

Language Arts Graduation Exam Remediation Packet

- I. Noun Forms - A noun is a word representing a person, place, thing, idea, animal, quality, or action.
- A. Proper nouns - nouns which refer to specific persons, places, things, ideas, or animals. These are always capitalized.
1. Jackie Robinson
 2. Alaska
 3. Big Mac
 4. Arab High School
- B. Common nouns - nouns which refer generally to persons, places, things, ideas, animals, qualities, or actions.
1. lake
 2. city
 3. operation
 4. school

Practice - Underline the proper noun and circle the common noun

1. Lyle loves to see his favorite singer, Bobo, in concert.
2. Blain ran all the activities during the church lock-in.
3. Frank and his cousin, Artie, spent the day watching the latest movies.
4. Selena was known as a rising star before she was killed by one of her employees.
5. The wrestling team is putting its athletes on a strict diet to be at the top of their weight class.

- C. Singular nouns - noun that represents one person, place, thing, or idea.
1. potato
 2. pencil
 3. boy
 4. wolf
- D. Plural Nouns - noun that represents more than one person, place, thing, or idea.
1. cats
 2. boxes
 3. wolves
 4. stories

Practice - Next to each singular noun, write the plural form.

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. frame | 2. trench |
| 3. ferry | 4. wish |
| 5. wife | 6. taste |

E. Collective nouns - nouns that name a group of people or things.

1. audience
2. band
3. class
4. committee

F. Possessive nouns - noun that shows ownership, possession, or attachment.

1. Sarah's idea
2. boys' toy train
3. boss's best employee

II. Verb Forms

A. Action verbs - tells what is occurring, has occurred, or will occur.

1. swing
2. ran
3. dance

B. Linking verbs - describe the subject by linking it to a word at or near the end of the sentence.

1. was
2. is
3. am
4. look

Practice - Identify each underlined verb as active or linking.

1. Matt Damon's performance was spectacular.
2. The PTA should reelect Patti Zuniga as their chairperson.
3. Please ask her to the dance.
4. Alex and Phil were pulling the rope.
5. The table is shiny and sturdy.

C. Verb Tenses

1. Present tense -
2. Past tense -
3. Future tense -
4. Present Perfect -
5. Past Perfect -
6. Future Perfect -

Practice - Conjugations

1. swim
2. bring
3. lie
4. lay
5. eat
6. give
7. speak
8. sing
9. drink
10. ring

D. Active Passive Voice

1. Active Voice - the subject of the sentence performs the action.
2. Ex. The virus on the software made our computer system crash.
3. Passive Voice - the subject of the sentence is the receiver of the action.
4. Ex. Our computer system was disabled by the virus.

Practice - Identify each verb as active or passive.

1. Sally returned the borrowed book to her friend Robbie.
2. The hole in the garden was filled in with compost by someone.
3. The apple strudel pie was carefully prepared by the famous chef, Julia Crocker.
4. The Siberian tiger quickly leapt high into the air and landed on top of the seal.
5. The new car was washed thoroughly by Sheila.

III. Subject/Verb Agreement

A. Singular subjects have singular verbs; plural subjects have plural verbs.

1. The frog croaks in the pond every night. Singular
2. My older brothers play baseball in the park. Plural

B. Inverted sentences - the subject of the sentence does not have to appear before the verb.

1. When is Dorothy coming to plant her flowers?
2. Here comes your special order of pizza.

Practice - Correct the following sentences if the subject and verb do not agree.

1. Mickey Mouse makes funny comments during his cartoons.
2. Mrs. Nally and her friends plays cards during the night.
3. The new riding lawn mover run smoothly.
4. Now is the time to change the future.
5. Theresa want to be the class president.

C. Collective nouns - collective nouns can be either singular or plural. If the group acts together as one unit, the noun needs a singular verb. If the collective noun refers to the members of the group acting individually, the noun is plural and needs a plural verb.

1. The committee meets in the room down the hall.
Singular
2. The committee leave their homes at different times.
Plural

Practice - Underline the correct verb for each sentence.

1. My class cannot (agree, agrees) on where to go for a class picnic.
2. This class (is, are) very quiet today.
3. The orchestra (was, were) looking over their new music.
4. Our school orchestra (is, are) ranked first in the state.
5. The army (was, were) fighting for their lives during the conflict.

IV. Pronoun Forms

A. Nominative Case pronouns are used whenever a pronoun is used as a subject or predicate nominative.

1. Amy and I are going water skiing.
 2. The president will be she.
- B. Objective Case pronouns are used in the direct object and object of the preposition.
1. I heard him in the courtyard.
 2. Between you and me, I don't like her.
- C. Possessive Pronouns are used to show ownership or attachment.
1. His watch is very expensive.
 2. The car will be theirs in a few days.

Nominative	Objective	Possessive
I	me	my, mine
You	you	your, yours
She	her	her, hers
He	him	his
It	it	its
We	us	our, ours
They	them	their, theirs
Who	whom	whose
Whoever	whomever	

Practice - Correct each sentence for pronoun case.

1. Her and I went to the mall during the Back-to-School Sale.
2. We were shopping with them for the prize.
3. The people had us' belongings placed on the ship.
4. Kelly asked Randall and he to help her in the kitchen.
5. Stan didn't realize the television was hers.

D. Pronoun/Antecedent Agreement - All pronouns must agree with the antecedent. The antecedent of a pronoun is the word to which a pronoun refers.

