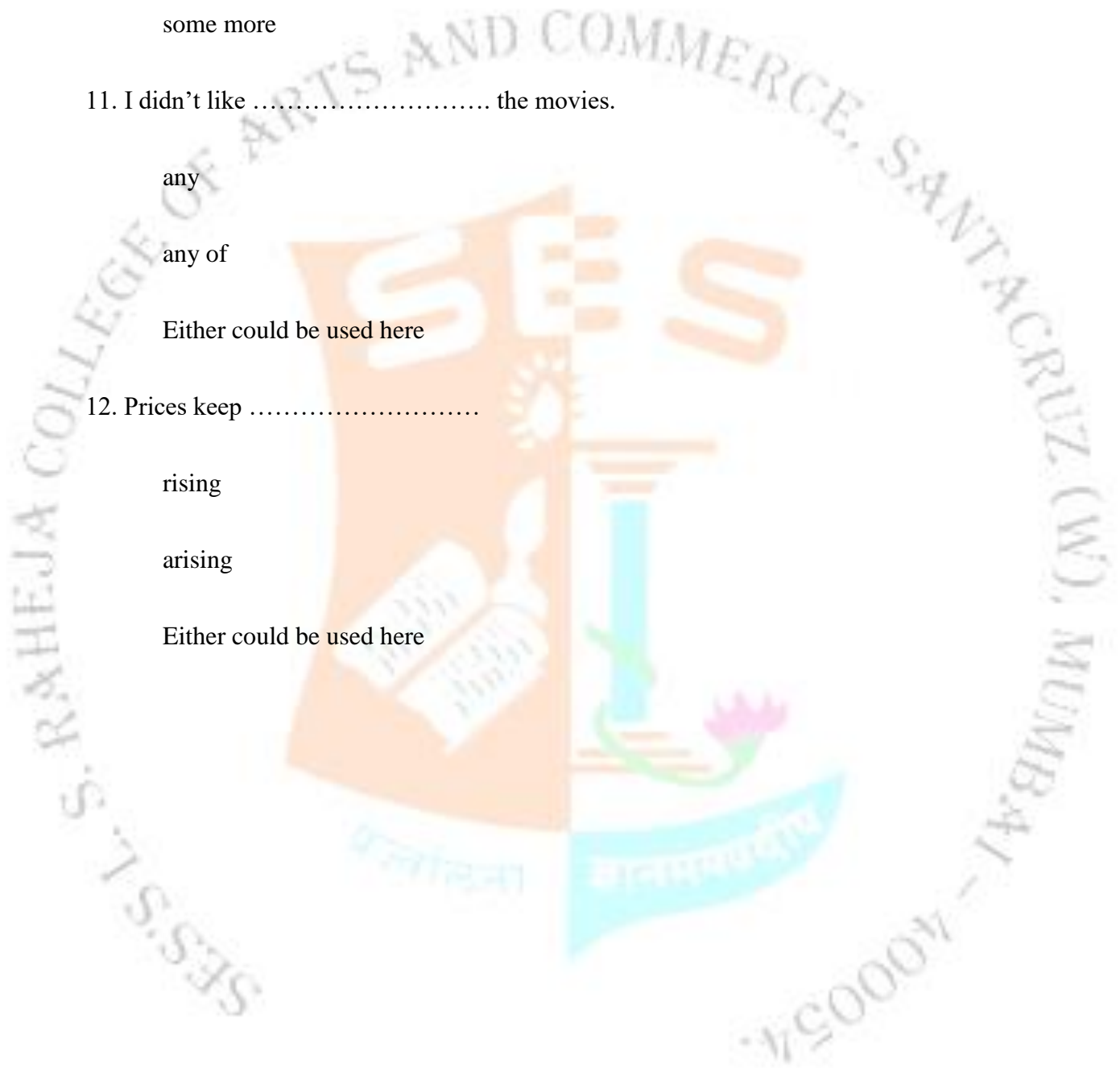
Either could be used here

12. Prices keep .....

rising

arising

Either could be used here



## Intermediate Level Grammar

**This grammar exercise tests your understanding of basic grammar rules and sentence patterns. Fill in the blanks:**

1. I am not the ..... bit afraid of dogs.

less

least

fewest

2. The essay with the ..... mistakes isn't always the best.

least

fewest

fewer

3. Last year I ..... to water-ski.

learnt

learnt how

Either could be used here

4. I want to ..... down for a few minutes.

lie

lay

laid

5. The ..... days have been quite hectic.

last

last few

Either could be used here

6. Do you ..... to ride a bicycle?

know

know how

Either could be used here

7. The dog wagged ..... tail.

its

it's

its'

