

Test Hints for Sentences 21-30

Here are the primary skills and content that will be assessed for Sentences 21-30.

Much of this assessment reviews Sentences 1-20. Pay particular attention to joining two independent clauses with a semicolon.

Usage: **you're • your**

Your is the possessive form of you.

You're is the contraction for "you are."

✎ **You're** going to want to see this; you may want to call **your** friends.

Double Negative

Avoid sentences which include a double negative:

They haven't never found the coins.

"**haven't never**" is a double negative

Corrected versions

✎ *They **haven't ever** found the coins.*

✎ *They **have never** found the coins.*

Bryan hasn't had no lessons this year.

"**hasn't no**" is a double negative

Corrected versions

✎ *Bryan **hasn't any** lessons this year.*

✎ *Bryan **has no** lessons this year.*

Comparisons

When comparing one thing with another, use the **comparative degree**.

✎ *Of the two plants, the red one is the **more beautiful**.*

✎ *These shelves are **higher** than those over there.*

✎ *Math is **harder** than any subject in school.*

When comparing one thing with two or more others, use the **superlative degree**.

✎ *Of the three plants, the red one is the **most beautiful**.*

✎ *These shelves are the **highest** ones in the room.*

✎ *Math is the **hardest** subject in the school.*

Salutation/Greeting of a letter

Capitalize the first word and all nouns in the salutation of a letter. Use a comma after the salutation in a friendly letter.

✎ *Dear Bill,*

✎ *My dear Aunt Jolene,*

Note that "dear" is not a noun and is not capitalized.

Capitalize only the first word in the closing of a letter. Use a comma after the closing.

✎ *Sincerely yours,*

✎ *Keep smiling,*

Commas in a Series

Use commas to separate items in a series. Use a comma after each item except the last item in the series.

✎ *She plays tennis, golf, baseball, and football.*

✎ *We discussed our project's goals, its rules and regulations, and its deadlines.*

Remember, out of courtesy to the reader and to promote clarity in our writing, we are going to include the final comma before the conjunction.

✎ *Did Sue leave her book at the library, **in her bag, or on her desk?***

Dr. Grammar sentence guidance on the back!

**Be prepared to write sentences with these
Dr. Grammar requests:**

parts of speech

verb phrase

regular and irregular verbs

verb parts - present, present
participle, past, past participle

prepositional phrase

appositives

pronoun case - nominative, objective,
possessive

coordinate and subordinate conjunctions

dependent and independent clause