

Test Hints for Sentences 51-60

Here are the primary skills and content that will be assessed for Sentences 51-60.

As always, we will build on what we learned in Sentences 1-50. Anything emphasized in 1-50 is fair game for this assessment.

Take the time to review **Comparisons** from Test Hints 21-30.

Possessives of Nouns

There are three rules for making the possessive of nouns:

- If the noun is **singular**, add an **apostrophe** and **s**.
 - ⇒ *teacher's desk = desk of a teacher*
 - ⇒ *mirror's reflection = reflection of a mirror*
 - ⇒ *child's play = play of a child*
- If the noun is **plural** and ends in **s**, add just the **apostrophe**.
 - ⇒ *teachers' lounge = lounge of the teachers*
 - ⇒ *mirrors' reflection = reflection of the mirrors*
- If the noun is **plural** but does **not** end in **s**, add both the **apostrophe** and **s**.
 - ⇒ *children's clothes = clothes of the children (children is the plural of child)*
 - ⇒ *feet's pressure = pressure of the feet (feet is the plural of foot)*

More Examples

- ⇒ We like to play in the **farmer's fields**. (This would be the singular possessive - fields of a **farmer**.)
- ⇒ We listened to the **farmers' concerns**. (This would be the plural possessive - concerns of the **farmers**.)
- ⇒ The voters were concerned with **women's issues**. (This is the plural possessive. Note that since the plural **women** does not end in **s**, the plural possessive is formed with an apostrophe and **s**.)
- ⇒ We worked on the **class's assignment**. (This is the singular possessive - assignment of a **class**.)
- ⇒ We organized the **classes' assignments**. (This is the plural possessive - assignments of the **classes**.)

Compound Adjectives

He was five years old . . . a **five-year-old** boy

Usage: **Lie • Lay**

Lie means "to rest" or "to recline." The parts of the verb are *lie, lying, lay, have lain*.

- ⇒ The dog **lies** (rests, reclines) down.
- ⇒ The dog **is lying** (resting, reclining) down.
- ⇒ The dog **lay** (rested, reclined) down.
- ⇒ The dog **has lain** (rested, reclined) down.

Lay means "to place." The parts of the verb are *lay, laying, laid, have laid*.

- ⇒ She **lays** (places) the pencil on the desk.
- ⇒ She **is laying** (placing) the pencil on the desk.
- ⇒ She **laid** (placed) the pencil on the desk.
- ⇒ She **has laid** (placed) the pencil on the desk.

For those of us with a great background for Dr. Grammar, note that the verb **lie** is an *intransitive verb*, meaning there is no object. The verb **lay** is a *transitive verb*, meaning there is an object.

More Examples

- ⇒ The cat **lay** (rested, reclined) on the floor to take a nap.
- ⇒ The cat **laid** (placed) its paws on the pillow.
- ⇒ His project **is lying** (resting) on the table.
- ⇒ He **is laying** (placing) his project on the table.
- ⇒ Their papers **have lain** (rested, reclined) in the assignment box for two days.
- ⇒ They **have laid** (placed) their papers in the assignment box.

Capitalization: **Course titles**

Course titles are only capitalized when the actual course names are given.

- ⇒ We are taking a **history** class.
- ⇒ We are taking **History 101**.

Of course, always remember French fries.

- ⇒ We must be on time to **Spanish** class.
- ⇒ We must be on time to **language** class.
- ⇒ Did you see our **science** project?
- ⇒ Did you see our **German** project?