

Test Hints for Sentences 1-10

Here are the primary skills and content that will be assessed for DOL Sentences 1-10.

A **sentence** is a group of words expressing a **complete thought** and containing both a **subject** and a **verb**.

✍️ *Ebenezer Scrooge changed his ways.*

A **clause** is a group of words containing a **subject** and **verb**.

An **independent clause** expresses a complete thought and can stand alone as a sentence.

✍️ *The class visited the library on Tuesday.*

A **dependent clause** does not express a complete thought and cannot stand alone as a sentence. Dependent clauses are also called subordinate clauses.

For this assessment, we have learned about dependent clauses that begin with subordinate conjunctions.

✍️ *Before the day ends, we must complete the assignment.*

“Before the day ends,” is a dependent clause. Before is a subordinate conjunction.

The independent clause is “we must complete the assignment.”

Note that when a sentence begins with such a dependent clause, a comma will be coming to separate the dependent clause from the independent clause.

When the pattern is reversed - independent clause followed by dependent clause - generally the writer will “hear” no comma.

✍️ *We must complete the assignment before the day ends.*

DOL Sentences 2, 7, and 10 featured this relationship between dependent and independent clauses.

DOL Sentences 1 and 8 featured using a **semicolon** to join independent clauses.

✍️ *The Cougars have practiced hard; they expect a good game.*

Sometimes for effect, a word known as a *conjunctive adverb* may appear. The word looks like a conjunction, but it is actually an adverb. A semicolon is used with such a word. Note the common structure:

; conjunctive adverb,

✍️ *The Cougars have practiced hard; **therefore**, they expect a good game.*

Common conjunctive adverbs:

therefore • however • hence • then
moreover • besides • nevertheless
consequently

DOL Sentences 4 and 6 featured using a **coordinate conjunction** to join two independent clauses. Generally, a comma will appear before the coordinate conjunction if the conjunction joins two independent clauses.

✍️ *The Cougars have practiced hard, and they expect a good game.*

Capitalization of Proper Nouns and Proper Adjectives

Always capitalize the name of a country or people regardless of its use. This is the **French fries** rule. **French** is always capitalized because it is the formal name of a people; **fries** is not capitalized because it is a common noun.

✍️ *Shakespearean play*

Capitalization of Mascots

Mascots of teams or groups are capitalized.

✍️ *The Mariners beat the Rangers.*

Capitalization of Titles

Capitalize the first and last words of a title and all important words in between.

Articles (a, an, the), conjunctions, and prepositions are not usually considered important words.

✍️ "Hunting in Washington"

Punctuation of Titles

Use quotation marks to enclose chapter titles, titles of magazine articles, titles of short stories, essays, or single poems, and titles of songs or short pieces of music.

Underline to indicate italics when writing the titles of books, magazines, newspapers, works of art, long musical compositions, and motion pictures.

Our key thought in class has been for smaller works that go inside larger works, use quotation marks for the smaller works and underline to indicate italics for the larger works. For example, use quotation marks for the articles appearing inside a magazine, and underline the title of the magazine itself.

✍️ "The Indian Swing"

✍️ Chicago Sun-Times

Remember, the underlining is used when you write in longhand to indicate that when such a title is set in print, it would appear in italics.

We write The Call of the Wild.

We type *The Call of the Wild*.

Contractions

dont may be correctly written as **do not** or **don't**

Nominative Case for Pronouns used as subjects

We have much to learn regarding case, but for this assessment it will be quite straightforward. If the pronoun is used as the subject, make sure to use the nominative case.

✍️ In Sentence #1, we corrected "Marty and me" to "Marty and I"

✍️ In Sentence #3, we corrected the order of "I and my brother" to "My brother and I"