Grammar Puzzles & Games Kids Can't Resist!

40 Super-Cool Crosswords, Codes, Mazes & More That Teach the Essential Rules of Grammar

by Karen Kellaher

SCHOLASTIC PROFESSIONAL BOOKS

New York ★ Toronto ★ London ★ Auckland ★ Sydney ★ Mexico City ★ New Delhi ★ Hong Kong
Dedication

To Colin
for all your love and support

And special thanks to Mr. Ed Miller,
who made grammar fun for me

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There is something about games and puzzles that motivates even the most reluctant learner. We see this clearly when we look at our own habits: As adults, few of us would jump at the chance to take a test on world history, literature, science, or geography. However, we rush to answer questions in these subject areas when they’re part of a trivia board game, TV quiz show, or Sunday newspaper crossword puzzle. Why? I believe it’s because the idea of a game or puzzle lends an exciting context to learning, and we achieve a real sense of accomplishment when we get the answers right.

Children are no exception. When subject matter is part of a game or puzzle, students are more motivated to learn, to remember, and to apply the material. That’s the thinking behind *Grammar Puzzles & Games Kids Can’t Resist!*

### Why Use Grammar Games?

At Scholastic we recognize that grammar is not the easiest topic to teach. Too often, grammar seems like a collection of rules that must be memorized. Students have a hard time seeing its relevance to real life. And teachers sometimes have a difficult time changing students from the comfortable—but incorrect—grammar habits which the kids are used to using. It is our hope that *Grammar Puzzles & Games Kids Can’t Resist!* will make the teaching of grammar a little bit easier and a lot more fun. You’ll find crossword puzzles, word searches, code games, partner stories, and more. These are entertaining activities that children already love to do, so consider your battle half won!

Some of the special features of this book include:

- **Grammar “fast facts” with every activity.** These reminders review the specific grammar concept the children need for each activity—right there on the reproducible. For example, when students are working with helping verbs, they’ll find a list of helping verbs right there on the page. When they are working with proper nouns, they’ll find a helpful reminder to always use a capital letter. That means your students will not have to look elsewhere for pertinent information.

- **Opportunities for both independent and collaborative learning.** Some of the activities—such as crosswords and word searches—are designed for students to complete individually. Others—such as the partner stories—are meant to be tackled in pairs or teams.
Special attention to typical problem areas. As veteran teachers know, some grammar rules are more troublesome than others. For example, many children have a hard time forming contractions, forming the past tense of irregular verbs, and choosing the homonym that makes sense in a sentence. This book addresses these tough topics clearly and decisively.

How to Use the Book

You may use the reproducible activities in any order. Here are some suggestions for making the most of them:

1. Use each reproducible as an immediate follow-up to a grammar lesson to assess what students have learned. Because the activities include very simple instructions and grammar rule reminders, you can easily assign the activities as homework. I can assure you that your students won’t mind digging into these assignments!

2. Use the reproducibles as part of a Grammar Learning Center where the focus changes each week. For example, while you are teaching about nouns, you may want to copy all of the activities that focus on nouns and store the activities in a designated spot in the classroom. Send students to the Grammar Learning Center when they finish work early, when you are working with small groups, or any other time individual students are looking for something to do. Invite students to make colorful posters of important grammar rules and use them to decorate your Learning Center.

3. Consider having students check their own work. (Use the answer key on page 58 to post the answers on the board.) Then work with each student to highlight and focus on any problem areas.

4. After students have completed the puzzles for a given grammar topic, invite them to create their own puzzles for classmates to work on. Younger students will enjoy making word search puzzles and simple crosswords on graph paper. Older students may want to try crafting their own riddle bubble tests and partner stories. (In either case, take a peek at the student-made activities before students exchange them. This will help avoid frustration in the event that a student-created puzzle is incorrect or incomplete.)
About the Puzzle Formats:
A Special Note to Teachers

Each of the puzzles in this book includes easy-to-follow directions. The puzzles are broken down as follows:

**Word Searches**
Students hunt for their answers in a letter grid. Answers may go across, down, or on the diagonal.

**Snails**
In these puzzles, the answers wrap around in the shape of a snail. The last letter of one answer is the first letter of the next.

**Crosswords**
These crosswords are designed simply with elementary students in mind. All of the clues and answers relate to grammar. There are no “filler” words.

**Partner Stories**
Pairs of students work together to complete a story using specific parts of speech. When they’re done, they have a hilariously funny story to share with the class. These activities can be used over and over with new, exciting results each time.

**Crack-the-Code Cloze Games**
Students complete a short story by filling in the missing part of speech. Then they use their answers to decode a secret message!

**Riddle Bubble Tests**
Students fill in the bubble next to the sentence that uses correct grammar. Then students use their lettered answers to unravel the punch line to an amusing riddle. These riddle tests are not only fun; they’re also great practice for state and national standardized tests (students get into the habit of filling in the circle next to the correct answer).

Enjoy!
Noun Hunt

Read the clues to name the nouns in each list. Then find the nouns in the word search puzzle.

FAST FACT
A noun is a person, place, or thing. For example: sister, park, insect.

BSHEACKGTRBA
ACLOUDAFEEMS
PHDGNBIDASOG
POFO TNTACTTM
LOHACHAFHAHE
ELOBTEBMEUEG
SLMGQHRLWRRRB
TEENAGERTAPU
OIAKLKYRVNCZ
RBI CLEATIR
EMRBCSINGERS
BAIRPORTMJZN

PEOPLE
1. An adult who teaches in a classroom ________________________
2. Your parents (two words) ________________________
   and ________________________
3. A person between the ages of 13 and 19 ________________________
4. A person who sings ________________________
5. Your mother’s sister is your ________________________

PLACES
6. A place where you buy things ________________________
7. A place where you go to learn ________________________
8. A place where you go to eat ________________________
9. The place where you live ________________________
10. A place where planes take off and land ________________________

THINGS
11. A vehicle with two wheels ________________________
12. Something you use to carry groceries ________________________
13. A fruit that’s often red and is used to make pies and juice ________________________
14. Something you use at dinner time that comes with chairs ________________________
15. Something fluffy that floats in the sky ________________________
**Find the Verb**

Read each sentence and underline the verb. Then find each verb in the word search puzzle.

