

**Digital and  
Printable Version**

# TEACHING GRAMMAR, USAGE, AND MECHANICS



**GOOGLE SLIDES,  
FORMS, SHEETS,  
AND PRINTABLE  
PDFS. A FULL  
YEAR OF  
LESSONS  
AND TESTS**



**GRADE 6**



*Aligned to Common Core Standards*

# Language Conventions Lesson #28

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## Mechanics Lesson

“Today we are studying how to use **commas** with adjectives. Remember that adjectives are usually placed before the nouns or pronouns which they modify. Now let’s read the mechanics lesson, highlight the key points of the text, and study the examples.”

Hierarchical adjectives build upon each other with different levels or degrees to modify the same noun. Hierarchical adjectives are not separated by commas. If the adjectives make no sense when placing the word *and* between them or reversing their order, the adjectives are hierarchical.

**Examples:** Let’s order a hot thick-crust sausage pizza.

“Now read the guided practice sentence on your lesson. Apply the mechanics rules to write the sentence correctly. [Allow time.] ‘Can anyone share how the rule was applied correctly in the sentence? What needed revision? Revise your answer if you made any mistakes. [Correct the sentence on the display].’”

**Mechanics Guided Practice Answers:** Her delicious chocolate cake has a sweet, tasty icing.

## Grammar and Usage Lesson

“Today we are studying **reflexive pronouns**. Remember that a pronoun takes the place of a noun. Now let’s read the grammar and usage lesson, highlight the key points of the text, and study the examples.”

Reflexive pronouns end in “self” or “selves” and refer to the subject of a sentence. The reflexive pronoun cannot serve as the subject of the sentence.

These are the reflexive pronouns:

*myself, ourselves, yourself, yourselves, himself (not hisself), herself, itself, and themselves.*

Reflexive pronouns are necessary to the meaning of the sentence and usually follow verbs or prepositions. **Examples:** Pete gave himself a break and grabbed a cookie for himself.

“Now read the guided practice sentence on your lesson. Apply the grammar and usage lesson to write the sentence correctly. [Allow time.] ‘Can anyone share what you have written? Revise your answer if you made any mistakes. [Correct the sentence on the display].’”

**Grammar and Usage Guided Practice Answers:** I wonder if you might have been wrong yourself.

# Language Conventions Lesson #28

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## Sentence Diagram Lesson and Corrections

“Now read the directions for the sentence diagram on your lesson. ‘Reflexive pronouns are placed to the right of predicates after the vertical line in the object place. Complete this sentence diagram: “He spoke himself.”” [Allow time.]



“Compare your diagram to that on the display and revise any errors.”

## Mentor Text Lesson

“This mentor text, written by Dolores Huerta (the civil rights activist), uses a reflexive pronoun to emphasize her point. Let’s read it carefully: ‘If you haven’t forgiven yourself something, how can you forgive others?’ Which exceptional writing features can you identify?”

## Writing Application Lesson

“Now let’s apply what we’ve learned and respond to this quote with a sentence using a reflexive pronoun on the writing application section of your lesson. [Allow time. Ask a few students to share and then write one exemplary sentence on the display].”

## Dictations and Corrections

“Apply the mechanics rules to write this sentence dictation correctly on your lesson: ‘It was a cold winter day in February when my strange, old friend showed up at my door.’”

“Apply the grammar and usage lesson to write this sentence dictation on your lesson, revising this sentence with the appropriate reflexive pronouns: ‘He should have left some for himself.’”

“Now compare your sentences to the dictations on the display and revise any errors.”

## Language Conventions Lesson #28

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### Mechanics

Hierarchical adjectives build upon each other with different levels or degrees to modify the same noun. Hierarchical adjectives are not separated by commas. If the adjectives make no sense when placing the word *and* between them or reversing their order, the adjectives are hierarchical.