8. He ..... out angry words at his tormenters.

spit

spat

Either could be used here

9. I understood her ..... her strange accent.

despite

however

although



10. I have bought some eggs in case she ..... to dinner.

stay

stays

will stay

11. We ..... Mumbai at 4 am.

arrive at

arrive to

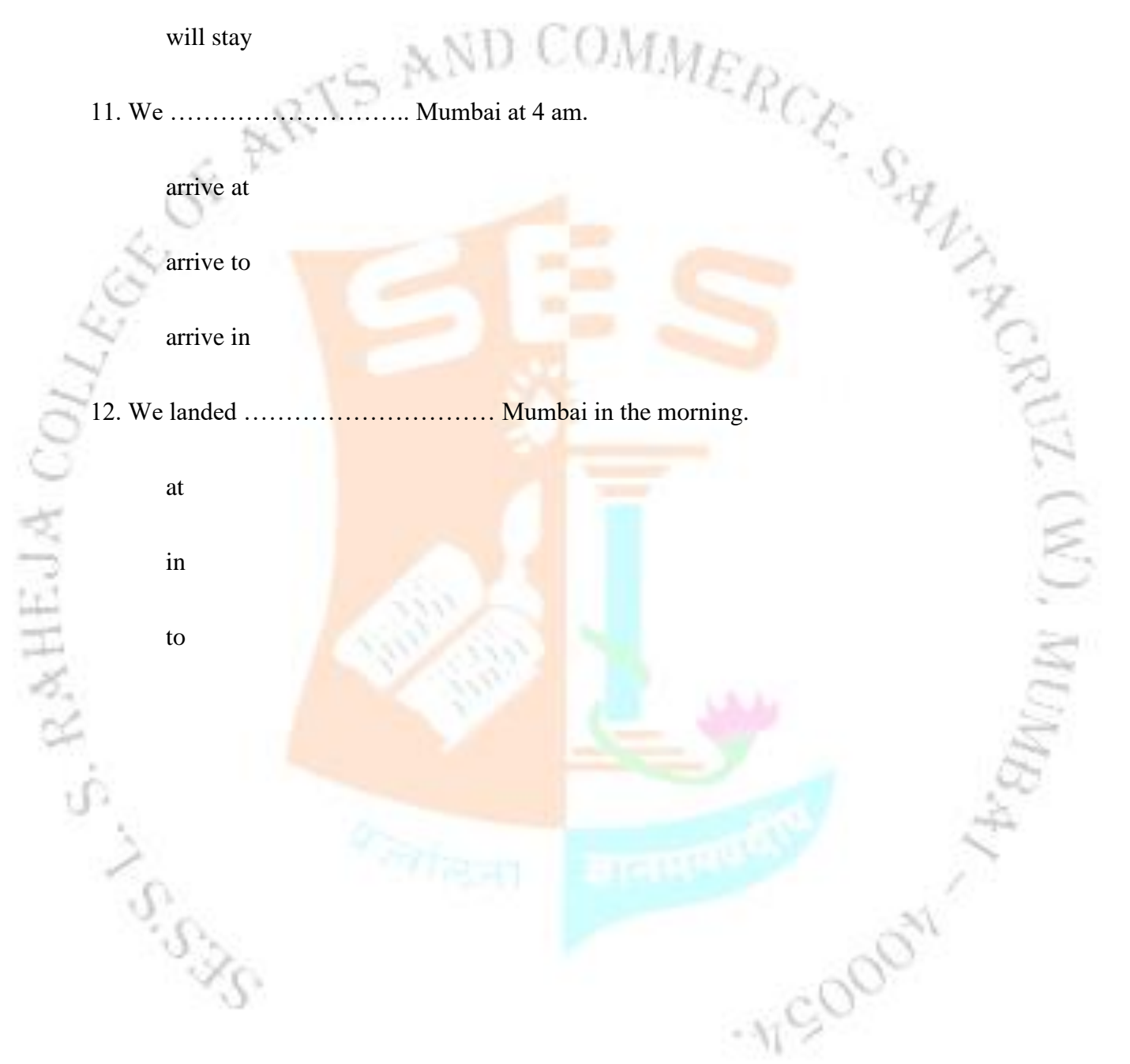
arrive in

12. We landed ..... Mumbai in the morning.

at

in

to



## Modal Auxiliary Verbs

This grammar exercise tests your ability to use modal auxiliary verbs. Fill in the blanks.

1. She may ..... his name.

know

knows

knowing

2. She ..... speak English.

can

cans

3. He ..... do that.

not should

does not should

should not

4. You must ..... now.

to leave

leave

leaving

5. The walls ought to ..... one of these days.

paint

be painted

be painting

6. I really ..... to work hard in those days.

have

had

must

musted

7. You ..... me you were coming.

should tell

should told

should have told

8. 'Suma hasn't arrived yet.' 'She ..... the train.'

might miss

might have missed

can have missed

9. She ..... be in London or Paris.

could

can

10. Chennai ..... be very hot in March.

may

can

must

11. 'Where is Janaki?' 'She ..... have gone swimming.'

may

might

can

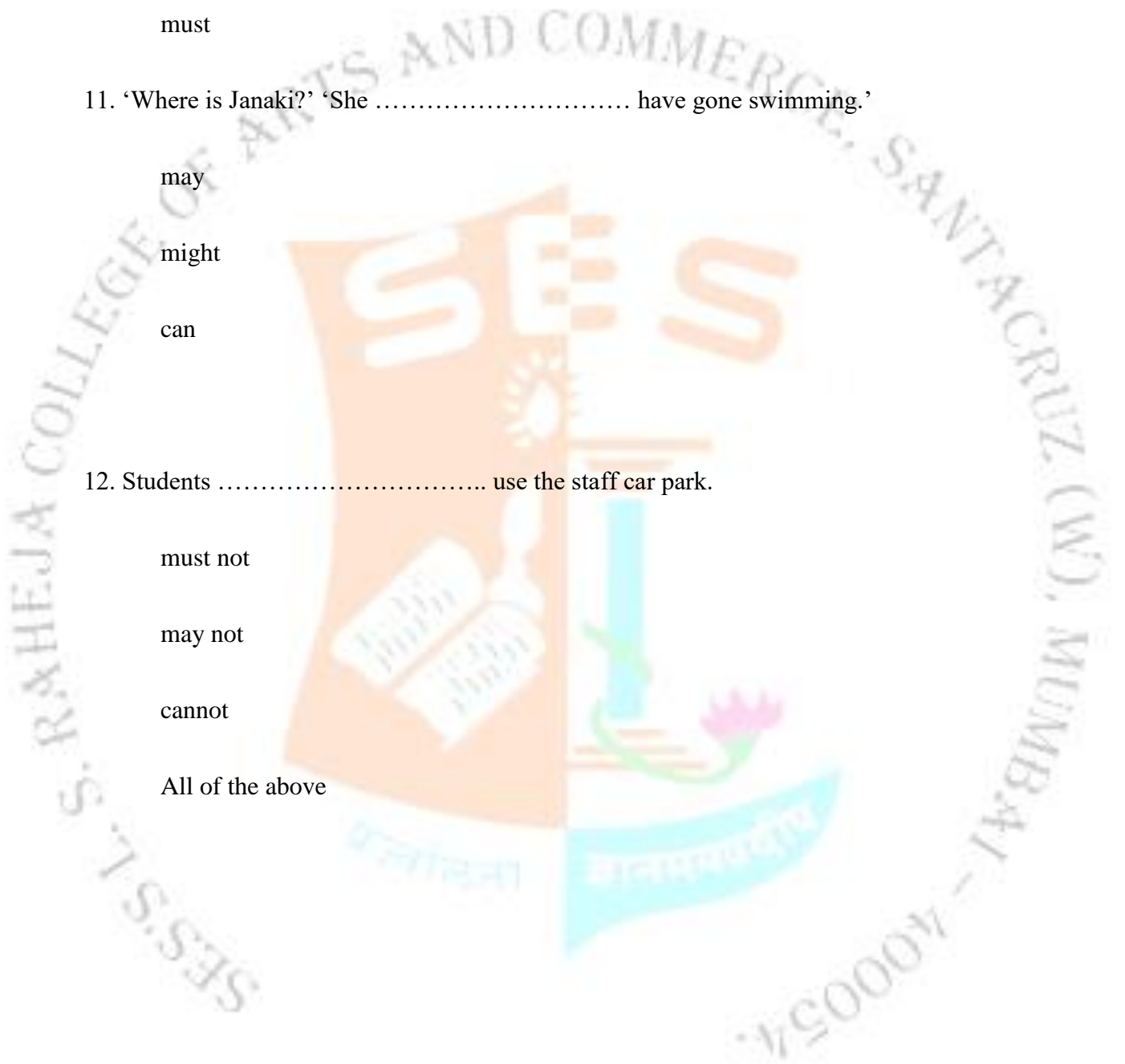
12. Students ..... use the staff car park.

must not

may not

cannot

All of the above



## Identify the wrong word

Identify the word or phrase that needs to be removed from the sentence to make it grammatically correct:

1. He called me as a fool.

- a) called
- b) as
- c) a

2. This is the house where Jack was born in.

- a) where
- b) was
- c) in

3. I have visited them a couple of times during my stay in Mexico.

- a) have
- b) couple
- c) of

4. I live half of a mile from here.

- a) half
- b) of
- c) a

5. I don't think so that I will have time.

- a) so
- b) that
- c) will

6. Despite of having a headache I enjoyed the film.

- a) despite
- b) of
- c) having

7. He asked to her why she was angry.

- a) to
- b) why
- c) was

8. He was very kind enough to invite me.

- a) very
- b) enough
- c) to

9. I have bought a chicken in case of Peter stays to lunch.

- a) in case
- b) of
- c) to

10. I want to know as to why I have been detained.

a) as to

b) why

c) been



## Unit II – Creative Writing

### Rewrite in the proper order

The sentences given below are taken from a story, but they are jumbled. That means they are not arranged in their proper order. Rearrange them in their logical sequence:

1. The young man sold his share of the property and left for another country.
2. The father tried to dissuade his son, but he wouldn't listen to his father whom he regarded as old and ignorant.
3. Years went by. The younger son began to get restless because he was unhappy with his lot.
4. He led a luxurious life and spent a lot of money on gambling.
5. They were living together happily.
6. Soon all his money was gone and he became a pauper.
7. Once there lived a rich farmer.
8. He went to his father and asked for his share of the property.
9. So the father gave him a third of his property.
10. He had two sons.