**FAST FACT**

Some verbs, like *runs* and *thinks*, describe action. Other verbs, like *is* and *was*, describe a state of being.

1. The play begins at six o’clock.
2. Lucas visits his grandmother at least once a week.
3. The snake caught its prey under a boulder.
4. I read an exciting novel last week.
5. Rebecca painted a picture of a beautiful sunset.
6. My cat is three years old.
7. Our school basketball team just won the state championship.
8. Megan loves pizza with pepperoni.
9. The two brothers shared a seat on the school bus.
10. We sang the national anthem at school today.
11. A rabbit made its nest in our front yard.
12. During the storm, winds blew at speeds of 50 miles per hour.
14. Anne broke her arm last winter.
15. That film has terrific special effects.
Verbs Help Out

Read each sentence and locate the helping verb. When you are finished, find your answers in the word search puzzle.

1. Our neighbors were playing loud music last night.
2. You should say thank you to Uncle Roy for the gift.
3. I can see the park from my bedroom window.
4. My train is leaving in ten minutes.
5. I am planning to join the swim team.
6. I knew that you owned a dog, but I did not know that you owned a fish.
7. Yes, I do like to work with clay.
8. I have started my homework.
9. My cousins are visiting for the weekend.
10. Julia has written a poem for class.
11. I was walking to school when I saw an injured bird.
12. I might win the contest.
13. Tina had just fallen asleep when the telephone rang.

FAST FACT

Helping verbs help the main verb describe the action. There are 23 helping verbs. They are:

- can
- could
- have
- should
- are
- could
- be
- did
- do
- is
- was
- been
- does
- have
- may
- were
- being
- had
- might
- will
- been
- had
- must
- would
- can
- has
- shall
- shall
Good, Better, Best

Read each sentence. On the line, write the positive, comparative, or superlative form of the missing adjective. Then find each of your answers in the word search puzzle.

**FAST FACT**

A positive adjective lets you describe one or more things: A puppy is nice; puppies are nice.

A comparative adjective lets you compare two or more things: Barbara is nicer than Gerard; Gerard is nicer than all the other boys in our class.

A superlative adjective lets you describe only one thing: Mount Everest is the tallest mountain in the world; Remo is the friendliest person in school.

1. Nora was fast, but Caitlyn was ______________. (comparative of fast)
2. Snowball is ______________ than the other kittens in the litter. (comparative of cute)
3. Kevin is ______________. (positive of smart)
4. January is the ______________ month of the year. (superlative of cold)
5. I filled the ______________ glass I could find with water. (superlative of tall)
6. Someone must have turned up the volume, because the music suddenly got ______________. (comparative of loud)
7. The ______________ clouds were a sign that the storm was on its way. (positive of dark)
8. Today’s math assignment is ______________ than yesterday’s. (comparative of hard)
9. David has an ______________ bedtime than I do. (comparative of early)
10. Tina is my ______________ friend. (superlative of close)
Read each sentence and fill in each blank with a pronoun from the lists. When you are finished, find your answers in the word search puzzle.

1. “_______________ am happy to meet you,” I said.
2. Ryan has a doctor’s appointment after school, so _________________ will miss practice.
3. She baked the cake for so long, _________________ was as hard as a rock!
4. Frank and Erin said _________________ would be back in one hour.
5. I just saw a man run down the street. Did you see _________________?
6. The fourth graders invited _________________ to their holiday party, so we will invite them to _________________.
7. Mary, do _________________ walk to school or ride the bus?
8. Elizabeth hopes _________________ will get the lead in the school play.
9. Our family is very busy, but _________________ always try to eat dinner together.
10. I reminded Derek that _________________ owes me a dollar.
11. When I saw Aunt Sue get off the train, I hugged _________________ and offered to carry her bags.
12. The children were misbehaving, so Mrs. Nelson asked _________________ to quiet down.
13. I know that’s _________________ lunch because it has my name on it.
14. A kitten must stay with _________________ mother for several weeks.
15. The twins invited all of _________________ friends to the birthday party.
Contraction Action

Read each sentence, paying special attention to the contraction. On the line, write the word that completes each contraction. Then find each of your answers in the word search puzzle.

FAST FACT
A contraction is formed by putting two words together and leaving out some letters. An apostrophe takes the place of the missing letters.

1. I couldn’t make it to the dance recital on Wednesday.
   couldn’t = could + _____________

2. Peter should’ve called if he were going to be late.
   should’ve = should + _____________

3. I’m the oldest child in my family.
   I’m = I + _____________

4. Maura was tired because she’d been working in the garden all day.
   she’d = she + _____________

5. Edward says he’ll be over in ten minutes.
   he’ll = he + _____________

   You’re = You + _____________

7. He’s afraid of spiders.
   He’s = He + _____________

8. ’Twas the night before Christmas.
   ’Twas = _____________ + was

9. Let’s go out to dinner tonight.
   Let’s = Let + _____________
For Short

Match each abbreviation to the full word it stands for. Then hunt for each full word in the word search puzzle.