**Examples:** Let's order a hot thick-crust sausage pizza.

**Guided Practice:** That was a tasty, apple pie that you made, Bart.

### Grammar and Usage

Reflexive pronouns end in “self” or “selves” and refer to the subject of a sentence. The reflexive pronoun cannot serve as the subject of the sentence.

These are the reflexive pronouns: *myself, ourselves, yourself, yourselves, himself (not hisself), herself, itself, and themselves.*

Reflexive pronouns are necessary to the meaning of the sentence and usually follow verbs or prepositions.

**Examples:** Pete gave himself a break and grabbed a cookie for himself.

**Guided Practice:** Myself wonder if you were wrong yourself.

# Language Conventions Lesson #28

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## Sentence Diagram Answers

He | spoke | himself

## Mentor Text

“If you haven't forgiven yourself something, how can you forgive others?”

Dolores Huerta (1930–)

## Writing Application Lesson

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## Mechanics Dictation

It was a cold winter day in February when my strange, old friend showed up at my door.

## Grammar and Usage Dictation

He should have left some for himself.

## Language Conventions Lesson #27

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### Mechanics

Place a comma after a dependent clause that begins a sentence. Place commas before and after a dependent clause in the middle of the sentence. Don't place a comma before a dependent clause that ends a sentence. Examples: After I sneeze, I always blow my nose. That's nice to say, even if it's not true, but I want to know the truth. I stop when he asks me.

**Guided Practice:** Although his car is fast that one is faster. I like salsa, if it's spicy and I love chips.

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### Grammar and Usage

When the words *this*, *that*, *these*, and *those* take the place of nouns, they are called demonstrative pronouns. The words *this* (singular) and *these* (plural) are close to the writer (speaker). The words *that* (singular) and *those* (plural) are away from the writer (speaker). If the demonstrative pronoun has a vague (unclear) reference to its noun, add the noun after the pronoun.

**Examples:** this right here, that over there, these up close, those far away

**Guided Practice:** Next to this one here I put these other ones.

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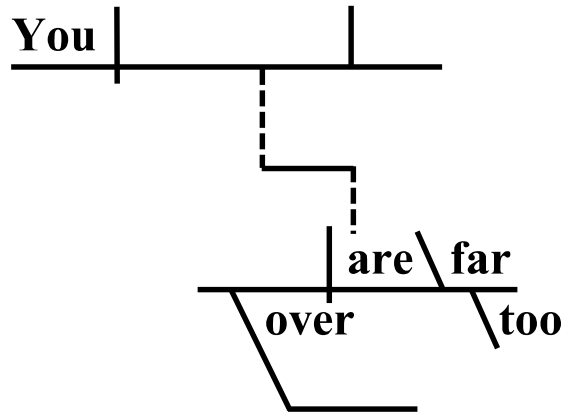
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## Language Conventions Lesson #27

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### Sentence Diagram

Demonstrative pronouns are in the subject or object place in sentence diagrams. “You can touch this, but those over there are too far.”



### Writing Application

Apply what you have learned to respond to this quote.

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### Mechanics Dictation

Apply the mechanics rules to write the sentence dictation.

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### Grammar and Usage Dictation

Apply the grammar and usage lesson to write the sentence dictation.

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## Language Conventions Lesson #28

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### Mechanics

Hierarchical adjectives build upon each other with different levels or degrees to modify the same noun. Hierarchical adjectives are not separated by commas. If the adjectives make no sense when placing the word *and* between them or reversing their order, the adjectives are hierarchical.

**Examples:** Let's order a hot thick-crust sausage pizza.

**Guided Practice:** That was a tasty, apple pie that you made, Bart.

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### Grammar and Usage

Reflexive pronouns end in “self” or “selves” and refer to the subject of a sentence. The reflexive pronoun cannot serve as the subject of the sentence.

These are the reflexive pronouns:

*myself, ourselves, yourself, yourselves, himself (not hisself), herself, itself, and themselves.*

Reflexive pronouns are necessary to the meaning of the sentence and usually follow verbs or prepositions.