## How to write a short story

A short story is a work of fiction. It is a product of the author's imagination. Every short story has a beginning, a middle part and an ending.

Development of a short story requires careful thought and planning. Not every writer employs the same techniques in writing a short story. Some start with the plot and then create the characters. Others start by creating characters and then allow them to interact. From this interaction, the plot takes shape. Here are a few tips for writing a short story. Note that these are not meant for a seasoned writer who has already mastered the art of story-telling. Nonetheless, a beginner with little or no experience in writing a short story should find these tips helpful.

### **Step 1: determine the plot**

The theme is what the story is about. A theme sometimes conveys a moral. If you have read the Aesop's Fables you should know what I mean. All of those stories have a message. Some stories are written just for the purpose of conveying a message. The message could be any of the following:

The victory of virtue over vice

Sportsman spirit: It is not about winning; it is about how you play the game

The righteous may have to face huge hardships

Honesty is the best policy

You don't really have to state the message at the end of the story. As the story develops and ends the reader should be able to comprehend the message.

### **Step 2: outline the plot**

Every story requires a plot. Actually, the story develops from the plot. You can indicate the plot in the opening lines and then develop it gradually. As the plot unfolds characters will appear on the scene and start interacting with one another.

### **Complications and conflicts**

These are an integral part of the plot. Complications and conflicts don't have to be really complicated. Minor complications will do just fine – it depends upon the plot. Think about events that lead to the conflict. What are the problems that the characters encounter? You can develop complications and conflicts out of the interactions of the characters. Sometimes, destiny can play a role in making your characters' life complicated.

### **Develop the crisis**

What are the results of the conflict? How do they lead to additional, more complicated conflicts? The conflict or complications should lead to what is called the 'rising action'. The rising action will create more complications and tension and will raise the story up to the crisis. The crisis is the turning point. It leads to the climax. The climax is the highest point of interest.

### **Bring the story to an end**

Once you have reached the climax, you can't climb any higher. The conflict and crisis needs to be resolved in the climax. Think about the outcome of the events that lead to the climax. Do these events change the characters or the way they interact with others? Do they learn any lessons? Once the conflict and crisis are resolved the story comes to an end. This final outcome is called the denouement.

## Story writing tips

To tell a story well you need some practice. A good story writer looks ahead as he tells the story and plans it out. To write a good story you must have the whole plot clear in your mind. You must also have the main points arranged in their proper order.

So how does one write a good story? To be a good story writer you must have a fertile imagination. Read extensively and you will find your mind brimming with ideas. Here are a few tips to help you become a better story writer.

Before you start writing, see that you have a clear idea of the plot in your mind. Once you have got the outline ready all that you need to do is to develop the points.

While writing the story, do not omit any point and keep to the order in which the events take place.

Connect the points naturally so that the story will read as a well written piece of composition.

Use your imagination and where possible introduce dialogues. Note that care must be taken to ensure that they sound natural and interesting.

Emphasize the leading points and do not dwell too long on minor details.

The conclusion is the most important part of the story. The whole story must lead up to it naturally and then it should come as a bit of a surprise.

Make sure that your composition is grammatical and idiomatic and in good simple English.

Revise your work and if necessary rewrite it until it is as good as you can make it.



## Unit III – Business Writing

### How to make your writing more formal?

While communicating with business people, the language you use must be consistently appropriate in style and tone.

#### **The following are the basic features of formal writing:**

Write all verbs in full. Do not use contracted forms like don't or can't.

Do not use abbreviations such as info (for information) and asap (for as soon as possible).

Limit the use of passive voice. However, there are some situations where passive verb forms are preferred to active forms. For example, active verb forms used with the first person singular are not considered appropriate in formal or academic writing. Write '*A copy of the document will be mailed to you as soon as possible*' instead of '*I will mail you a copy of the document asap*'.

Watch your vocabulary. Certain words are considered informal. Examples are: fix, begin, start, OK, thanks etc. Avoid them in formal writing. Instead use words like repair (for fix), commence (for start / begin), in order / all right (for OK) and thank you (for thanks).

Avoid informal intensifiers like really and so. Instead use more sophisticated ones such as extremely, highly, entirely etc.

Limit the use of phrasal verbs. As far as possible avoid using them, but if that is not possible limit their use. It is usually possible to express the same idea using standard verb forms.

Certain discourse markers are considered informal. Avoid using them. For example, write incidentally instead of by the way.





## **Unit IV – Essay Writing**

### **Commonly confused expressions**

**Here is a quick overview of some phrases and expressions that are commonly confused:**

#### **Supposed to / used to**

You are not supposed to break the rules. (NOT You are not suppose to break the rules.)

I am used to living alone. (NOT I am use to living alone.)

It is wrong to drop the 'd' in supposed and used. However, this is a mistake that many people make.

#### **Beside the point**

If something is beside the point, it is not relevant to the point. It is wrong to write 'besides the point'.

Beside means 'next to' or 'at the side of'. Besides means 'in addition to'.

#### **Couldn't care less**

The expression 'I could care less' is always wrong.

I couldn't care less means 'I don't care at all'. However, 'I could care less' does not mean that you care a lot.

#### **Whet your appetite**

To whet your appetite is to sharpen your appetite. Even mouth-watering delicacies can't 'wet your appetite'. The correct expression is 'whet your appetite'.

#### **Nip it in the bud**



To nip something in the bud is to prevent it from growing into something bigger.

Don't nip it in the butt. That will not solve your problem.

**Toe the line**

To toe the line is to adhere to a standard or rule. Don't write 'tow the line'.

**For all intents and purposes**

'For all intents and purposes' means 'pretty much' or 'almost completely'. It is wrong to write 'for all intensive purposes'.

**Bald-faced lie**

A bald-faced lie is an audacious lie. The person who tells a bald-faced lie does not make any attempt to disguise it as truth. However, this does not make it a 'bold-faced lie'.

**Exercise:**

**Write an Essay on the problems commonly faced by teenagers, and how they handle them. Include examples and case studies:**

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# Unit V – Language Improvement

## Differences

### **Envelop vs. Envelope**

The words envelop and envelope originated from the French word *envelopper*, which may be the reason some people get confused aside from their similar appearance. Despite these similarities, they have different pronunciations, meanings, and uses. This post will help you identify these differences and enable you to use these terms correctly in your writing.

The word envelop is used as a verb which means “to wrap up, cover, or surround completely” or “to put a covering completely around.” Its forms include envelops (present), enveloped (past / participle), and enveloping (progressive).

Brutal and ‘bone-chilling’ cold envelops US east coast two days after storm

The Guardian

Hazy and foggy weather envelop most parts of UAE

Gulf News

Julian Edelman also saw Rob Gronkowski’s enveloping sideline hug of Danny Amendola

Boston Globe

On the other hand, the term envelope functions as a noun that most commonly refers to “a flat paper container with a sealable flap, used to enclose a letter or document.”