**Abbreviation** | **Full Word**
--- | ---
1. Dr. | a. October
2. Mr. | b. Avenue
3. St. | c. Doctor
4. TV | d. Saturday
5. Jan. | e. miles per hour
6. PA | f. television
7. Ave. | g. California
8. Sat. | h. Mister
9. Oct. | i. Street
10. mph | j. United States
11. U.S. | k. Pennsylvania
12. CA | l. January

**FAST FACT**

An abbreviation is a shortened version of a word or phrase. Some abbreviations use periods, but others do not.
1. There are nine planets in our solar system.  ____________________
2. Cars and trucks lined the street.  ____________________
3. I can’t find my house keys anywhere!  ____________________
4. Many homes have back yards.  ____________________
5. There are ditches on both sides of the road.  ____________________
6. It’s fun to ride a bike over the hills in this neighborhood.  ____________________
7. Plants have chemicals in their leaves to help them make food.  ____________________
8. Graciela is just under five feet tall.  ____________________
9. Our class has gone on three field trips this school year.  ____________________
10. I save pennies in a jar in my bedroom.  ____________________
11. Does your family eat yams at Thanksgiving?  ____________________
12. Fifty men, women, and children were left homeless by the storm.  ____________________
13. I have a pocket full of nickels.  ____________________
14. Bright lights filled the sky.  ____________________
Rewrite each sentence in the past tense. Then write each past-tense verb in the snail puzzle. The last letter of one answer will be the first letter of the next answer. Some answers will go around corners.

**FAST FACT**

The past tense is used to describe something that happened before now. Many verbs form the past tense by adding -ed or -d. But other verbs form the past tense in unusual ways and should be memorized.

1. I sleep in a bed.
2. She turns the key.
3. We decide what to eat for lunch.
4. Stephan draws a picture.
5. I win the spelling bee!
6. Rachel nods her head in agreement.
7. They drive to school every day.
8. The nurse examines the patient.
9. Everyone dances to that song.
10. I dare you to watch the scary movie.
11. We do the dishes.
Pick a Preposition

Read each sentence below, and choose a preposition from the box to fill in the blank. Then write the prepositions in the snail puzzle. In the puzzle, the last letter of one answer is the first letter of the next answer. Some answers will go around corners.

FAST FACT

Prepositions usually tell where something is, where something is going, or when something is happening. Some common prepositions are:

- about
- after
- with
- near
- throughout
- to
- below
- because
- despite
- without
- beside
- instead
- in
- over
- on
- except
- toward
- onto

1. South America is located _________________________ the Equator.
2. You cannot bake a cake _________________________ flour.
3. The sprinter ran _________________________ the finish line.
4. We played outside for a while _________________________ the cold weather.
5. I like all vegetables _________________________ for lima beans.
6. Basketball is popular _________________________ for the entire United States.
7. Hannah sent a thank-you note _________________________ her grandmother.
8. Will you help me load the heavy box _________________________ the truck?
10. The twins live _________________________ the school, so they do not ride the schoolbus.
Create-a-Word

Read each clue below and figure out the compound word that is being described. Then write the compound words in the snail puzzle. The last letter of one answer will be the first letter of the next answer. Some answers go around corners.

FAST FACT
A compound word is a word that is made up of two or more smaller words. For example: notebook, newspaper, thunderstorm.

CLUES
1. A mark your foot leaves in snow or mud.
2. These fall from your eyes when you are sad.
3. At night we have moonlight; in the day we have
4. A natural disaster that makes the ground shake.
5. The skin that closes over your eye.
6. You turn this to open a door.
7. A sport played with a bat and ball.
8. All the years that a person lives.
9. The hard covering around an egg.
10. A house that warns ships of danger.
11. A piece of jewelry you wear on your ear.

SKILL: Compound Words
Read each of the sentences below, and underline the homonym that makes sense in each one. Then write the correct homonyms in the snail puzzle. The last letter of one answer will be the first letter of the next answer. Some answers will go around corners.

1. My (aunt, ant) is coming to visit for a few weeks.
2. Jack likes to play soccer (to, too, two).
3. We will eat lunch in about (one, won) hour.
4. Rosa’s brother is (ate, eight) years old.
5. Nigel (threw, through) the ball to first base.
6. Room 16 is having a spelling test next (weak, week).
7. I don’t (know, no) where I left my backpack.
8. How much does your puppy (way, weigh)?
9. The frightened campers (herd, heard) a noise in the forest.
10. The (dear, deer) drank from the cool stream.
11. The principal’s office is the third door on the (right, write).
12. (There, They’re, Their) favorite movie is showing tonight at 8 p.m.
13. The audience filled 100 (rose, rows) of seats.
14. Lori’s arm was (sore, soar) after her softball game.

FAST FACT

Homonyms are words that sound alike but have different spellings and meanings. For example: peace/piece and bare/bear.
Read each of the sentences below, and underline the verb that agrees with the subject. Then write the correct verbs in the snail puzzle. The last letter of one answer will be the first letter of the next answer. Some answers will go around corners.

1. Bears (has, have) a powerful sense of smell.
2. We (eat, eats) out about twice a month.
3. He always (try, tries) to do his homework before dinner.
4. On the island, the sun (shine, shines) almost every day.
5. The recipe (says, say) to cook the muffins for 25 minutes.
6. They (swim, swims) in the lake every afternoon.
7. I (make, makes) the best lemonade in town!
8. Ralph (earn, earns) money by mowing his neighbor’s lawn.
9. The kids often (swing, swings) at the playground.
10. My house plants (grows, grow) an inch every month.
11. Henry (were, was) in charge of the class party.
12. At lunch time, Rita always (sit, sits) near the windows.
13. They (switch, switches) seats every week.
14. Christopher (has, have) on a striped sweater today.

**FAST FACT**

If the subject of a sentence is singular, the verb must also be singular. If the subject is plural, the verb must be plural. Here’s a secret, though: While a noun that ends in -s is usually plural, a verb that ends in -s is usually singular!
Make It Two!

Write the plural of each singular noun on the line provided. Then write the plurals in the crossword puzzle grid.

ACROSS
3. one banana; many _______________
5. one president; many _______________
8. one subject; many _______________
9. one itch; many _______________
11. one disk; many _______________
14. one tomato; many _______________
17. one television; many _______________

DOWN
1. one plant; many _______________
2. one waitress; many _______________
4. one foot; many _______________
6. one deer; many _______________
7. one note; many _______________
10. one child; many _______________
12. one cookie; many _______________
13. one person; many _______________
15. one key; many _______________
16. one mouse; many _______________

FAST FACT
Some nouns add -s to become plural. Others add -es. Other nouns change completely when they become plural, and still others do not change at all!
**Invisible Nouns**

Use a noun from the box to fill in the blank in each sentence. Then write your answers in the crossword puzzle.