1. Before we visited the Smokey Mountains, we studied them in our science class. Them refers to the antecedent Smoky Mountains.
2. Paula cleaned her room after the party. Her refers to the antecedent Paula.

E. Pronoun/Antecedent Agreement without a clear gender or number - avoid using the generic masculine pronoun.

1. The customer must bring in his receipt to receive the rebate.
 - a. Customers must bring in their receipts to receive the rebate.
 - b. The customer must bring in his or her receipts to receive the rebate.
 - c. Everyone must bring in his or her receipts to receive the rebate.
2. The student must bring in their homework tomorrow.
 - a. The students must bring in their homework tomorrow.
 - b. The student must bring in his or her homework tomorrow.

Practice - Correct the following sentences with pronoun/antecedent problems.

1. The trees were very beautiful in the fall; them were turning red and yellow.
2. Before Rita consented to the operation, she was given time to decide.
3. We decided to give Rhonda everything he wanted.
4. Carlos has a used truck, and their wheels need an alignment.
5. Mother works hard raising the family, and her often goes without sleep when the children cry.

V. Run-on, Fragments, and Sentences

A. Sentences - a sentence consists of a subject and verb.

1. The cow jumped over the gate.
2. Willie was amazed.

B. Fragments - a collection of words that do not express a complete thought.

1. Waiting for her sister to get the pizza.
2. The best fried chicken in town.

C. Run-on - A run-on sentence occurs when a comma is used in place of a period, semicolon, or comma + coordinating conjunction to join two sentences together.

1. Lomax took the children to the park Lenetha entertained a friend at home.

2. I wasn't doing my homework, I hadn't been passing my tests in school.

How to fix fragments - To correct a sentence fragment, simply add the parts of the sentence that are missing. If the sentence is missing the subject, add a subject. If the sentence is missing the verb, add a verb.

How to fix run-ons - There are three ways to fix run-on sentences. The first way is to simply add a period to separate the two complete sentences and add a capital letter to the second sentence. The second way to fix run-ons is to add semi-colon to separate the two complete thoughts. The third way is to fix run-ons is to add a comma + coordination conjunction to separate the two complete sentences.

Practice - Correct the following sentences into complete sentences.

1. The cat fell out of the tree onto the roof.
2. Just in time for that midnight snack.
3. Running all the way up the stairs.
4. We're going through the house, you should stay outside.
5. Tracy took the shortcut home she didn't want to walk far in the heat.

VI. Parallel Structure - Parallelism in writing is a way of joining similar ideas and giving them emphasis through repetition. When a writer describes two or more items in a series, he or she must keep the structure similar or the sentence will be unclear.

A. Prepositional Phrases

1. The housekeeper looked inside the drawers, on top of the bookcase, and under the recliner for the missing wallet. Parallel
2. The housekeeper looked inside the drawers, the bookcase, and under the recliner for the missing wallet. Not parallel

B. Nouns

1. These gifted boys could name the types of trees, flowers, and birds in the forest. Parallel
2. These gifted boys could name the types of trees, flowers, and some special kinds of birds in the forest. Not parallel

C. Verbs

1. Carlos Mendoza took pictures of smiling people, developed the pictures in his darkroom, and sent them to the company for the contest. Parallel
2. Carlos Mendoza took pictures of smiling people, develops the pictures in his darkroom, and sent them to the company for the contest.

Practice - Rewrite the following sentences so that each sentence is parallel.

1. After he inherited the business from his aunt, he was thinking about expanding its size.
2. Their spokesperson was not sure whether to continue the fight in court or postponing all efforts until the summer.
3. The driver never acknowledged the problem or to find ways of getting help.
4. By day, the average cat is quietly lazy, but quite energetic describes how it is by night.
5. A typical cicada lives as a nymph underground for either thirteen or seventeen years, and as an adult its life lasted about one month.

VII. Capitalization

- A. Capitalize the first word of a sentence.
- B. The first word of a sentence following a colon can begin with a small letter or a capital letter. Be consistent through your writing.
- C. Capitalize the first word of a direct quotation that is a complete sentence, even if it is within another sentence.
- D. Capitalize the pronoun I and the interjection O.
- E. Capitalize the names of specific persons, places, things, or ideas such as races, nationalities, geographical features, historical periods, titles of courses, names of buildings, names of monuments, names of bridges, names of celestial bodies, names of streets and roads, names of religions and terms for the sacred, directions only when they designate a specific region, and family relationships only when they designate a specific person.

Practice - Correct the capitalization errors.

1. Billy wrote, "i still haven't found what i'm looking for."
2. I hear that professor jones headed South because he wanted to explore.
3. Mr. mccoys was eating steak at the dixie diner.
4. The renaissance was a time when great art and thinking flourished.
5. All barbecue tastes better when its made in the south.

- F. Capitalize every word in the titles of works of literature.
- G. Capitalize every word that appears in an address.
- H. Capitalize the name of every month and day of the week.
- I. Capitalize titles that come before a proper name.
- J. Capitalize the first word and every noun of salutations and the first word of closings.
- K. Capitalize the first word in every line where there is a numbered or lettered heading.

Practice - Correct the capitalization errors.

1. The property for sale can be seen at 489 south main street.
2. On September 16, Mexico celebrates its independence from Spain.
3. When we go back to school in the Fall, Mr. Bakersfield will be the Principal.
4. Are you going anywhere for the Memorial day weekend?
5. Have you read Jack London's book, The call of the wild.