**Examples:** Pete gave himself a break and grabbed a cookie for himself.

**Guided Practice:** Myself wonder if you were wrong yourself.

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## Language Conventions Lesson #28

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### Sentence Diagram

Reflexive pronouns are placed to the right of predicates after the vertical line in the object place. Complete this sentence diagram: "He spoke himself."



### Writing Application

Apply what you have learned to respond to this quote.

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### Mechanics Dictation

Apply the mechanics rules to write the sentence dictation.

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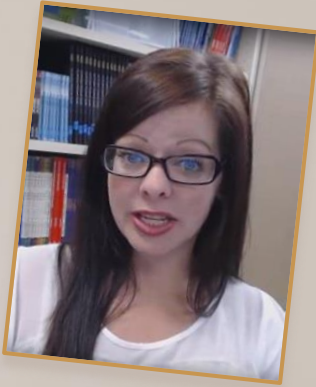
### Grammar and Usage Dictation

Apply the grammar and usage lesson to write the sentence dictation.

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She goes by the name, Ann Smith. Seemingly, a kind and nerdy online grammar [REDACTED] teacher, our agency [REDACTED] has unmasked her real identity as an enemy secret agent.



*Ms. Ann Smith  
Grammar Teacher*

Our secretary has ordered [REDACTED] to learn the true identity of Ms. Smith. Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to infiltrate her online grammar class as a student and pressure her to turn to our side and become a double agent.

**CLICK TO PLAY**

Look for secret key clues  throughout her grammar lesson to discover Ann Smith's identity and her mission, and report your results to the Secretary via coded messages.

As always, should you be [REDACTED] identified, the Secretary will disavow any knowledge of your actions.

This message will self-destruct in 5 seconds.



**TOP SECRET**



## LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS LESSON #2

### Grammar and Usage

A personal pronoun is a word used in place of a noun.

- The *first person* personal pronouns are different in the singular and plural forms.

**Examples:** Singular—I, me Plural—we, us

- The *second person* personal pronouns are the same in the singular and plural forms.

**Example:** you

- The *third person* personal pronouns are different in the singular and plural forms.

**Examples:** Singular—he, him, she, her, it Plural—they, them

**Guided Practice:** I want to know if you would like to see it with I or he.

I ate french fries  
while watching the  
Can Can. ✂

## CONNECT TO WRITING

Pronouns are used to avoid repeating the same noun over and over again. Pronouns are used in the first person, second person, or third person points of view. Avoid first and second person pronouns in essays designed to inform convince your reader.



The first person pronoun stands for the one speaking.

**Examples:** Singular-I, me, my, mine, myself Plural-we, us, our, ours, ourselves

The second person pronoun stands for the person to whom one is speaking.

**Examples:** Singular-you, your, yours, yourself Plural-you, your, yours, yourselves

The third person pronoun stands for the one spoken about.

**Examples:** Singular-he, she, it, him, her, its, his, hers, himself, herself, itself Plural-they, them, their, theirs, themselves





**Break-up Boulevard:** Move the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> person arrows next to the pronouns which match.

## PERSONAL PRONOUNS

START

I was barefoot in the kitchen when you told me.

(He had been her boyfriend for six months. Was he serious?)

You play stupid games; you win stupid prizes.

Well, my castle crumbled overnight.

(I, myself, had thought we felt the same about each other)

-back when you fit in my poems like a perfect rhyme.

(She obviously depended upon him too much for her own good.)

You held your pride like you should have held me.

Things were said that never should have been said.

it's like I'm paralyzed by it.

But I took your matches before fire could catch me.

You tell me I never grew up; it's getting so old.

It was the best decision for both of them. Still...

Breaking up? I can't decide if it's a choice: but for us time won't fly.

You are the best thing that's ever been mine.

His break-up with her was hers to use for many songs.

They, themselves learned from their experience.

END

**Break-up Boulevard:** Move the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> person arrows next to the pronouns which match.