**FAST FACT**

Some nouns name ideas or feelings that you cannot see, hear, smell, or touch. Some examples are happiness, wonder, and justice. These nouns are called abstract nouns.

**ACROSS**

4. Madison has ________________ that the future will be bright.
6. Jack has ________________ in his ability to play soccer.
8. The students had great ________________ for their teacher.
9. For the sake of ________________, Marianne gave each child the same number of cookies.
11. Caroline’s main ________________ after the hurricane was the safety of her neighbors.
12. Josh treats everyone with ________________, so he has many friends.
13. When Grandpa saw what the burglars had done to the house, he was filled with ________________.

**DOWN**

1. Felicia was filled with ________________ when her dog died.
2. My parents fell in ________________ when they were in college.
3. The United States government is a ________________.
5. In the spring, flowers fill the world with ________________.
6. It takes ________________ to give a speech in front of the whole class.
7. Albert Einstein had ________________ but he did not do well in school.
10. The kids know that ________________ is important. They always take turns with their toys.

**Box of Nouns**

- love
- sadness
- beauty
- democracy
- sharing
- hope
- confidence
- respect
- anger
- fairness
- concern
- courage
- intelligence
- kindness
Where's the Action?

Read each sentence and fill in the blank with an action verb from the box. Write the verb in the crossword puzzle.

FAST FACT

An action verb describes activity that happened in the past, is happening now, or will happen in the future.

ACROSS

2. Jeanette __________________________ as she thought of the exciting day ahead of her.
6. Jack __________________________ the homework assignment in his notebook.
7. During the earthquake, the whole house __________________________ .
9. Alexis __________________________ at Courtney's joke.
10. Our basketball team __________________________ the state championship!
11. I am so hungry, I could __________________________ ten pizzas!
13. Chris __________________________ all the way to the top of the tree.
17. The lion __________________________ loudly, surprising the zoo visitors.
18. Victor __________________________ “Fire!” as soon as he saw the flames.

DOWN

1. Samantha __________________________ her team to victory.
3. “I am pleased to __________________________ you,” Jacob said.
4. The teacher __________________________ the writing on the chalk board.
5. Don’t __________________________ the boat; it may tip over!
6. Gregory __________________________ the dog around the block.
8. I __________________________ the envelope as soon as I saw it.
12. Let’s __________________________ a kite today.
15. My book bag weighs at least 15 pounds. It is too heavy to __________________________!
16. Lucas __________________________ his favorite tie on school picture day.
Use a pronoun from the box to fill in the blank in each sentence. You may use some pronouns more than once. Then write the pronouns in the crossword puzzle.

**ACROSS**

2. Look at that flower! _______________ is beautiful.
4. This letter is addressed to my neighbors. It must be _______________.
6. Joanna can’t wait for the class trip. It will be _______________ first visit to a museum.
7. George helped me with the science homework. I helped _______________ with the math problems.
9. Will you join _______________ for a walk? I would enjoy your company.
10. If you don’t hurry, _______________ are going to be late for school.
12. Can you find _______________ way home from here?
16. Our school has two playgrounds. Everyone works to keep _______________ clean.
22. Is this backpack _______________? It has your initials on it.
24. The Smiths took _______________ new puppy for a walk.
25. _______________ jacket is this?

**DOWN**

1. Mike and Rob went to the park because _______________ wanted to play ball.
3. The students have recess after _______________ eat lunch.
5. Amanda loves space, so _______________ wants to become an astronaut.
8. That pen belongs to me. It is _______________.
11. A cat followed Bob and me home. It stayed behind _______________ the whole way!
13. The blue car belongs to our family. The van is _______________, too.
17. Mrs. Miller remembers every solo _______________ daughter sang.
18. I was in a rush, so I asked the waiter to bring _______________ food quickly.
20. Many nutrients of an apple are in _______________ peel.
21. My mom knows me well. _______________ can tell when I’ve had a bad day.
23. My friends and I love to ride bikes. It is _______________ favorite activity.
25. My brother and I hope _______________ both make the soccer team.
**Awesome Adverbs**

Read each sentence and fill in the blank with an adverb from the box. Then write your answers in the crossword puzzle.

**FAST FACT**

An adverb can describe a verb, adjective, or another adverb. Adverbs often answer the questions how, when, where, and to what extent. Many—but not all—adverbs end in -ly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SKILL: Adverbs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACROSS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Hillary ate her soup ____________________ .</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Natasha hit the ball ____________________ and ran to first base.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. David brushed the canvas ____________________ with yellow paint.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. All of the students did very ____________________ on the reading test.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. The twins couldn’t believe their birthday had ____________________ arrived.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. I will sit here; you can sit ____________________ .</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOWN</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Bryan ____________________ agreed to join the game.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. The crickets chirped ____________________ outside the window.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. The tired children walked home from school ____________________ .</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. The cat hissed ____________________ when the dog walked by.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. When I heard the announcer begin to name the winners, I looked up ____________________ .</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Tricia runs ____________________ enough to make the track and field team.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Kyle has ____________________ experienced a snowfall before.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
It's Only Proper

Use a proper adjective from the box to fill in the blank in each sentence. Then write the answers in the puzzle.

SKILL: Proper Adjectives

FAST FACT
A proper adjective is an adjective that forms from a proper noun. For example, a king from England is an English king. A proper adjective uses a capital letter.

Hawaiian  Asian  Amtrak  Atlantic  Nike  Irish  Chinese
Christmas  Arctic  Disney  South  Great  American

ACROSS
1. We took an ______________________ train across the country.
3. Polar bears and snowshoe rabbits are both ______________________ animals.
7. The ______________________ Lakes are located between the United States and Canada.
8. Anthony bought a pair of blue ______________________ sneakers.
10. No one lives at the ______________________ Pole all year long.
11. Japan is an ______________________ country.
12. Sara enjoys watching ______________________ movies.

