



Sentence Skills Quiz

This worksheet will test you on common sentence mistakes. Each sentence has a phrase or word underlined. Decide whether the underlined part contains a mistake or not. If not, write a “√” for correct. If there is a mistake, write an “X” for wrong. The title of each section tells you what kind of mistake to look for. Check your answers at the end of the worksheet. Ask a Learning Centre tutor for more help if you need it.

Capital Letters

1. People are usually happiest on fridays because it is the last day of the work week.
2. Two years ago I travelled to Spain.
3. Emily shouted, “look out! That shelf is about to collapse!”
4. Many teachers live near the school where they work.

Pronoun Types

5. Paul sings worse than I.
6. My brother and me both play baseball.
7. Lily and I are going camping next weekend.

Pronoun Reference, Agreement, and Point of View

8. The team did their best to win the competition.
9. Our company always gives awards to its employees, even if you don't work hard.
10. What bothers me most about studying for tests is that you never know exactly what to focus on.
11. Students who are willing to wait awhile for a haircut should visit the VCC hair salon; they can get a haircut for just seven dollars!

Adjectives and Adverbs

12. The actress smiled charmingly at the photographers.
13. The dogs chased quick after the startled rabbit.
14. Troy finds soccer games more enjoyable to watch than Reality TV shows.
15. Those donuts were the most lightest ones that Maria had ever tasted.

End Marks

16. I questioned whether I should meet Mark at the store.
17. Are they coming to the party tomorrow?

Apostrophes

18. The camera took a picture of the car's license plate number.
19. Isn't it unusual to have rain in the middle of July?
20. Several books' in the library need repairing.
21. Darryl's dream is to become an astronaut and visit Mars one day.



Standard Verbs

22. At the end of the trip, they were exhausted from all the hiking.
23. In order to qualify for the swim meet, Robyn have to swim 200 metres in less than six minutes.
24. Uncle Larry plays poker once a month with his four friends.
25. Tara earns high marks in math; she practices problems every night.

Irregular Verbs

26. While Maya was cleaning out her room, she accidentally threw away her homework assignment.
27. William started to get suspicious when he seen the same man following him.
28. At the end of the staff meeting, Teresa drank the rest of her coffee.
29. We taken too much time to complete the exercise, so we were late for the next class.

Consistent Verb Tense

30. Once Adrianna arrived at the airport, she walks to the baggage claim and picked up her suitcase.
31. After Olav paid for his groceries and left the store, he realized he forgot to buy eggs.
32. In another three years, Lulu will finish her apprenticeship and became a professional carpenter.

Subject-Verb Agreement

33. Each of my cats needs its own collar and tags.
34. My friend and her husband take their children out for pizza every Wednesday.
35. There were only three cupcakes left on the tray.
36. The main character in all the short stories learn an important lesson.

Numbers and Abbreviations

37. During the first two weeks, 6 students dropped out of the economics course.
38. Many Canadians listen to C.B.C. radio.
39. The definition for “pecuniary” appears on page 243 of the dictionary.
40. The most famous British politician lives on Downing St.

Quotation Marks

41. One of Margaret Atwood’s famous sayings is, “War is what happens when language fails.”
42. “I need everyone to calm down,” the firefighter said. We’ll evacuate the building in the next 5 minutes.
43. “There’s nothing more I can do,” Pedro cried. “I have tried everything possible to fix this situation!”
44. “We’ll be leaving the station in two minutes, the bus driver said.”



Commas

45. The meal included a roast turkey sandwich and a choice of fries soup or salad.
46. When Vivienne opened the oven door she immediately knew that she had overcooked the brownies.
47. We were going to the island today, but we missed the ferry.
48. My mother, who does crossword puzzles every morning, has an amazing vocabulary.

Run-Ons

49. The brakes on my bicycle are worn, but the other parts are still good.
50. The policeman signalled the drivers to stop, he then directed the old woman to walk across the street.
51. Ernesto was obviously upset about something, his fingers were tapping the desk rapidly.
52. We could pay the rent on our apartment; however, we couldn't go out to eat as well.

Misplaced Modifiers

53. I returned the DVD to the store that was scratched.
54. At the clothing store, he bought a sweater that is reversible.

Dangling Modifiers

55. Glancing over her book, Lindsay saw two children fighting over a red ball.
56. Having arrived late for class, a note from the principal was needed.

Faulty Parallelism

57. Before I can go to sleep at night, I must put away all the leftovers, shut the windows, and the lights have to be turned off.
58. The best strategies for succeeding in your class are reading the material before class, taking notes during class, and flashcards.

Spelling

59. Ginger likes to take her two friends driveing through the countryside for picnics.
60. My roommate studies Italian as a hobby.
61. There are alot of constellations in the universe.
62. If they had controlled their tempers better, they would not have gotten into a fight and been kicked out of the club.

Omitted Words and Letters

63. Every store window on the block has security gate.
64. When Frederic saw a black bear, he was scared.
65. How many pair of shoes does one person need?
66. As children, Anna and Louise always cut the edges their sandwiches.



Commonly Confused Words

67. Why don't you go sit over their until I'm finished?
68. The bird built it's nest inside the bush.
69. I heard you're going to Bermuda for your vacation!
70. Damien was driving too fast on the highway and got a speeding ticket.

Sentence Fragments

71. After Shannon finished the marathon. Her legs felt like jelly. She planned to lie on the couch for the next two days.
72. Rex loves to go walking at night, especially when there is a full moon. His sister thinks he's crazy to want to be outside at night.
73. Ravi stood on a chair in the lobby and looked around. Trying to see his father in the crowd. Finally, he decided to ask security for help.
74. Keiko was thrilled about her first day at work. She decided to buy a new suit. And went to a salon for a hair cut so she would look professional.

Effective Word Choice

75. In his personal opinion, he believes that the HST is ridiculous.
76. Janet couldn't do the presentation because she was feeling under the weather.
77. Sandeep endeavoured to impress his new boss.
78. The motorcycle was totalled in the accident; Vera is lucky to be alive.
79. Many students would not be able to make ends meet without working part-time.
80. Ellen was given a larger raise than anyone else in her department.

SOLUTIONS

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|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1. X | 16.√ | 31.√ | 46.X | 61.X | 76.X |
| 2. √ | 17.√ | 32.X | 47.√ | 62.√ | 77.X |
| 3. X | 18.√ | 33.√ | 48.√ | 63.X | 78.X |
| 4. √ | 19.X | 34.√ | 49.√ | 64.√ | 79.X |
| 5. √ | 20.X | 35.√ | 50.X | 65.X | 80.√ |
| 6. X | 21.√ | 36.X | 51.X | 66.X | |
| 7. √ | 22.√ | 37.X | 52.√ | 67.X | |
| 8. X | 23.X | 38.X | 53.X | 68.X | |
| 9. X | 24.√ | 39.√ | 54.√ | 69.√ | |
| 10.X | 25.√ | 40.√ | 55.√ | 70.√ | |
| 11.√ | 26.X | 41.√ | 56.X | 71.X | |
| 12.√ | 27.X | 42.X | 57.X | 72.√ | |
| 13.X | 28.√ | 43.√ | 58.X | 73.X | |
| 14.√ | 29.X | 44.X | 59.X | 74.X | |
| 15.X | 30.X | 45.X | 60.√ | 75.X | |