START

ANSWERS



## LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS LESSON #3

### Grammar and Usage

Writers use pronouns to take the place of nouns. One type of pronoun is called a *subject case pronoun* because it acts as the subject of a sentence. The subject is the “do-er” of the sentence. If unsure whether a pronoun should be in the subject case, rephrase the sentence with the pronoun at the start of the sentence.

**Example:** The winner was me. Rephrase: I was the winner.

Use singular (*I, you, he, she, it, who*) or plural (*we, you, they, who*) subject case pronouns:

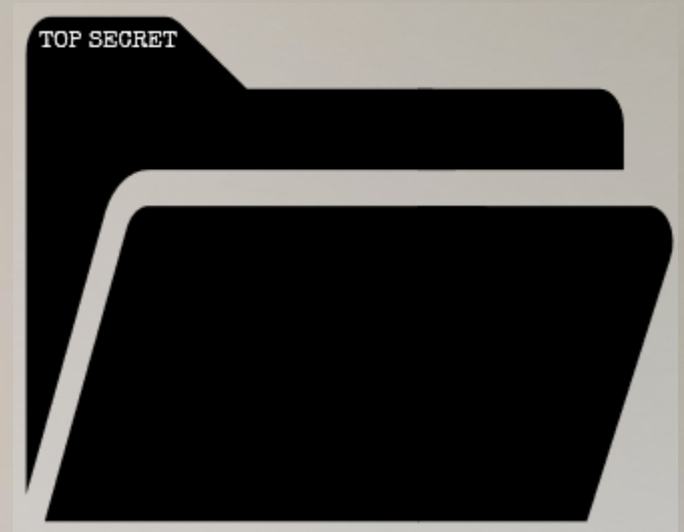
- As the subject of a sentence.  
**Example:** *They* listen to me.
- *I* as the last subject in compound subjects.  
**Example:** Paul, Melissa, and *I* play together.
- After *than* or *as* (the rest of the thought is suggested).  
**Example:** He is older than *I* (am).
- After a “to be” verb: (*is, am, are, was, were, be, being, been*) to identify or refer to the subject as a *predicate nominative*.  
**Examples:** It was *she*, not *I*.
- *Who* (not *whom*). Check whether *who* is correct by substituting *he* in place of *who*. Rephrase, if necessary.  
**Example:** *Who* is the boss? Rephrase: *He* is the boss.

**Guided Practice:** I want to know if them would like to see that movie. Whom wants to go?

DRAG THE SUBJECT CASE PRONOUNS LISTED BELOW THE **SECRET FILE** TO COVER THE PRONOUN ERRORS IN THESE SENTENCES. DRAG THE BARS INTO THE **SECRET FILE** TO CHECK YOUR ANSWERS.

I and her like to make videos.  
Hannah is older than me by two weeks,  
but her is always bossing me around  
because myself am not as old as her.  
Whom knows if us will be friends forever.

**She** and **I** like to make videos.  
Hannah is older than **I** by two weeks,  
but **she** is always bossing me around  
because **I** am not as old as **she**.  
**Who** knows if **we** will be friends forever.



## SUBJECT CASE PRONOUNS



## LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS LESSON #5

### Grammar and Usage

Possessive pronouns show ownership and may be used before a noun or without a noun.

Before a noun—*my, your, his, her, its, our, your, their*

When a possessive pronoun is used before a noun, it modifies the noun. The connected verb must match the noun, not the pronoun.

**Example:** Our house seems small.

Without a noun—*mine, yours, his, hers, ours, yours, theirs*

When a possessive pronoun is used without a noun, the verb must match the noun which the pronoun represents.

**Example:** Mary said that my jacket is nice, but hers is nicer.

**Guided Practice:** Mine basket was filled with sunflowers; her basket was filled with his roses; theirs were filled with daisies.

**CLUE #2**  
HOW OLD IS ANN SMITH?

IDENTIFY THE PRONOUNS IN EACH LINE AND THEIR PRONOUN CASES: **S** FOR SUBJECT, **O** FOR OBJECT, AND **P** FOR POSSESSIVE. DRAG THE BARS INTO THE **SECRET FILE** TO CHECK YOUR ANSWERS.