DOWN
2. They went swimming in the ______________________ Ocean.
3. The ______________________ flag has stars and stripes.
4. The ______________________ New Year is celebrated with parades and fireworks.
5. Mike received many ______________________ presents from his friends.
6. The ______________________ Islands are part of the United States.
9. An ______________________ person is someone from Ireland.
Subject Search

Read each sentence and underline the word that is the simple subject. Write the word in the crossword puzzle.

FAST FACT
The simple subject is the noun or pronoun that tells what or whom the sentence is about.

ACROSS
1. They knew that they were going to be late for the meeting.
2. Teachers have exciting jobs.
4. She owns several rare books.
5. The local newspaper ran an article about helping the environment.
7. My new shoes gave me painful blisters.
8. The tall brown mare guarded her newborn foal.
9. The hot sun scorched the farmer’s crops.
11. Mrs. Edwards’ store closes at 7:30 p.m. on weeknights.
12. It is almost summer time.
13. Cheese is a popular pizza topping.
14. The letter arrived in yesterday’s mail.

DOWN
1. Travis rode the roller coaster four times.
2. The telephone rang loudly.
3. A single star shone in the night sky.
6. Everyone shouted “Surprise!” when Nathan walked in the front door.
8. Beautiful music played while we worked on our projects.
9. Shelly is one of my closest friends.
10. Litter makes the park ugly.
Food Fight!

Work with a partner on this activity. One partner will be the Clue Giver. The other partner will be the Word Giver.

1. The Clue Giver asks the Word Giver for a word to fill in each blank. Fill in all the blanks before reading the story.

2. The Clue Giver reads the story out loud.

One day the students in our class were having a quiet lunch in the _________.

At first everything was going smoothly. The kids were enjoying fried ________, baked ________, and a variety of other tasty treats.

Trouble started when one of the students was carrying her tray to her seat. Her stomach grumbled as she gazed at the ________, ________, and ________ on her tray. A ________ and ________ sitting nearby both looked hungrily at the piping hot lunch. Suddenly, the student tripped on a ________ on the floor, and her tray went flying. A large ________ landed on a ________ who was walking by. “You know what that means!” another student shouted. “Food fight!”

Before long, the kids’ lunches were sailing through the air. A burned ________ plopped down on a _________. A greasy ________ flew out the window and headed for the _________. The food fight continued until a mushy ________ sailed right into the teacher.

“Stop this nonsense,” the teacher cried. “Each one of you is behaving like a _________. Clean up this mess right now or I will send you to the _________.!” Needless to say, that was the end of the food fight!

FAST FACT

Common nouns are general names for people, places, and things. They do not use capital letters. For example: student, home, and apple.
Last night I had a very unusual dream. In my dream, ________ was the principal of our school! One day, the principal announced that we were going on a field trip to _________. Now, I had been to ________ and to ________, but never there!

Believe it or not, my dream got even crazier after that. We rode a ________ all the way to our destination. Once we arrived, we met all kinds of people. I personally saw ________ and ________ and even got ________ to give me an autograph. I will always treasure it!

On the way home, we talked the principal into stopping in ________ and ________. We tried to stop in ________, too, but we ran out of time. Even so, it was the most awesome field trip I had ever been on. Was I ever disappointed when it was time to wake up!
When I saw the flashing lights, I knew right away it was a UFO. It ______ right next to me. The doors opened, and out came ______. The creatures marched toward me and began to speak. “We are from the planet ___________.” they said. “We travel around the Milky Way, stopping only to ________. Tell us about yourself, Earthling.”

I _______ and I _______. I did not know what to say, “My name is ___________,” I began. “I like to _______ and _______. My favorite thing to do is _______ and hang out with my good friend, __________.”

The creatures looked at each other and _______. “Aha,” they said. “Earth is very different from our planet. Come, and we will show you.”

I hopped aboard the UFO and we took off. The creatures and I _______ and _______. They also gave me a delicious __________ to eat.

Finally, we arrived. I could tell we were there when the UFO _______. I stepped outside. I watched as alien creatures _______ and _______.

I was homesick already, without my family and my favorite __________. “Take me home!” I told the aliens. They shrugged and put me back on the UFO—by myself! “Wait” I cried. “I don’t know how to fly this thing!”

The doors closed, and I spied a control panel. I did not know which button to press, so I just _______. Amazingly, the UFO _______ and started its journey back to Earth. It took me _______ days, but I finally made it home.
I See the Future

Work with a partner on this activity. One partner will be the Clue Giver. The other partner will be the Word Giver.

1. The Clue Giver asks the Word Giver for a word to fill in each blank. Fill in all the blanks before reading the story.

2. The Clue Giver reads the story out loud.

What will life on Earth be like 100 years from now? Here’s what I think:

People __________ much less often than they do today, but they __________ at least ten times a day. Children __________ in schools and they __________ in their neighborhoods.

In the United States, most people __________, but in other parts of the world, people __________. People everywhere __________.

In the future, all cars __________ and bikes __________. It will be so much fun! Computers __________, and machines __________.

What will I be doing 100 years from now? Thanks to medical advances, I will still be around. I probably __________, and I definitely __________. But most of all I __________! I can hardly wait!
FAST FACT
Adjectives are words that describe nouns or pronouns. For example: beautiful, sloppy, blue, broken.

One _______ spring afternoon, a _______ student named _______ was playing basketball. The student was wearing the latest fashion: _______ pants and a very _______ shirt.

The student threw the ball toward the basket, but it bounced into the woods. “I guess I’ll have to chase it.” The student ran to get the basketball but it was nowhere in sight. Instead, there was a _______ _______ bottle with a _______ _______ lid propped beneath a tree.

The student opened the bottle cautiously. Out popped a _______ _______ genie wearing a strange _______ outfit!

