

NAME:

ENG I

DATE:

CLASS:

Essential Conventions Activity (A)

PART I. SENTENCE FRAGMENTS

DIRECTIONS: Of the three sentences in each group, CIRCLE the one that is NOT a sentence fragment.

1. Mrs. Blanco gone to visit her mother at the hospital.
Finding a parking space there is usually easy during the week.
Driving in the city during the evening rush hour.
2. To apply for a job at the new store in the mall.
Asking the interviewer how often he would have to work on weekends.
Shaking his new boss's hand, Tony knew he would like working there.
3. By the time Frances found out how expensive the wallpapering job would be.
After getting estimates from five contractors, she decided to do the work herself.
Before picking out an interesting wallpaper pattern that went well with her furniture.
4. Who borrowed Stefanie's car Saturday night.
The nineteen-year-old car looked out of place next to the new models.
Which the salesman was surprised to find in such good shape.
5. While waiting for her neighbor to move the car that blocked the driveway.
To avoid hitting the other car, Michael had to back across the corner of the lawn.
By making sure that no one will park across the driveway again.

PART II. RUN-ONS

DIRECTIONS: Each of the following is a run-on sentence. From the group of three sentences that follows, CIRCLE the group of words that corrects the run-on.

1. **Our solar system has nine major planets only one is known to have intelligent life.**
Our solar system has nine major planets, only one is known to have intelligent life.
Our solar system has nine major planets only one, is known to have intelligent life.
Our solar system has nine major planets; only one is known to have intelligent life.
2. **Most asteroids are small and far away therefore they are dim and hard to see.**
Most asteroids are small and far away, therefore they are dim and hard to see.
Most asteroids are small and far away therefore, they are dim and hard to see.
Most asteroids are small and far away; therefore, they are dim and hard to see.
3. **Look through Angelo's telescope you can see Saturn's rings.**
If you look through Angelo's telescope, you can see Saturn's rings.
Look through Angelo's telescope, you can see Saturn's rings.
You can see Saturn's rings, look through Angelo's telescope.

4. Please check the position of that star cluster I can't find it.

Please check the position of that star cluster; I can't find it.

Please check the position of that star cluster, I can't find it.

Please check the position, of that star cluster, I can't find it.

5. Marie is never interested in stargazing during the winter however on warm summer nights she often goes to the observatory.

Marie is never interested in stargazing during the winter, however, on warm summer nights she often goes to the observatory.

Marie is never interested in stargazing during the winter. However, on warm summer nights she often goes to the observatory.

Marie is never interested in stargazing, during the winter however, on warm summer nights she often goes to the observatory.

PART III. COMMA SPLICES

DIRECTIONS: For each sentence below, write **CS** if the sentence is a comma splice or **C** if the sentence is correct.

___ 1. My apartment is too small, I have no room for my treadmill and exercise bike.

___ 2. I'm exhausted, however, I will go to school anyway.

___ 3. Tom opened his freezer, then he noticed that two cans of beer had exploded.

___ 4. Although I understand the definition, comma splices still confuse me.

___ 5. A comma splice occurs when two complete sentences are joined only by a comma, I need to remember that rule.

PART IV. PARALLEL STRUCTURE

DIRECTIONS: For each pair of sentences, **CIRCLE** the sentence that illustrates the use of proper parallel construction.

1. Phuong Tran has wit, charm, and she has an extremely pleasant personality.

Phuong Tran has wit, charm, and a pleasing personality.

2. In English class, Tashonda learned to read poems critically and to appreciate good prose.

In English class, Tashonda learned to read poems critically and she appreciated good prose.

3. Raoul's QPA is higher than Ralph.

Raoul's QPA is higher than Ralph's.

4. He wanted three things out of college: to learn a skill, to make good friends, and to learn about life.

He wanted three things out of college: to learn a skill, to make good friends, and learning about life.

5. Coach Espinoza was a brilliant strategist, a caring mentor, and a wise friend.

Coach Espinoza was a brilliant strategist, a caring mentor, and friend.

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Essential Conventions Activity (B)

PART I. CAPITALIZATION

DIRECTIONS: Each of the eighty spaces below is preceded by an "opportunity for error" in capitalization. If the word is capitalized correctly, write a **C** in the space; if it is incorrect, write an **I** (use capital letters).