Charities continue to use stamps on reply envelopes to encourage donations

Linn's Stamp News

Jimmy Kimmel's new Oscar promo is all about last year's envelope drama, and LOL

Hello Giggles

3 hospitalized after state trooper opens envelope containing suspicious substance

Penn Live

Additionally, there is the idiom "push the envelope," which means "to go beyond the usual or normal limits by doing something new, dangerous, etc."

CFPB Chief Mulvaney Says Days of 'Pushing the Envelope' Are Over

Bloomberg

How Producer Blake Mills Coaxes Musicians Into Pushing the Envelope

New York Times

Jewish General Hospital pushes envelope in robotic surgery

Montreal Gazette

Now that we've distinguished the differences between envelop and envelope in terms of use and meaning, you should be able to use them properly in your sentences. Remember that envelop is a verb that pertains to wrapping or surrounding while envelope is the container for letters.

## **Cue vs. Queue**

The words cue and queue sound alike but have different spellings and meanings. They are what we call homophones. To avoid being confused, we will help you determine the differences between these two terms so you can utilize them properly in your writing.

The word cue is most commonly used as a noun referring to “a signal, such as a word, phrase, or bit of stage business, to a performer to begin a specific speech or action” or “feature indicating the nature of something perceived.”

Meghan Markle Takes A Style Cue From Princess Diana And Kate Middleton

[Huffpost Canada](#)

Windrush should be the cue for a rethink on immigration policy

[The Times](#)

Whoopi Goldberg Scolds Aziz Ansari Accuser: ‘Non-Verbal Cues’ Are Not Enough

[Daily Beast](#)

As a noun, it may also pertain to “a leather-tipped tapering rod for striking the cue ball as in billiards and pool.”

Why was Luca Brecel using TWO cues at the Masters against Mark Allen? Reason revealed

[Express.co.uk](#)

Borrowed cue helps Matheson win national pool title

[The Southland Times](#)

Man blinded student with pool cue, court hears

[Oxford Mail](#)

It may also function as a verb meaning “to give a cue to” or “to insert into a continuous performance.”

Astronauts’ circulation woes can cue better health for all

Medical Xpress

After being cued to visualize the memories connected with their items, participants used the art supplies to depict those memories on the first panel of their board.

Chicago Tribune

Dickey’s Barbecue Pit Cues the Madness this Season

Restaurant News

On the other hand, the term queue most commonly functions as a noun referring to “a line or sequence of people or vehicles awaiting their turn to be attended to or to proceed” or “a list of data items, commands, etc., stored so as to be retrievable in a definite order, usually the order of insertion.”

Two Pommie Sheilas: Perth’s love of a queue leaves beauty spots begging

The West Australian

Guru: At Last! A Tool To Search an Output Queue!

IT Jungle

Unisa: We’ll Manage The Queues Properly and Avoid a Stampede

Eyewitness News

It may also be used as a verb meaning “take one’s place in a queue” or “to arrange or form in a queue.”

Crowds at Rodney Parade as County fans queue for FA Cup tickets

South Wales Argus

Liverpool fans still queuing at half-time for Steven Gerrard's Anfield debut as manager

Liverpool Echo

First iPhone X buyer in Indonesia queued from 6 a.m.

Jakarta Post

After discussing the differences between the cue and queue, you should now be able to distinguish between the two and use them accurately in your sentences. Keep in mind that cue either pertains to a signal or a rod for billiards and pool while queue relates to a line or forming one.

Can you write your own sentences using cue and queue?

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### **Immigrant vs. Refugee**

Words with related meanings are oftentimes misused or interchanged as their similarity causes confusion to some people. This is the case with the terms immigrant and refugee which both relate to people transferring from one country to another. Despite the similarity, these two have different meanings and are not quite interchangeable. This post will help you discover the difference between an immigrant and a refugee to help you use them more accurately in your writing.

The word immigrant is mainly used as a noun referring to “a person who comes to a country to take up permanent residence.” An immigrant is someone who chooses to resettle to another country seeking better work opportunities and a better life. Immigrants are processed under the receiving country's immigration laws.



USCIS director who eliminated ‘nation of immigrants’ is the son of an immigrant

Washington Post

Immigrant accused of murders in Guatemala facing deportation

ABC News

Supreme Court Ruling Means Immigrants Could Continue To Be Detained Indefinitely

NPR

On the other hand, the term refugee functions as a noun pertaining to “a person who flees to a foreign country or power to escape danger or persecution” or “a person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster.” The main difference between an immigrant and a refugee is that immigrants have a choice to leave their country to seek opportunities elsewhere while refugees are forced to leave because of circumstances.

Australia Is Still Waiting for the U.S. to Fulfill Its Pledge to Accept Refugees

TIME

How to overcome religious prejudice among refugees

The Conversation UK

Syrian refugee’s guitar opens doors to new life in Belgium

Reuters

Now that we have distinguished between the words immigrant and refugee, you should be able to use them correctly in your sentences. Remember that while both terms refer to people transferring from one country to another, immigrants do it by choice while refugees are forced to do so due to circumstances.

## **Classic vs. Classical**

Some words share the same root word, causing people to misuse them or even interchange them at times. This is the case with the terms classic and classical, which both originated from “class” and both refers to quality. Despite having the same roots, these two actually have different meanings. This post will try to differentiate between them and allow you to use them properly in your writing.

The word classic is most commonly used as an adjective meaning “judged over a period of time to be of the highest quality and outstanding of its kind,” “serving as a standard of excellence,” or “remarkably and instructively typical.”

Mickey Mouse, Other Classic Disney Animated Characters Get Own Hot Wheels Cars  
(Exclusive)

Hollywood Reporter

New Zealand cricket fan makes classic one-handed crowd catch to win \$50,000 at T20  
International

Wide World of Sports

Twice-told tales: Jo Nesbø, Madeline Miller and others revive classic stories  
Washington Post

It may also function as a noun referring to “a work of art of recognized and established value” or “a school subject that involves the study of ancient Greek and Latin literature, philosophy, and history.”

Classics of all kinds highlight MSU Riley Center spring/summer series  
Mississippi State Newsroom

Heavy Table Says New Nye's Waters Down a Classic

Eater Twin Cities

Poiret AW18 review: Can you remake a classic?

Financial Times

On the other hand, the term classical is used as an adjective meaning “of or relating to the ancient Greek and Roman world and especially to its literature, art, architecture, or ideals,” “relating to the first significant period of an area of study,” or “of or relating to music of the late 18th and early 19th centuries characterized by an emphasis on balance, clarity, and moderation”

Brooklyn Rider extends classical music history at Howard Community College

Baltimore Sun

8 Classical Music Concerts to See in NYC This Weekend

New York Times

Classical music meshes with hip-hop in Black Violin concerts

Los Angeles Times

Now that we've discussed the differences between classic and classical you should be able to tell them apart and use them more accurately in your writing. Remember that classic is about having high quality and standards based on judgement over a period of time while classical refers to ancient literature, art, architecture or music.

### **Climactic vs. Climatic**

It is not surprising that the words climactic and climatic would cause confusion among people. Not only do their spellings look alike, with only a single extra 'c' separating these

two words, they also have similar sounds. Despite these similarities, these terms are different in terms of meanings. This post will help you identify these differences and enable you to use them properly in your writing.

The word climactic is used as an adjective which means “of, relating to, or constituting a climax” or “exciting or thrilling and acting as a climax to a series of events.”

Want to Learn the Climactic “Ralph Macchio” Portion of the ‘Crossroads’ Guitar Duel?