PRONOUNS

S,O,P

“Hello,” answered me friend.

“Are you the owner of the car for sale?” asks the caller.

“It is me. Who is calling?”

“Call me Sam. Have you sold your car yet? My wife and me would like to see your.”

“Well, your both can see it if they want to today.”

“We will come right over if your don’t mind we doing so.”

“Me and my car will be here.”

my	P
you	S
It, I, Who	S,S,S
me, you	O,S
your, my, I	P,P,S
yours or your car	P
you, it	S,O
you	S
We	S
you, us	S,O
My car and I	P,S



**SECRET RECORDING...**



**PLAY THE SONG AND FINISH THE LINE:**

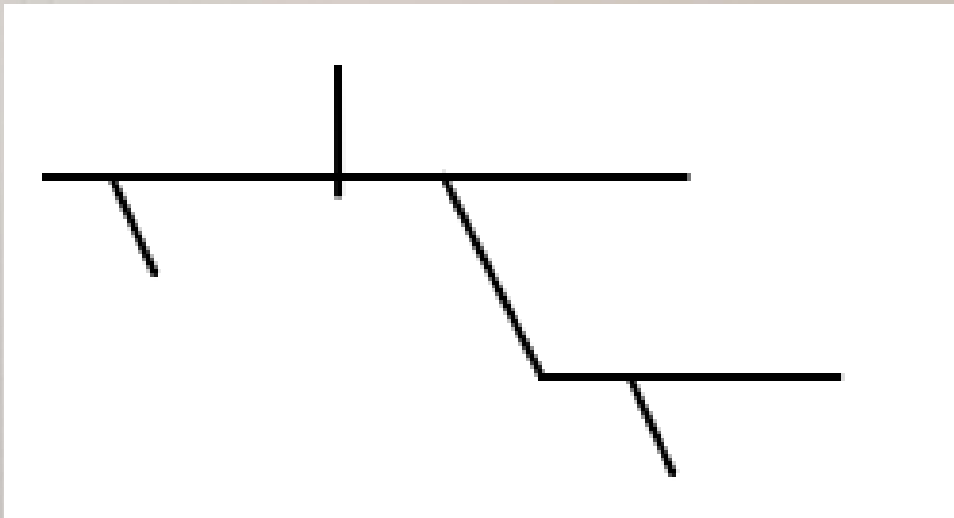
A pronoun is used to take a noun's place in the subject, possessive, or case.

**CLICK TO PLAY**

## LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS LESSON #56

### Sentence Diagram

Revise this sentence in Standard English and Complete the sentence diagram: "This girl be asking for my help."



**CONFIDENTIAL**

### Writing Application

Apply what you have learned to respond to this quote.

### Mechanics Dictation

Apply the mechanics rules to write the sentence dictation.

### Grammar and Usage Dictation

Apply what you have learned to respond to this quote.

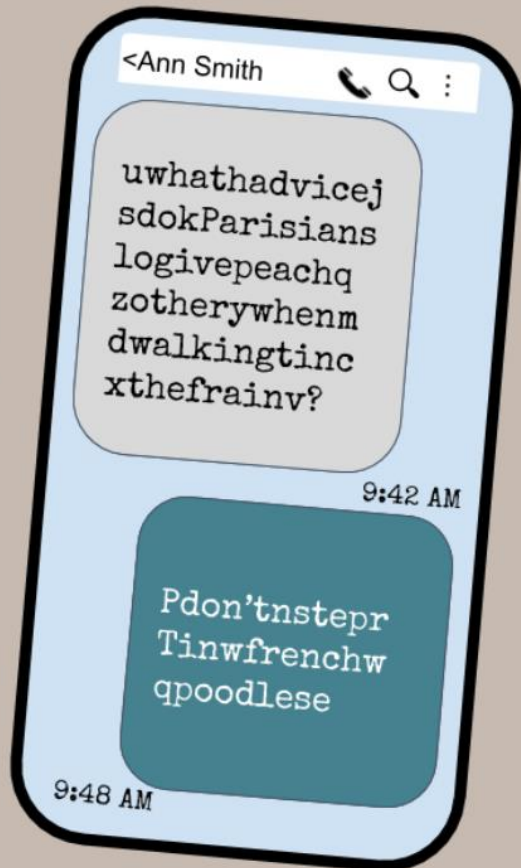
## CRACK THE CODE!