1. Dr. Goldberg traveled through the Southern part of pennsylvania to get to the conference on victorian poetry .
2. Many of the students in the introduction to Microcomputers course at the university of hartford last fall preferred using macintosh Computers rather than the pc's provided in the Lab .
3. My uncle , my Father's brother, wrote a book on the role of buddha in Herman Hesse's novel *siddhartha* .
4. "Wait," He said, "Until the Huskies have won a few games."
5. The secretary of the Society of Concerned Students wrote to the Ambassador of south Africa .
6. On the fourth of July , we celebrate the war of Independence ; on labor Day , we celebrate the contributions of Organized Labor to American life.
7. My mother asked Mayor Pete a question about scandinavian immigration.
8. I'll never forget reading *the* *Last* *Of* *The* *Mohicans* when I was in Mrs. Turveydrop's high school English class.
9. Didwell somehow managed to get an A in his Physics course, but he failed History 104.
10. I think that lake Superior is the largest and the most Northern of the great lakes .
11. Clerihew is a classical studies major, but his favorite course is in french history .
12. The grant was announced by President Chauncey Bedouin, who was the president of Breadwidth university .
13. Dogsbreath played baseball until he came down with Measles .
14. Last spring , sometime in late March , Grillbody heard that he had been awarded a Fulbright fellowship .
15. Tashonda earned a master's degree in business before she went on for a Ph.D. in Economics .
16. Most 20th-Century art leaves me cold, but I love the the French impressionists and the nineteenth- century british landscape painters.

PART II. COMMAS

DIRECTIONS: CIRCLE the sentence with the **correct** comma usage from the set of sentences below.

1. Women who believe abortions should remain legal recently held a rally in Washington.

Women who believe abortions should remain legal recently held a rally in Washington. (No commas)

Women, who believe abortions should remain legal recently held a rally in Washington.

Women who believe abortions should remain legal, recently held a rally in Washington.

Women, who believe abortions should remain legal, recently held a rally in Washington.

2. The Mississippi River which is over 2300 miles long is the second-longest river in the United States.

The Mississippi River which is over 2300 miles long is the second-longest river in the United States. (No commas)

The Mississippi River, which is over 2300 miles long is the second-longest river in the United States.

The Mississippi River which is over 2300 miles long, is the second-longest river in the United States.

The Mississippi River, which is over 2300 miles long, is the second-longest river in the United States.

3. Ralph Ripley's most popular song "Under the Pine Tree" is one of my favorites.

Ralph Ripley's most popular song "Under the Pine Tree" is one of my favorites. (No commas)

Ralph Ripley's most popular song, "Under the Pine Tree" is one of my favorites.

Ralph Ripley's most popular song "Under the Pine Tree," is one of my favorites.

Ralph Ripley's most popular song, "Under the Pine Tree," is one of my favorites.

4. Ralph Ripley's song "In the Coconut Grove" is on Ripley's newest CD.

Ralph Ripley's song "In the Coconut Grove" is on Ripley's newest CD. (No commas)

Ralph Ripley's song, "In the Coconut Grove" is on Ripley's newest CD.

Ralph Ripley's song "In the Coconut Grove," is on Ripley's newest CD.

Ralph Ripley's song, "In the Coconut Grove," is on Ripley's newest CD.

5. Nancy read the information about commas carefully and she earned a perfect score on the practice quiz.

Nancy read the information about commas carefully and she earned a perfect score on the practice quiz. (No commas)

Nancy read the information about commas carefully, and she earned a perfect score on the practice quiz.

Nancy read the information about commas carefully and, she earned a perfect score on the practice quiz.

Nancy, read the information about commas carefully, and she earned a perfect score on the practice quiz.

PART III. QUOTATION MARKS

DIRECTIONS: In the sentences below, put in quotation marks where they are needed, and **underline** words where italics are needed.

1. Mary is trying hard in school this semester, her father said.

2. No, the taxi driver said curtly, I cannot get you to the airport in fifteen minutes.

3. When did Roosevelt say, We have nothing to fear but fear itself?

4. My French professor told me that my accent is abominable.

5. She asked, Is Time a magazine you read regularly?