

NAME:

DATE:

CLASS:

Essential Conventions Activity (REVIEW A)

PART I. SENTENCE FRAGMENTS

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

1. Sometimes snow-plows getting to the back streets two days after a storm.

The citizens were getting quite angry.

By the time the snow plows get here, they shouted.

2. Connecticut getting its share of northeastern-type storms this year.

My neighbor says he leaving for Florida soon.

Since he hasn't saved a dime, I wonder where he'll get the money to move.

3. Handicapped people affected the most by this snow.

Getting out of their cars and negotiating sidewalks a real problem for them.

Handicapped parking spots are often covered by several feet of snow.

PART II. RUN-ONS

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

- 1. David Ortiz is still a feared batter most pitchers don't want to face him.**

David Ortiz is still a feared batter, most pitchers don't want to face him.

David Ortiz is still a feared batter. Most pitchers don't want to face him.

David Ortiz is such a feared batter. That most pitchers don't want to face him.

- 2. He sometimes acts a bit crazy his off-the-field behavior is often scandalous.**

He sometimes acts a bit crazy, and his off-the-field behavior is often scandalous.

He sometimes acts a bit crazy, his off-the-field behavior is often scandalous.

He sometimes acts a bit crazy his off-the-field behavior, is often scandalous.

- 3. Ortiz makes the Red Sox more exciting, therefore I think they should keep him.**

Ortiz makes the Red Sox more exciting; therefore, I think they should keep him.

Ortiz makes the Red Sox more exciting, therefore, I think they should keep him.

Ortiz makes the Red Sox more exciting therefore I think they should keep him.

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. I was sick last week, consequently I've fallen behind in my work.

___ 2. Not only had her goals changed, she spent less time with her friends.

___ 3. Every day Frank brings calm to other people's catastrophes, however, now catastrophe has struck his life.

___ 4. Although she had a fever, Maria still wanted to go to school.

PART IV. PARALLEL STRUCTURE

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

1. At the mall, we must return the defective toaster and to find a birthday present for Uncle Ed.
At the mall, we need to return the defective toaster, and a birthday present must be found for Uncle Ed.
At the mall, we must return the defective toaster and find a birthday present for Uncle Ed.
2. Elisha's desserts are not only fattening, but they're high in cholesterol.
Elisha's desserts are not only fattening; they're high in cholesterol.
Elisha's desserts are not only fattening, but they're also high in cholesterol.
3. Lorenzo's painting has subtle color contrasts, intriguing textures, and a pleasing balance.
Lorenzo's painting has subtle color contrasts, intriguing textures, and the balance is pleasing.
Lorenzo's painting has subtle color contrasts, the textures are intriguing, and a pleasing balance.

PART V. CAPITALIZATION

DIRECTIONS: **CIRCLE** the words in the following sentences that need a capital letter. There are 25.

1. my favorite books are green eggs and ham and horton hears a who.
2. on sunday, i will see the movie star wars and eat at taco bell.
3. terry and louis went to central park last july.
4. she has a friend from london, england.
5. did you know that abraham lincoln was the sixteenth president?

PART VI. COMMAS

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

1.
 - A. February, 29, 2015, is the deadline for your application.
 - B. February 29, 2015, is the deadline for your application.
 - C. February 29, 2015 is the deadline for your application.
2.
 - A. Keith and Rachel were deliriously happy so little of what Bill said had any effect.
 - B. Keith and Rachel were deliriously happy so, little of what Bill said had any effect.
 - C. Keith and Rachel were deliriously happy, so little of what Bill said had any effect.
3.
 - A. The baby had stopped crying and looked as if she wanted to smile.
 - B. The baby had stopped crying and, looked as if she wanted to smile.
 - C. The baby had stopped crying, and looked as if she wanted to smile.

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Essential Conventions Activity (REVIEW B)

PART I. QUOTATION MARKS

DIRECTIONS: In the sentences below, put in quotation marks and the correct punctuation where needed.