Watch This Video!

[Guitar World Magazine](#)

Twitter Wants To Help You Welcome 2018 With One Climactic Musical Moment

[KCBX](#)

Marody, Michigan headed for climactic ending

[The Michigan Daily](#)

Note that there is the term anticlimactic which is an adjective meaning “causing disappointment at the end of an exciting or impressive series of events.”

Fox’s Joe Buck called the Vikings’ PAT try ‘anticlimactic.’ But to bettors, it wasn’t.

[Chicago Tribune](#)

Review: Phantom Thread is an anticlimactic swan song for Daniel Day-Lewis

[Metro Weekly](#)

For the 700th Issue of The Flash, It’s Origin Recaps and Anticlimactic Villain Appearances

[Critical Blast](#)

On the other hand, the word climatic functions as an adjective which means “of or relating to climate” or “resulting from or influenced by the climate rather than the soil.”

Hybrid maintenance vehicle undergoes climatic testing

International Railway Journal

There is still no room for complacency in matters climatic

The Economist

Govt preparing action plan to deal with climatic health hazards: Bali Bhagat

State Times

Now that we've discussed how to distinguish between climactic and climatic, you should be able to utilize these words in your sentences more accurately. Remember that climactic relates to something thrilling or a climax while climatic pertains to the climate.

### **Already vs. All Ready**

Another source of confusion among writers are the word already and the phrase all ready.

Although they may sound identical, they have completely different uses.

Already is an adverb used to describe something that occurred prior to a specified or implied time or as early as now. Since already refers to time, it may mean "by this time" or "by the time mentioned."

"The eyes and the figures confirm Joe Root is already in rarified company"

The Guardian

"Enough About the Free Windows Upgrades Already, These Alternate Operating Systems

Are Always Free"

Forbes

“This Is How Insanely Big ‘Pokemon Go’ Is Already”

### Time

On the other hand, all ready is a two-word phrase which means “completely prepared” or denotes that everyone in a group is prepared.

You can use all ready to add more emphasis compared to just using the word prepared. Take a look at these:

“Hot property: After a decade, she’s all ready to sell”

### Seattle Times

“Real Ale event all ready to run alongside Hull Folk and Maritime Festival this weekend”

### Hull Daily Mail

“Reporting from the RNC: Delegates all ready to party”

### Mohave Valley News

Here’s a quick tip:

In order to avoid confusion, remember that all ready can be replaced by the word ready in a sentence and it will still make sense. However, you can never use ready in place of already.

See the examples below:

Original: We are all ready for the fishing trip tomorrow.

Replaced: We are ready for the fishing trip tomorrow.

Original: She has already gone to school when I arrived to pick her up.

Replaced: She has ready gone to school when I arrived to pick her up.

As you can see from the first example, replacing all ready with the term ready will still deliver the message that we are prepared for tomorrow’s fishing trip. On the other hand,

replacing already with just ready in the second example would no longer denote that she has left for school by the time I arrived to pick her up.

### **Advice vs. Advise**

Despite the difference in meaning and pronunciation, people often get confused about advice and advise.

First, advice is a noun which means “an opinion or suggestion about what someone should do” or “an official notice concerning a business transaction.” See how advice is used as a noun in each headline:

“Fidelity Launches Automated Investment Advice Service”

Wall Street Journal

“Work Advice: She left for a better gig soon after starting. Is that okay?”

Washington Post

“Springer offers Trump advice on transitioning from TV to politics”

New York Daily News

On the other hand, advise is a verb that simply means “to give advice.” It is important for you to remember that just like any other regular verb ending in –e, advise has the forms advises, advised, and advising.

“Community colleges win grant to change how they advise students”

The Seattle Times

“Airbnb Hires Former Mayors to Advise, Lobby On Cities”

Forbes

“7 Foods With Vitamin D: New Health Guidelines Advise Increasing Daily Intake”

Huffington Post UK

Despite the difference in usage, some writers actually get them mixed up sometimes.

“Here’s what Aamir Khan advised mommy-to-be Kareena Kapoor Khan”

Times of India

“Mutunga gave advise, but JSC is already faltering in recruitments”

Zipo

“Bangladesh’s communist party advises government to complete investigation, before reaching conclusion”

The Indian Express

You must also remember that advice as a noun referring to opinions or suggestions is an uncountable noun and has no plural form. If you want to refer to more than one advice, you can refer to them as pieces of advice or some advice.

“Nine Pieces of Advice For Launching Your Own Podcast”

Forbes

“Let’s go! Some advice for smart traveling”

Chicago Tribune

Below are some writing mistakes on the plurality of advice:

“Carole and Pippa Middleton panned for silly lifestyle advices”

Daily Star

“Seven of Warren Buffett’s Best Investing Advices”

Bdaily



In summary, remember that if you are referring to the noun for your sentence, you should choose *effect* and if you are referring to the verb, you should opt for *affect*.

### **Affect vs. Effect**

Are you one of many people who find using the words *affect* and *effect* tricky and oftentimes interchange them?

Let us help you untangle the confusion:

*Affect* is commonly used as a verb that denotes the act of changing or influencing something.

“How ‘Brexit’ Will Affect Travel to Europe”

The New York Times

“How the sounds you hear affect the taste of your beer”

Washington Post

*Effect*, on the other hand, is mostly used as a noun referring to something that occurs due to a cause. An *effect* usually results from something that has been affected.

“5 Weird Negative Effects of Social Media on Your Brain”

Reader’s Digest

“Quick Analysis Finds Effect of Climate Change in French Floods”

The New York Times

*Effect* may also denote the state of being functional, operational or in execution.

“New Regulations Take Effect to Protect Student Aid Recipients”

Forbes

“New Laws on Abortion Set To Take Effect around the Country”

ABC News

Though it may be easier to remember that affect is a verb and effect is a noun, both terms have lesser known uses. Effect may sometimes be used as a verb to denote the sense, to bring about.

“Small Businesses Have the Power To Effect Change Faster Than Government”

Forbes

“Ricken Patel: middle classes have most power to effect political change”

The Guardian

Effect may also be used to refer to making a desired impression.

“Trump Campaigns for ‘Effect,’ Would Be ‘Different’ as President”

NBC News

“Bombing for show? Or for effect?”

The Washington Post

On the other hand, affect has a secondary, lesser known use as a noun referring to feeling or emotion in psychology.

“To what extent do oral contraceptives influence mood and affect?”

Journal of Affective Disorders

“The Effect of Music-Induced Mood on Aggressive Affect, Cognition, and Behavior”

Journal of Applied Social Psychology

Knowing the different forms and uses of affect and effect is a good start, but in order to master these words, you need to identify and clarify the purpose or message of the sentence first before deciding which one to use.

You can try our affect vs. effect online exercise [here](#) – What’s your score?

If anything is unclear, please have a look at our [Snappy Guide to Differentiating “Affect” and “Effect”](#).

## What's the difference? <sup>affect</sup> <sub>effect</sub>

The infographic is titled "What's the difference?" with "affect" above and "effect" below. It is divided into two main sections. The left section is for "AFFECT" and features a speech bubble stating, "Affect is usually used as a verb and means 'to influence.'" Below this is a thought bubble with the example, "The weather affected our vacation." An image of an elephant sitting on a bench under a cloudy sky is shown. The right section is for "EFFECT" and features a speech bubble stating, "Effect is usually used as a noun and means 'an impact' or 'a change.'" Below this is a thought bubble with the example, "Reading has positive effects." An image of two children reading a book together is shown.