“Finally!” said the genie as he glanced at the _______ _______ watch on his wrist. “It’s about time someone let me out of this bottle. I only have time for one wish. So make it snappy.”

The student thought. What would be the best wish? To be a _______ _______ superstar? To have some really _______ _______ toys? Finally, the student thought of the perfect wish and told the genie.

“Whatever,” said the genie as he snapped his fingers. And just like that, the wish came true. The student became a _______ _______, _______ _______ _______, and never forgot that _______ _______ day in the forest.
A Parts-of-Speech Circus

Work with a partner on this activity. One partner will be the Clue Giver. The other partner will be the Word Giver.

1. The Clue Giver asks the Word Giver for a word to fill in each blank. Fill in all the blanks before reading the story.

2. The Clue Giver reads the story out loud.

Last week, the circus came to our town. It was set up near the old ______________________. I wasn’t planning to go, but ______________________ and _____________________ talked me into it. They were dying to see the ______________________ and the ______________________. When we arrived, we were starving, so we got in line to buy some snacks. I ate the ______________________, and my friends ate the ______________________. Then the show began. The ringmaster __________ announced the first act. Then ______________________ came out and started to ______________________. When the act was over, everyone began to __________________________________. Later in the show, we saw a ______________________ who could __________________________________. The best part of the show was the last act, when a ______________________ on top of a ______________________! We ran into ______________________ and ______________________. They were carrying a ______________________ that they had bought as a souvenir. They said they loved the show, too!

FAST FACT
A noun is a person, place or thing (Mr. Simpson, Ohio, banana). A verb tells the action in the sentence (lifts, dances, sees). An adjective describes a noun (blue, nice, smart). An adverb usually describes a verb (quickly, happily, wildly).
A Pet Adventure

This adventure story is missing its adverbs! Fill in the blanks in the story with adverbs from the box below. When you are finished, put the numbered letters in the correct order and get the secret message.

My neighbors asked me to watch their dog, Sophie. I __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ needed the money, so I took the job. Sophie barked __ __ __ __ __ __ and gave me a big kiss. I took her by the leash and waved good-bye.

Trouble began when she chewed off her leash and ran __ __ __ __ __ __ down the street. When I caught her, she was licking someone’s ice cream cone! Then she __ __ __ __ __ __ ran across the street. I followed __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ behind her.

Sophie stopped at the park. There, she __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ made some new friends, leaped __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ into the air to grab their Frisbee, and greeted a man who was feeding the squirrels.

We were invited to a picnic and ate __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __. Then I __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ realized it was time to go. We __ __ __ __ __ __ said good-bye, and got home minutes before Sophie’s owners. They saw her sitting __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ by the door and exclaimed. “Sophie’s so good for you. Are you available next week?”

Now use the circled letters to decode the message:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

3 4 7 1 9 12 10

FAST FACT

Adverbs can describe verbs, adjectives, or even other adverbs. They usually answer the questions how, when, or where. They often end in the letters -ly.
Last summer, I went ____ ____ 1 Space Camp! I went for three days, ____ ____  ____ 4 a Monday to a Wednesday. On the first day, I got to try on a space suit just like the ones worn by real astronauts. It had an American flag ____ ____ the front and all kinds of special equipment built into it. It even had a device to control the temperature inside the suit.

____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ 5 this equipment, astronauts could not survive ____ ____ space.

The next day, I got to taste astronaut food. I especially liked the freeze-dried ice cream. In fact, all of the kids at Space Camp (____ ____  ____ 7 for one or two) thought the ice cream was the best.

Finally, I got to go ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ a special anti-gravity chamber. It was invented ____ ____ 10 scientists to give astronauts an idea of what it’s like to be weightless in outer space. While I was floating inside the chamber, I imagined that I was traveling far ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ the Earth. Wow!

Before I knew it, it was time to head home. But before I left, I got to meet a real-life astronaut. She sat down ____ ____ ____ ____ all the campers and told us ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ her job. She sat ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ me, so I even got an autograph! Now I don’t just think I want to be an astronaut. I know for sure!

Now use the numbered letters to decode the message:

3 6 11 7 12 2 1 3 10 1 5 3

9 3 6 13 4 8

SKILL: Prepositions

FAST FACT

Prepositions usually tell where something is, where something is going, or when something is happening.
This story is missing its conjunctions! Fill in the blanks in the story with conjunctions from the box below. When you are finished, put the numbered letters in the correct order and get the secret message.

FAST FACT
Conjunctions are linking words. They join words, phrases, clauses, and sentences together.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>and</th>
<th>or</th>
<th>yet</th>
<th>if</th>
<th>since</th>
<th>before</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>but</td>
<td>nor</td>
<td>so</td>
<td>until</td>
<td>because</td>
<td>once</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The day we moved into our new house, the weather was rainy ___ ___ ___ cold.

___ ___ ___ ___ I could not play outside, I decided to explore the attic. It was mostly empty, ___ ___ ___ a few dusty boxes sat in the corner, belonging to the previous owners ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ my family had not come up here yet.

I began to look through one of the boxes filled with papers that looked old and fragile, ___ ___ I was careful. I uncovered an old map and recognized our neighborhood. It showed a large "X" near the lake, at the end of our road. "Hmmmm," I thought to myself. "X" marks the spot." For a chest full of gold ___ ___ a priceless piece of jewelry? I could hardly wait to find out!

Luckily the next day was sunny. ___ ___ ___ ___ I finished breakfast, I set out to search for the spot marked on my map. ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ I had gotten very far, I heard a voice say, "I'm Kate. You must be the new kid." I said "hello." I didn't want Kate to think I was silly. ___ ___ ___ I knew she might be a big help so I showed her my map. Soon both of us were having a great time.

We found plenty of garbage, and may never know ___ ___ there is treasure by the lake, but I have a new pal!