1. Joan asked How much longer do I have to wait
2. There was nobody there she responded so I left
3. Dave yelled stop just in time to stop the child from walking into the street

PART II. APOSTROPHES

DIRECTIONS: In each sentence below, insert an apostrophe where it is needed to make the sentence correct.

1. The player deliberately disobeyed his coaches (more than 1 coach) instructions.
2. The monkey wrapped its tail around Shauns bike.
3. The womens coats hung in the closet.

PART III. COLONS AND SEMI-COLONS

DIRECTIONS: In each sentence, CIRCLE whether a colon or a semi-colon would be most appropriate to make the sentence correct.

1. Three countries are involved in the discussions ___ however, only Mexico and Canada will sign the treaty immediately.
colon (:) or semi-colon (;)
2. If you get lost in the snow, this is what to do ___ stay where you are, make yourself warm and comfortable and wait for help.
colon (:) or semi-colon (;)
3. I took my umbrella ___ it looked like it was going to rain.
colon (:) or semi-colon (;)

PART IV. ELLIPSIS

DIRECTIONS: For each of the examples below, use a portion of the quote to create a direct quote that requires an ellipsis and write it on the lines provided. Make sure that the meaning of the quote is not altered when portions of it are omitted.

1. "Let me not be understood as saying that there are no bad laws, nor that grievances may not arise for the redress of which no legal provisions have been made. I mean to say no such thing. But I do mean to say that although bad laws, if they exist, should be repealed as soon as possible, still, while they continue in force, for the sake of example they should be religiously observed." – Abraham Lincoln

2. "The supreme quality for leadership is unquestionably integrity. Without it, no real success is possible, no matter whether it is on a section gang, a football field, in an army, or in an office." – Dwight D. Eisenhower

PART V. HYPHEN

DIRECTIONS: For each pair of sentences, **CIRCLE** the sentence that illustrates correct use of a hyphen.

1. Marvin moved to Montana to escape the fast paced city life.
Marvin moved to Montana to escape the fast-paced city life.
2. It looks as if we'll have to watch the bowl game on pay-per-view television.
It looks as if we'll have to watch the bowl game on pay per view television.
3. Two dollar bills are not commonly used these days.
Two-dollar bills are not commonly used these days.

PART VI. SUBJECT-VERB AGREEMENT

DIRECTIONS: From the choices provided in each sentence **CIRCLE** the one that would correctly complete the sentence.

1. There (is, are) a pebble and some sand in my shoe.
2. A list of Dalton State College course offerings (is, are) posted on the college webpage.
3. Details of the accident (was, were) not released.
4. The stereo, together with the phone and the CD player, (go, goes) dead during electrical storms.
5. Maria and Stephanie (play, plays) Dream Phone on Saturday mornings.
6. Here (is, are) Tom and Jerry.
7. Directions for the recipe (is, are) on the back of the box.
8. In the safety-deposit box at the bank (is, are) is an extra key to my house and some important papers.
9. All of the cookies (taste, tastes) stale.
10. In the locker room (is, are) a few old weights.
11. Neither that Internet site nor the article from *Time* magazine (was, were) helpful to my research.
12. All of the snow (has, have) melted.
13. Larissa or her cousins (is, are) coming to Dalton to visit.
14. Either the articles on the Internet or the one in library (seem, seems) to have relevant information.
15. The article, together with the web pages, (is, are) too much for me to read today.
16. Someone (was, were) calling my cell phone.
17. One of the professors (is, are) still in the classroom.
18. (Has, Have) anyone confessed to stealing the printer?
19. Both of my dogs (has, have) been adopted from animal rescue shelters.
20. Almost anybody (is, are) better at math than I am.

PART VII. COMMONLY MISUSED WORDS

DIRECTIONS: In the sentences below **CIRCLE** the words that would correctly complete the sentence.

1. Britney has (alot, a lot) of problems.
2. The program changes will not (affect, effect) you.
3. I was (conscience, conscious) after the collision but (to, too) frightened (to, too) move.