Share this post for more easy explanations.

### Cash vs. Cache

As with other similar sounding words, cash and cache also cause confusion among people.

Here are some tips to help you avoid these mix-ups.

Cash as a noun refers to “legal tender or coins that can be used to exchange goods, debt or services”. It is considered the physical form of money.

“Free pizza ‘more motivational than cash’ if you want staff to work harder”

Telegraph

“UniCredit CEO not worried bank’s cash call could overlap with Monte Paschi’s”

Reuters

“Abandoned bag of cash in Lower Sundon was found by a police dog”

BBC News

As a verb, cash means “give or obtain notes or coins for a check or money order”. The verb phrase cash in denotes “take advantage of or exploit a situation”.

“My Landlord Mom Refuses to Cash in on San Francisco’s Insane Housing Market”

VICE

“Columbia Heights cop fired over stake in check-cashing business”

Minneapolis Star Tribune

“Man charged after trying to cash \$39,375 counterfeit check, authorities say”

AL.com

Meanwhile, cache as a noun refers to “a hiding place, especially one in the ground, for ammunition, food, treasures, etc.”

“Speeding Motorist Stopped, Police Discover Cache of Allegedly Stolen U.S. Mail”

Pasadena News Now

“Second cache of illegal wood found on military compound”

Myanmar Times

“Eleven militants apprehended, huge cache of arms seized in Assam”

Business Standard

In computing, cache is “a temporary storage space or memory that allows fast access to data”.

“Insecure Redis caches abused for Linux server attacks”

IT News

“RCom Brings Cache-Based Content Delivery Network”

CXOToday.com

“Quick Tip: Clearing Browser Cache and Using Back Button Browsing History in Microsoft Edge”

SuperSite for Windows

Cache may also be used as a verb which literally means “to place in a cache”.

“Could Netflix Someday Cache at Home?”

Light Reading

Basically, you can avoid using the wrong term by simply remembering their different uses.

You can now place these terms in your cache of English words for writing.

### **Breath vs. Breathe vs. Breadth**

Despite being very distinct in terms of sound and use, some people often mix up the terms breath, breathe and breadth due to their similarity in spelling.

Let us dissect their differences:

Breath is a noun referring to “the air taken into or expelled from the lungs” or “the act of breathing”.

“Is Evan McMullin That Breath Of Fresh Air Voters Have Been Seeking (Threats Of Violence From The GOP Nominee Withstanding)?”

Huffington Post

“Rio holds its breath, then winds roar across Olympic courses”

Washington Times

“Jackson Hole: World markets hold their breath ahead of Janet Yellen comments at economic summit”

ABC Online

On the other hand, breathe is used as a verb meaning “to take air into the lungs and then expel it, especially as a regular physiological process”.

“Medical breakthrough means people will be able to breathe underwater WITHOUT oxygen”

Daily Star

“Sitting in a traffic jam really IS bad for you: Motorists breathe in 40% more deadly pollutants when sat at red lights”

Daily Mail

“Red Sox breathe sigh of relief after news of Andrew Benintendi’s injury status”

CBS Sports

Meanwhile, breadth is a noun denoting “the distance or measurement from side to side of something; width” or “wide range or extent”.

“Locarno First Look Section Reflects Breadth of Polish Filmmaking”

Variety

“S&P 500: Market Breadth Suggests First Down And Then Up”

Investing.com

“Radius Gallery’s juried exhibition underscores breadth of art in Montana, beyond”

Missoulia

As you can see from the above examples, breadth can be used not only to measure physical and geographical features but it is also often used to refer to figurative things such as art and filmmaking.

With these things in mind, you can now distinguish when and how to properly use breath, breathe and breadth. You can now breathe a breath of relief knowing you have three terms less to worry about in the breadth of complexities in the English grammar.

### **Awhile vs. A while**

Distinguishing the terms awhile and a while can be tricky. This may be due to the fact that both these terms are used to express time and commonly used.

Here’s how to avoid the confusion:

While they sound and look very similarly, these terms actually represent different parts of speech. The word awhile is an adverb used to denote “for a short time”.

“It clearly will take awhile for Bears offense to take shape”

Chicago Tribune

“Interview: UFC SLC’s Jason Novelli: UFC call ‘took awhile to actually set in”

Bloody Elbow

“What Is The Joker’s Real Name? You Might Have To Wait Awhile To Find Out”

Bustle

In all three examples, awhile is used to refer to the amount of time it took or people waited for a certain condition or event to happen.

On the other hand, a while is a two-word expression used as a noun phrase consisting of the article a and the noun while. The phrase a while generally means “a period, length or interval of time”.

“Bowled in a T20 tie at Chepauk after quite a while and it felt nice: Balaji”

Times of India

“Trump and Clinton Will Go Down in History — For a While”

Wall Street Journal

“Apple iPhone estimates raised for the ‘first time in a while’ at UBS”

Market Watch

It is important for you to remember that a while can and often follows a preposition such as for and in as you can see from the examples above. Meanwhile, awhile can never follow a preposition since it functions as an adverb.

We waited awhile before the food was served.

We waited for a short time before the food was served.

His heart stopped for a while before he was resuscitated.

His heart stopped for a period of time before he was resuscitated.

Now, can you come up with your own sentences using a while and awhile?



## **Assure vs. Ensure vs. Insure**

The words assure, ensure, and insure are among the common terms that are often misused and interchanged. This may be attributed to how all three words can be associated with the sureness of an outcome.

However, you can easily avoid confusion by remembering their distinct uses.

Assure is a verb which means “to tell someone something positively or confidently to dispel any doubts they may have” or “to make something certain to happen”.

“Assure Better Sleep During Holiday And Business Trips With This New Scientific Discovery”

Huffington Post

“Melania Trump wants to assure you there is nothing mysterious about her disappearing website”

The Washington Post

“U.S. officials assure Turkey of America’s support for democratically elected governments”

Los Angeles Times

Meanwhile, ensure is a verb which denotes “to make certain that something shall occur or be the case” or “to make sure that a problem shall not occur”.

“Independent Candidate Evan McMullin Could Help Ensure Clinton Victory”

Huffington Post

“Sadiq Khan calls for Brexit delay to ensure UK retains single market access”

The Independent

“How Precise Timekeeping at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games Ensures the Right Gold-Medal Winners”

Forbes

Lastly, insure is a verb which means “to secure or protect someone against a possible contingency” or “arrange for compensation in the event of damage to or loss of property, or injury to or the death of someone, in exchange for regular advance payments to a company or government agency”.

“Someday Soon, You’ll Be Able to Insure Your Drone Racing League”

Fortune

“In turnaround, FHA will insure mortgages with PACE assessments”

Reuters

“Collapsed Holiday Company failed to insure against Brexit fallout”

The Times

As long as you remember their different uses, I assure you that you can always ensure that you are using these words properly and in turn, insure yourself from possible moments of embarrassment.

Now, let’s see if you can complete these sentences using assure, ensure, or insure:

1. John has been working out for the past three months to \_\_\_\_\_ that he is ready for the marathon.
2. I \_\_\_\_\_ you that the police will protect us from those criminals.
3. We are obligated to \_\_\_\_\_ our house from fire and other natural disasters.