Now use the circled letters to decode the message:

```
8 6 10 7 1 2 3 5 6 7
9 6 7 5 3 4 6 7 3
```
Dear Aunt Linda,

___ ___ ___ ___ ___ there! I just got the train set you sent for my birthday.

___ 1 2 3 ___ ___! I really love it. It has eight cars and a long, curving track.

___ ___ ___! It has to be the nicest train set I've ever seen.

It took me about three hours to put the set together (with mom's help). ___ ___ ___ ___!

It sure was hard work! But when I was finally finished, I was very excited. I invited my best friend, Tim, over to take a look. Tim loves trains as much as I do. When he saw it, he shouted, “___ ___ ___ 4 ___ ___ ___ ___!” Tim and I played with the trains for a while. Then Tim’s brother, Lou, came over, and we had to put the set away. That’s because Lou tried to play with the track and almost broke it. I said, “___ ___ ___!” Please be careful with that!

I hear my mom calling me for dinner, so I will wrap up this letter. We are having liver and lima beans. ___ ___ ___ ___! I hope you are having something tastier!

I will talk to you soon!

Love,

Daniel

P.S.: ___ ___ ___ ___! I almost forgot to tell you that my first soccer game of the season will be this Saturday morning!

Now use the numbered letters to decode the message:

3 5 1 6 9 2 5 4 1 7 8!
To Be or Not to Be?

This story is missing some of its verbs! Fill in the blanks in the story with verbs from the box below. All of the verbs are forms of the verb “to be.” When you are finished, put the numbered letters in the correct order and get the secret message.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It ___ ___ quite an honor to stand before you this evening and accept this award. I am thrilled to ___ ___ named the Inventor of the Year. Believe it or not, just a few years ago I ___ ___ ___ a poor, unknown inventor with plenty of ideas but no money to make them happen. Today, I ___ ___ a big success, all thanks to my famous Two-In-One Dental Floss and Fishing Line. If it ___ ___ ___ ___ not for this amazing device, I might still be dreaming away in my basement workshop.

As I accept my award, I’d like to thank some special people in my life. They ___ ___ ___ ___ my parents and my fifth-grade science teacher, Mrs. C. A. Labrat. To all three of them, I say, “Thanks for ___ ___ ___ ___ there for me!” And to all of you in the audience, I say that I have never ___ ___ ___ ___ happier or more proud than I am tonight.

Now use the numbered letters to decode the message:

2 6 3 4 1 7 7 8 5

is am are was were be being been

SKILL: The Verb “To Be”

FAST FACT

The verb “to be” is the most frequently used verb in the English language. Eight different words are part of the verb “to be.”
A Capital Idea

Look at each set of sentences. Fill in the circle next to the sentence that uses capital letters properly. When you are finished, use the letters of your answers to solve the riddle at the end.

1.  □  A. The Statue of Liberty is in new york, New York.
    □  B. The Statue of Liberty is in New York, New York.
    □  C. The statue of liberty is in new york, new york.
    □  D. the Statue of Liberty is in New York, New York.

2.  □  E. George Washington was america’s first president.
    □  F. George Washington was America’s first president.
    □  G. George Washington Was America’s First President.
    □  H. George washington was america’s first president.

3.  □  I. Many creatures live in the Pacific Ocean.
    □  J. Many creatures live in the pacific ocean.
    □  K. Many creatures live in the Pacific ocean.
    □  L. Many Creatures live in the Pacific Ocean.

4.  □  M. My cat’s Name is Lady.
    □  N. My cat’s name is Lady.
    □  O. My Cat’s name is Lady.
    □  P. My cat’s name is lady.

5.  □  Q. Where are you celebrating thanksgiving this year?
    □  R. where are you celebrating Thanksgiving this year?
    □  S. Where are you celebrating Thanksgiving this year?
    □  T. Where are you celebrating Thanksgiving this Year?

6.  □  U. he and I both go to school with karen.
    □  V. He and I both go to School with Karen.
    □  W. He and I both go to school with Karen.
    □  X. He and i both go to school with Karen.

FAST FACT

Capital or upper case letters are used to begin proper nouns, to begin sentences, for the personal pronoun I, and in many abbreviations.
Now solve the riddle! Each number below stands for one of the questions. Write the letter of the correct answer above each number. You will spell out the answer to this riddle:

Where does a polar bear keep its money?

3 4 7 12 4 11 6 1 7 4 10!
Whose Is It?

Look at each set of sentences. Fill in the circle next to the sentence that uses possessive nouns properly. When you are finished, use the letters of your answers to solve the riddle at the end.

1.  ○ A. The cats's fur was matted from the rain.  
       ○ B. The c'ats fur was matted from the rain.  
       ○ C. The cats fur was matted from the rain.  
       ○ D. The cat's fur was matted from the rain.

2.  ○ E. The churchs door is made of thick wood.  
       ○ F. The churches door is made of thick wood.  
       ○ G. The church's door is made of thick wood.  
       ○ H. The churches's door is made of thick wood.

3.  ○ I. We're going over to Juan's house.  
       ○ J. We're going over to Juans house.  
       ○ K. We're going over to Juan house.  
       ○ L. We're going over to Juans's house.

4.  ○ M. The childrens toys were all over the floor.  
       ○ N. The children's toys were all over the floor.  
       ○ O. The children's toys were all over the floor.  
       ○ P. The children toys' were all over the floor.

5.  ○ Q. Our classes field trip will be next Thursday.  
       ○ R. Our class's field trip will be next Thursday.  
       ○ S. Our class's field trip will be next Thursday.  
       ○ T. Our class' field trip will be next Thursday.

6.  ○ U. The Smiths's driveway is very long.  
       ○ V. The Smiths' driveway is very long.  
       ○ W. The Smithses driveway is very long.  
       ○ X. The Smiths driveway is very long.

7.  ○ Y. The doll's dress is as beautiful as Margarets own outfit.  
       ○ Z. The dolls' dress is as beautiful as Margaret's own outfit.  
       ○ A. The doll's dress is as beautiful as Margaret's own outfit.  
       ○ B. The dolls dress is as beautiful as Margaret's own outfit.

