

Language _____

name _____

per. ____ date _____

Test Hints for Sentences 31-40

Here are the primary skills and content that will be assessed for Sentences 31-40.

As always, this assessment reviews material from Sentences 1-30 and material introduced in Sentences 31-40.

Of particular concern from the last assessment is punctuating an introductory element in a sentence. Below are three examples:

- ✍ *Before our vacation this winter, we need to exercise, clean our equipment, and shop for supplies.*
- ✍ *At Pizza Haven yesterday, our team ate thirty-three Swiss cheese and pickle sandwiches.*
- ✍ *On Monday of next week, we will receive new progress reports.*

Note that in each sample, an element has been introduced before the subject which modifies the verb and not the subject. A writer clearly hears the comma separating this introductory element from the remainder of the sentence. The general rule is that if the introductory element, which might be a prepositional phrase or participial phrase, is four or more words, use a comma.

Conjunctive Adverbs

Add “instead” to our list of adverbs masquerading as conjunctions. We covered this on “Test Hints for DOL Sentences 1-10.”

Compass Points

Capitalize points of the compass when they refer to a location, but do not capitalize when they refer to direction.

- ✍ Were you vacationing in the Pacific Northwest? (location)
- ✍ She enjoyed traveling in the **South**. (location)
- ✍ We headed **south** for our vacation. (direction)
- ✍ Head **west** through the intersection and follow the signs to **West** Seattle.

Punctuating Dates and Addresses

Dr. Grammar is consistent on this one.

Use commas to separate the items in a date or an address and to set off a date or an address from words that follow it.

- ✍ *My sister was born in Tokyo, Japan, on January 1, 1985, and I was born in Frankfurt, Germany, on January 1, 1988.*
- ✍ *We ordered our new uniforms from the J.C. Wood Company, P.O. Box 5835, Richmond, Virginia 23220.*

Note that a comma is not used between a state and its ZIP code.

Do not use a comma if only the month and year are given.

- ✍ Jeanette received her diploma in June 2012.

Abbreviations

Place a period after an abbreviation. If an abbreviation ends a sentence, use only one period.

- ✍ *After visiting his aunt on DeVille **St.**, decided to sell his stock in the Dalmations **Corp.***

Finally, if you actually read these test hints before the assessment, grab one of the index cards in front of the room, write your name on the card, and then write, “I studied by reading the test hints.” Hand this card to your honored instructor before the assessment. Say nothing to no one. If you score 80% or better and you have **all the test hints made available thus far**, your honored instructor will add ten points to this assessment. It would even be a good idea to highlight test hints as part of your preparation. Dr. Grammar would be so pleased.

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
- pronoun case - nominative, objective, possessive
- coordinate and subordinate conjunctions
- complex sentence - compound sentence

Be excited - there will be five “**Be careful**” sentences that Dr. Grammar has written.