## **Ascent vs. Assent**

At first look, these two words not only sound alike but their spellings are only one letter apart. Despite these similarities, ascent and assent are worlds apart in terms of their meanings and usage.

Ascent is a noun that denotes “the act of rising or mounting upward” or “an advance in social status or reputation”. Its verb form is ascend.

“China Car Surge Sends Palladium on Steepest Ascent in Six Years”

Bloomberg

“Justin Trudeau’s Surprising Ascent”

The New Yorker

“The ascent from virtualization to the cloud”

InfoWorld

Meanwhile, assent has two uses. It can be used as a noun which means “the expression of approval or agreement”.

“Historic one nation, one tax enabling bill gets Elders’ assent”

The New Indian Express

“Reports advise on obtaining informed consent from parents, assent from patient”

AAP News

“Same-sex Manx marriages can go ahead after Royal Assent”

BBC News

Assent may also be used as a verb that denotes “to express approval or agreement, typically officially.”

“President ‘reluctant’ to assent to Bill to cap interest rates, says Treasury CS”

K24 TV

“Chisi urges Mutharika not to assent to Customary Land bill: ‘Malawians should not pay fees for their land’”

Nyasa Times

“Raila urges President Kenyatta to assent to interest rate Bill”

Citizen TV

Sometimes, a third word, accent, gets thrown into the mix with these two. As a noun, it means “a distinctive mode of pronunciation of a language, especially one associated with a particular nation, locality, or social class”.

“Reader worries her obese stepdaughter with a Southern accent will not get a job”

Washington Post

“Is Siri Racist? Why Virtual Assistants Can’t Understand Accents”

Huffington Post

Accent may also be used as a verb which means “to emphasize a particular feature”.

“Latino players want real names, accented”

Bend Bulletin

To summarize, remember these three things: Ascent is usually used as a noun referring to the act of rising or mounting upward or climbing in social status. Assent is an expression of agreement. Lastly, accent is a way of speaking.

## **Altogether vs. All Together**

As with other homophones (words that are pronounced the same but have different meanings and oftentimes spelling), it is not surprising for people to be confused about the words altogether and all together.

Below are simple tips on how we can unknot this issue.

Altogether is an adverb that means “completely/totally,” “including everything,” or “taking everything into consideration.” Since it functions as an adverb, altogether cannot be used in a sentence without a verb that it describes. Below are examples of the proper use of altogether:

“Embarrassment as final Divergent movie to skip cinemas altogether”

Daily Star

“Toyota seeks to stop investing in diesel engines altogether: exec”

Green Car Reports

In the first two examples, you can substitute altogether with completely or totally and there would not be any change in the meaning of the sentence.

“Paper Round: Russia to be banned from Rio altogether, Arsenal want Mahrez and Lacazette for £75m”

Eurosport

This particular sentence indicates that taking everything in consideration, Russia will be banned from the Rio Olympics.

On the other hand, the two-word phrase all together means “all in one place or in a group” or “all at once.”

“CONNIE MACK BASEBALL: Towamencin puts it all together at right time”

Montgomery Newspapers

In this example, all together is used to indicate that all the Towamencin baseball team players come together as a group in a timely manner.

“National Parks May Be the Thing That Will Bring Us All Together”

GOOD Magazine

This sentence denotes that national parks may be able to bring people all in one place.

“Ex-Chelsea man looking to put it all together for Hartlepool”

Hartlepool Mail

This last example sends the message that a former Chelsea football player is planning to give his best all at once for Hartlepool.

In summary, you can avoid misusing altogether and all together by simply remembering their uses. If you can substitute the term with completely for your sentence and it is used as an adverb, then you should choose altogether. Meanwhile, if you can use all and together separately in the sentence, then the correct term to use is all together.

Can you come up with your own sentences using altogether and all together?

### **Apart vs. A part**

Some people find it difficult to distinguish the terms apart and a part as they are similar both in sound and in spelling. However, these two have very distinct meanings and should never be used interchangeably.

The word apart is generally used as an adverb used to denote that “two or more people or things are separated by a distance at a specified distance from each other in time or space.”

“More than 500 miles apart, Donald Trump and Joe Biden debate compassion”

Washington Post

“Is this the best birthday surprise ever? Mother is left screaming hysterically after her daughter flies 5,000 miles from England to be with her after two years apart”

Daily Mail

“Mentor program helps two people a generation apart build friendship”

ABC News 4

It may also be used to mean “in or into parts or pieces.”

“Ted Cruz, and the speech that threatened to tear the convention apart”

Washington Post

Or “as a distinct item or entity.”

“Simone Biles may be small, but hugely difficult routines set her apart”

SB Nation

Apart is also used as an adjective that means “isolated.” It is either preceded by a noun or found in the predicate.

“On debt and taxation, rich and poor countries are worlds apart”

The Guardian

Meanwhile, the two-word phrase a part is comprised of the article a and the noun part, which denotes “a piece or segment of something such as an object, activity, or period of time, which combined with other pieces makes up the whole.”

“Young Mothers – A Part of CVS Health’s Success”

Forbes

“How guns became a part of American culture”

CBS News

“Hydroplanes and pirates were always a part of Seafair — even the first in 1950 (photos)”

Seattle Times

There are two simple ways to determine which term to use in your sentence. The first one is by trying to take away the, and see if it would still make sense. If it does, then a part would be more applicable and if it doesn’t, then apart would be more appropriate.

Correct: Voluntarism is part of the solution.

Incorrect: They spent five years part while he was in the army.

Another useful technique is by remembering the prepositions that they are often paired with. Apart is usually paired with the preposition from while a part is often paired with of.

They couldn’t keep those two dogs apart from each other.

She always felt like she was a part of the family.

Is there anything else that confuses you about apart and a part?

### **Allusion vs. Illusion vs. Elusion**

Despite the obvious differences in spelling, people still misuse the words allusion, illusion, and elusion. This may be attributed to their phonetic similarity. Below are simple tips to avoid mix-ups in the use of these words.



Allusion is word used to refer to “an expression designed to call something to mind without mentioning it explicitly” or “an indirect or passing reference”.

“At the 2016 Olympics Opening Ceremony, the IOC’s Bach made no allusion to Russia”

The Independent

“A birdcage lamp used to rest on a piano that sat in the corner, an allusion to Angelou’s 1969 autobiographical work, ‘I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings.’”

Forbes

“The allusion did not sit well in a city where lawmakers are often distinguished by being progressive or moderate Democrats, leading at least one supporter of the measure to hold back tears of anger.”

Fortune

On the other hand, an illusion is “something that deceives by producing a false or misleading impression of reality” or “the state or condition of being deceived”. Since illusion is a relatively common word, most people are familiar with it and rarely misuse it.

“Tony Oursler’s Grand Illusions, Science Left at the Door”

New York Times

“This Optical Illusion Hugging Photo Will Make Your Brain Melt”

Huffington Post

“Fish Spawning Aggregations: an illusion of plenty”

National Geographic

Lastly, elusion is a noun which refers to “the act or an instance of eluding or escaping”.

“‘Elusion’ Charges Dropped Against Portsmouth Mayor”

The New Journal and Guide

“They might also be considered victims, for having been given the elusion of competency and then asked to keep up with the complex problems around them.”

Huffington Post

“Perhaps Atlanta found inspiration in the Houston Rockets’ elusion of a sweep in Game 4 of the Western Conference Finals”

Bleacher Report

This is an allusion to those who give in to the illusion that these three words are interchangeable. Elusion of this mistake is easy as long as you remember their meanings and uses.