We've hacked Ann Smith's text message to an associate. Decipher the code and then delete the rectangles to check your work.

What advice do Parisians give each other when walking in the rain?

Don't step in French poodles.



## CLUE #1

IN WHICH CITY DOES ANN SMITH LIVE?

ANSWER:

**CLASSIFIED**

## Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Test: Lessons 41-44

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**Matching Directions:** Place the capital letter(s) that best matches to the left of the number.

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| ___ 1. Place names               | A. <i>both, few, many, others, and several</i>                  |
| ___ 2. Past perfect verb tense   | B. The Rock of Gibraltar  |
| ___ 3. Named things and products | C. The Statue of Liberty  |
| ___ 4. Adverbial clause          | D. American Literature and Composition                          |
| ___ 5. Named holidays and dates  | E. singular nouns or pronouns joined by <i>or</i> or <i>nor</i> |
| ___ 6. Singular verbs            | AB. St. Patrick's Day   |
| ___ 7. Plural verbs              | AC. had given   |
| ___ 8. Title names               | AD. Bud is wise, but hot! AAA WWW                               |

**Sentence Application Directions:** Answer in complete sentences, using your own words.

9. Write a sentence in which you mention a place name. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Write a sentence using the present perfect verb tense. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

11. Write a sentence in which you mention a named thing or product. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

12. Write a sentence including an ending adverbial clause. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

13. Write a sentence in which you mention a holiday. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

14. Write a sentence using an indefinite pronoun as the subject of the sentence. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

15. Write a sentence in which you mention the title of a governmental leader. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

16. Write a sentence using a compound subject joined by *and*. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Test: Lessons 45-48

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**Matching Directions:** Place the capital letter(s) that best matches to the left of the number.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| ___ 1. Organizations and businesses          | A. French, Cherokee                               |
| ___ 2. Verb tense                            | B. Outside “ ” if not part of the quoted sentence |
| ___ 3. Languages and people groups           | C. The Bronze Age                                 |
| ___ 4. Improper contractions                 | D. Past, present, and future                      |
| ___ 5. Special events and historical periods | E. He don’t need no money.                        |
| ___ 6. Improper negation                     | AB. Don’t be saying that.                         |
| ___ 7. Question marks                        | AC. The American Cancer Society                   |
| ___ 8. Non-standard “to be”                  | AD. ain’t, han’t, din’t                           |

**Sentence Application Directions:** Answer in complete sentences, using your own words.

9. Write a sentence in which you mention an organization or business. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Revise the following sentence: She gave me a pen and lets me borrow a piece of paper.

\_\_\_\_\_

11. Write a sentence in which you mention a language. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

12. Revise the following sentence: I din’t know you han’t been here before. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

13. Write a sentence in which you mention a special event. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

14. Revise the following sentence: He really doesn’t want no tickets. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

15. Write a direct quotation of a statement about which the writer asks a question. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

16. Revise the following sentence: Do be thinking, and don’t be reacting. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## GRAMMAR, USAGE, AND MECHANICS #30: DANGLING/MISPLACED MODIFIERS



A **dangling modifier** or a **misplaced modifier** does not clearly modify what the writer intends to modify.

### CONNECT TO WRITING

A dangling modifier is an adjective or adverb that does not have a clear connection to the word, phrase, or clause to which it refers. A dangling modifier usually takes the form of a present participle (“\_\_ing”), a past participle (“\_\_d,” “\_\_t,” “\_\_ed,” “\_\_en”), or an infinitive (*to* + the base form of a verb). To eliminate the dangling modifier, place the “do-er” of the sentence as the subject of the independent clause or combine the phrase and independent clause.

