

Language

name _____

per. ____ date _____

Test Hints for Sentences 71-80

Here are the primary skills and content that will be assessed for DOL Sentences 71-80.

As always, we will build on what we learned in Sentences 1-70. Anything emphasized in 1-70 is fair game for this assessment.

Quotation Marks

Sentence 77 presented a divided quotation:

☞ *“Who has broken this chair again?” shouted Mom. “It is an antique that I prize.”*

In a divided quotation, the second part starts with a small letter unless it begins a new sentence or unless it is a proper noun. In the example above, the second part of the divided quotation begins a new sentence. Note that a period follows “Mom.”

Below are two examples of a divided quotation where the second part of the quotation continues the sentence from the first part of the quotation.

☞ *“How can one person,” wondered Albert, “be so messy?”*

☞ *“Isn’t it getting too late,” Roger asked, “for us to start making plans for an all-school play.”*

Below are two examples of a divided quotation where the second part of the quotation begins a new sentence.

☞ *“We’ll be there early,” she said. “Please wait for us.”*

☞ *“Please remember to organize the language section of your notebook,” urged the eager instructor. “You will be able to take advantage of this on the assessment.”*

Finally, be careful to place commas and end marks properly:

☞ *“On July 4, our country declared independence,” said Jimmy in his speech.*

Usage: **Their • There • They’re**

Their is a possessive pronoun, one which shows ownership. **There** is a pronoun used to point out a location. **They’re** is the contraction for *they are*.

☞ *They’re upset because their son dumped garbage over there.*

Review

Conjunctive Adverbs with semicolon - see Test Hints 1-10

Capitalization of Family Relationships - see Test Hints 11-20

Usage - **your, you’re** - see Test Hints 21-30

Usage - **among, between** - see Test Hints 41-50

Punctuating Dates and Addresses - see Test Hints 31-40

Noun of Direct Address - see Test Hints 41-50

Irregular Verbs

break, breaking, broke, have broken

draw, drawing, drew, have drawn

sing, singing, sang, have sung

On the DOL Sentence Reviews and Test Hints page on the web, we have added a link to a page of irregular verbs.

Blast from the past . . . **essential** and **nonessential**

Sentence 10: *Since Donna’s poem entitled “Springtime” won first prize, Mr. Harris, our teacher, read it to us.*

This sentence covers a common challenge for us in our writing. Dr. Grammar would use the terms restrictive and nonrestrictive. In class, we used essential and nonessential.

⇒ If we write within a sentence “. . . **our teacher Mr. Harris** . . .” there is no comma because “Mr. Harris” is **essential** to identifying our teacher.

⇒ If we write within a sentence “. . . **Mr. Harris, our teacher,** . . .” there are commas because “our teacher” simply provides added, **nonessential** information. Mr. Harris is specific – what follows is added information, nonessential information.

This **essential** and **nonessential** concept has many applications in our writing. Watch for it.