### **Leave, Take or Make**

**Fill in the blanks with appropriate forms of leave, take or make:**

1. The company ..... shirts and trousers.

makes

takes

leaves

2. Don't ..... trouble.

take

make

leave

3. The circus ..... town this morning.

took

made

left

4. The cigarette ..... a bad taste in my mouth.

left

made

took

5. Hurry or you won't ..... the train.

leave

take

make

6. The man ..... most of his money to charity.

took

made

left

7. He ..... a wife and three grown sons.

took

made

left

8. The military ..... control of the government.

took

made

left

9. When buying a coat, look closely at its .....

take

make

10. .... the rope in your right hand and pull.

Take

Make

Leave

11. We have to ..... Rome by sunset.

make

take

12. Becoming a doctor ..... years of study.

makes

leaves

takes

## Gap Fills

Complete the following sentences with an appropriate word or phrase:

1. Not until that day ..... able to recover her confidence.

she was

was she

2. Can I stay ..... Saturday?

until

by

before

3. I can repair your stereo ..... Friday.

by

until

within

4. The nearest supermarket is about half a mile ..... the highway.

up

down

Either could be used here

5. You surprised .....

me

with me

at me

6. We ..... the railway station in half an hour.

reached

reached at

reached to

7. I am going to ..... Mary some flowers.

buy

buy for

buy to

8. Let's ..... your plans.

talk

talk about

talk of

9. Why are you staring ..... like that?

me

at me

to me

10. .... I am going to jump over the stream.

Look

Look at

Look on

11. We arrived ..... the station in the morning.

at

to

in

12. We seem ..... a problem.

to have

having

Either could be used here

## Used To And Be Used To

### Fill in the blanks:

1. I am not used to ..... late hours.

work

working

Either could be used here

2. He used to ..... a lot.

smoke

smoking

Either could be used here

3. I used to ..... pop music, but now I don't.

hate

hating

Either could be used here

4. When we were children, we used to ..... a lot of time playing hide and seek.

spend

spending

5. I ..... be afraid of spiders.

used to

am used to

6. You used not to eat meat, .....?

used you

didn't you

did you

7. When I was in Mumbai, I ..... visit my grandparents every month.

used to

was used to

8. I ..... my grandparents twice last month.

visited

used to visit

was used to visiting

9. I ..... a big car, but now I do.

didn't use to drive

wasn't used to driving

10. I ..... a big car so I was scared.

didn't use to drive

wasn't used to driving

11. It took me quite some time to get used to ..... in a big city.

live

living

12. Little by little, she ..... her new family.

used to

became used to

got used to



## Comparatives And Superlatives

This grammar exercise tests your ability to use various comparative structures. Fill in the blanks:

1. She is ..... older than him.

much

more

Either could be used here

2. She is ..... brilliant student in the class.

most

mostest

more

the most

3. The journey is as important ..... the destination.

as

like

than

4. He is ..... successful than me.

much

much more

more

5. It is more expensive ..... I thought.

than

then

as

6. She is ..... woman I have ever seen.

most beautiful

the most beautiful

the beautifullest

7. I can't walk any .....

farther

further

Either could be used here

8. This fabric is inferior ..... that fabric.

to

with

than

9. Who is the ..... of the two sisters?

pretty

prettier

prettiest

10. Your accent is ..... than mine.

worse

worser

worst

11. The car is running ..... since it had a service.

more smoothly

smoothlier

Either could be used here

12. She earns ..... than I do.

less money

little money

lesser money

## Grammar Check

**This grammar exercise tests your understanding of basic grammar rules. Answer the following questions:**

1. Which of the following is the plural form of young one?

young ones

young one's

young ones'

2. Which of the following sentences is grammatically correct?

I have seen him yesterday.

I saw him yesterday.

3. The simple present tense can be used to talk about future.

True

False

4. The negative form of will is .....

will not

don't will

doesn't will

5. Which of the following sentences is grammatically correct?

She looked happy

She looked happily

Either could be used here

6. Can you lend me ..... of butter?

pound

a pound

Either could be used here

7. We have got enough money to buy a car. Here enough is an .....

adjective

adverb

8. She is old enough to know better. Here enough is an .....

adjective

adverb

9. I love ..... types of cars.

these

this

that

10. There are no secrets between .....

us

we

11. Which of the following is not a form of be?

are

were

am

has

12. My brother loves .....

dogs

the dogs

Either could be used here

## Such And So

Fill in the blanks with such or so:

1. She is ..... a lovely woman.

such

so

Either could be used here

2. There was ..... a lot of commotion that I could not understand anything.

such

so

Either could be used here

3. There is ..... much work to do.

so

such

Either could be used here

4. There were ..... many applicants and ..... few vacancies.

so, so

so, such

such, so

such, such

5. I had never seen ..... much food in my life.

so

such

Either could be used here

6. She is ..... patient with her students.

so

such

Either could be used here

7. I am surprised that you have got ..... patience.

so

such

Either could be used here

8. I am surprised that you have got ..... much strength.

so

such

Either could be used here

9. You are ..... sweet baby.

such

a such

such a

10. It was ..... an unforgettable experience.

such

so

Either could be used here

11. The watch was ..... expensive that I didn't buy it.

so

such

Either could be used here

12. It is ..... warm.

so

such

Either could be used here





## Gap Fills

**Fill in the blanks:**

1. .... the existence of antidrug laws, drug dealers persist in selling drugs illegally.

Despite

However

Although

2. .... we have anti-drug laws, drug dealers continue to sell narcotics illegally.

However

In spite of

Although

3. The writer ..... that global warming is a major threat to the planet.

feels

feel

is feeling

4. .... my childhood was peaceful, my adulthood is very hectic and stressful.

As

Since

While

5. .... I get sunburn quite easily, I don't sunbathe.

While

Because of

Since

6. .... I studied at university I sold burgers.

Since

Whereas

While

7. The schools cancelled the classes after the thunderstorm .....  
students could be safe.

so as to

so that

such that

8. .... his long legs, he is a good basketball player.

Due to

Because of

Owing to

All of the above

9. Companies don't want to invest in countries where taxes are high.  
..... increasing taxes will affect the economy.

Because

Therefore

So

10. Companies don't want to invest in countries where taxes are high  
..... increasing taxes will affect the economy.

because

so

therefore

11. .... companies don't want to invest in countries where taxes are high,  
increasing taxes will affect the economy.

Since

Because

So

12. I enjoy reading books ..... motivate me.

who

that

what

## Sentence Completion

Fill in the blanks:

1. His ideas are little different ..... those of his father.

from

of

with

2. The new job isn't ..... different from the old one.

much

many

Either could be used here

3. This fragrance is ..... different from that.

little

few

least

4. He is ..... older than his wife.

much

many

very

5. 'Do you know Orwell's books?' 'I haven't read .....

some

any

none

6. Economists doubt ..... prices will fall.

whether

if

that

All of the above

7. She was dressed ..... a purple gown.

with

in

on

8. .... her illness, she could not attend the conference.

Owing to

Due to

Either could be used here

9. She was in Mumbai ..... three weeks.

for

in

during

10. The shop was closed ..... the whole of May.

during

in

for

11. Come up and see me .....

once

sometime

one day

12. One of my friends ..... a scientist.

is

are

Either could be used here

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