**Example:** Removed from her desk, Paula put the backpack on the floor. (Her backpack was removed from the desk; not *Paula*.)

A misplaced modifier does not modify what the writer intends because of where it is placed in the sentence. To eliminate misplaced modifiers, place them close to the words that they modify.

**Examples:** I only ate the fresh vegetables. In this sentence only is the modifier. (The writer does not mean that the *only* thing she does with fresh vegetables is to eat them.)

**GRAMMAR, USAGE, AND MECHANICS #30:  
DANGLING/MISPLACED MODIFIERS**

**PRACTICE**

Re-write the two example sentences in the previous slide by revising the dangling or misplaced modifiers.

**WRITE**

Re-write these sentences by revising the dangling or misplaced modifiers.

After reading the comic book, the movie was not nearly as exciting as I had hoped.

Debra almost spent \$100 for that new pair of shoes. In fact, she spent exactly \$99.99.



## GRAMMAR, USAGE, AND MECHANICS #31: SHORT COMPARATIVE MODIFIERS



A **short comparative modifier** uses “\_\_er” for a one-syllable modifier to compare two things.

**Example:** big–bigger

### CONNECT TO WRITING

A modifier describes the meaning of another word or words and makes it more specific or limits its meaning or meanings.

**Example:** I ate the *big* piece. The word *big* is a modifier, making *piece* more specific.

Some two-syllable comparative modifiers use “\_\_er” and some use *more (less)*. If adding “\_\_er” sounds strange, use *more (less)* instead.

These comparative modifiers are irregular.

### Single Modifier Comparative

good/well

better

bad/badly

worse (not *worser*)

much/many

more

## GRAMMAR, USAGE, AND MECHANICS #31: SHORT COMPARATIVE MODIFIERS

### PRACTICE

Write the correct comparative modifiers in the spaces provided.

1. Earth is close to the sun than is Mars.

2. Sammy works more hard than any club member.

3. He dresses in his uniform most often than the members of his troop.

4. Of my brother and my sister, my brother acts worse.

5. She is sadder than I, but she is happier than my brother.

### WRITE

Write your own sentence with a one-syllable “\_\_er” comparative modifier and a second sentence with a two-syllable *more* comparative modifier. Don't use any modifiers from this worksheet.



## Diagnostic Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Assessment

45. By the time the clock strikes three, we \_ for four long hours. \*

- have studied
- will study
- study
- are studied
- will have studied

Self-correcting  
Google forms tests

46. Which sentence is written correctly? \*

- A friend, named John, said "The game is almost over."
- A friend named John, said "The game is almost over."
- A friend named John said "The game is almost over."
- A friend, named John said, "The game is almost over."
- A friend named John said, "The game is almost over."

Diagnostic Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Assessment Matrix																
Student Names	Proper	Commc	Pronou	Adjecti	Verbs	Adverb	Prepos	Coordi	Subord	Correlat	Proper	Proper	Proper	Proper	Comr	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Student Name																

## Grade 8 GUM Unit Test: Lessons 1-4

Matching: Select the circle in each row which best matches the numbered words in the left column. \* 8 points

1. Asian-American, peace	2. For example	3. Used in place of a noun	4. I wonder who left the jar open.	5. U.N., SWAT	6. Organizes with numbers and letters	7. Act upon a verb or identify or refer to a subject	8. Receives the action of the verb
e.g.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Noun	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Abbreviation; acronym	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

12. Write a sentence including both singular and plural personal pronouns. \* 1 point

.....
















13. Write an indirect question. Then answer with an intentional fragment. \* 1 point

.....

Google sheets



THANK YOU FOR DOWNLOADING THE **PARTS OF SPEECH SLIDES** FROM MY FULL-YEAR GRADES 4-8 GRAMMAR PROGRAMS.

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