FAST FACT

A possessive noun shows ownership. Most singular nouns become possessive by adding '-s'. Most plural nouns ending in -s become possessive by adding an apostrophe after the -s.
8. C. Bailey’s phone number is easy to remember.
D. Baile’y’s phone number is easy to remember.
E. Baileys phone number is easy to remember.
F. Baileys’s phone number is easy to remember.

9. G. Our store’s motto is, “The customers needs come first.”
H. Our store’s motto is, “The customers’s needs come first.”
I. Our store’s motto is, “The customers’ needs come first.”
J. Our stores motto is, “The customers’ needs come first.”

10. K. My brothers jacket is too big for me.
L. My brother’ jacket is too big for me.
M. My brothers’s jacket is too big for me.
N. My brother’s jacket is too big for me.

11. O. I’d like to have a pen like Michelle’s.
P. I’d like to have a pen like Michelles.
Q. I’d like to have a pen like Michelle’s.
R. I’d like to have a pen like Michelles’s.

12. S. Johns and Erics reports were both excellent.
T. John’s and Eric’s reports were both excellent.
U. John’s’ and Eric’s’ reports were both excellent.
V. Johns’ and Eric’s reports were both excellent.

13. W. Nora’s goal improved her teams’ chances of winning.
X. Noras goal improved her team’s chances of winning.
Y. Nora’s goal improved her team’s chances of winning.
Z. Noras goal improved her teams chances of winning.

Now solve the riddle! Each number below stands for one of the questions. Write the letter of the correct answer above each number. You will spell out the answer to this riddle:

Where does afternoon come before morning?
Look at each set of sentences. Fill in the circle next to the sentence that uses the words a, an, and the properly. When you are finished, use the letters of your answers to solve the riddle at the end.

1.  ○ A. I always carry umbrella in my backpack.  
    ○ B. I always carry a umbrella in my backpack.  
    ○ C. I always carry an umbrella in my backpack.  
    ○ D. I always carry an a umbrella in my backpack.

2.  ○ E. My birthday is an last day of May.  
    ○ F. My birthday is a last day of May.  
    ○ G. My birthday is last day of May.  
    ○ H. My birthday is the last day of May.

3.  ○ I. France is a country in Europe.  
    ○ J. France is an country in Europe.  
    ○ K. France is country in Europe.  
    ○ L. France is the country in Europe.

4.  ○ M. Marcus packed sandwich and an apple for lunch.  
    ○ N. Marcus packed a sandwich and a apple for lunch.  
    ○ O. Marcus packed a sandwich and an apple for lunch.  
    ○ P. Marcus packed an sandwich and a apple for lunch.

5.  ○ Q. My balloon rose into an sky.  
    ○ R. My balloon rose into a the sky.  
    ○ S. My balloon rose into sky.  
    ○ T. My balloon rose into the sky.

6.  ○ U. Our car got the flat tire on highway.  
    ○ V. Our car got a flat tire on the highway.  
    ○ W. Our car got an flat tire on the highway.  
    ○ X. Our car got flat tire on a highway.

FAST FACT

The words a, an, and the often come before nouns. Use the in front of a specific noun. For example: This is the bike I want. Use a and an in front of non-specific nouns. Use a in front of nouns that start with consonants and an in front of nouns that start with vowels. For example: I’d rather have a bike than an automobile.
7. Y. Toby’s coat has an hood and a zipper.
   Z. Toby’s coat has a hood and an zipper.
   A. Toby’s coat has a hood and a zipper.
   B. Toby’s coat has hood and a zipper.

8. C. I always try to sit in an front of the bus.
   D. I always try to sit in the front of an bus.
   E. I always try to sit in the front of the bus.
   F. I always try to sit in a front of the bus.

9. G. A sun is supposed to come out later.
   H. The sun is supposed to come out later.
   I. An sun is supposed to come out later.
   J. A the sun is supposed to come out later.

10. K. I must read a story and study for a exam.
      L. I must read story and study for an exam.
       M. I must read a story and study for an exam.
       N. I must read an story and study for an exam.

11. O. They say an apple a day keeps the doctor away.
       P. They say a apple a day keeps the doctor away.
       Q. They say an apple a day keeps an doctor away.
       R. They say a apple an day keeps the doctor away.

       T. The Smiths went hiking in a Rocky Mountains.
       U. A Smiths went hiking in the Rocky Mountains.
       V. The Smiths went hiking in an Rocky Mountains.

Now solve the riddle! Each number below stands for one of the questions. Write the letter of the correct answer above each number. You will spell out the answer to this riddle:

Where does a cow go in its free time?

5 4 5 2 8 10 4 11 - 6 3 8 12!
Using Contractions

Look at each set of sentences. Fill in the circle next to the sentence that uses contractions properly. When you are finished, use the letters of your answers to solve the riddle at the end.

1. A. W'll see you tomorrow.
   B. Well see you tomorrow.
   C. We'll see you tomorrow.
   D. Wel'l see you tomorrow.

2. E. Id like to see a movie this weekend.
   F. lw'd like to see a movie this weekend.
   G. 'Id like to see a movie this weekend.
   H. I'd like to see a movie this weekend.

3. I. Ling knew she needed glasses when she cou'ldnt see the board.
   J. Ling knew she needed glasses when she couldnt see the board.
   K. Ling knew she needed glasses when she couldn't see the board.
   L. Ling knew she needed glasses when she couldn't see the board.

4. M. Dad said hed pick me up after school.
   N. Dad said he'd pick me up after school.
   O. Dad said h'ed pick me up after school.
   P. Dad said hed' pick me up after school.

5. Q. Joseph cant have a dog because he's allergic to fur.
   R. Joseph can't have a dog because hes allergic to fur.
   S. Joseph ca'nt have a dog because h'es allergic to fur.
   T. Joseph can't have a dog because he's allergic to fur.

6. U. Sandy is my sister, but she's also my best friend.
   V. Sandy is my sister, but sh'es also my best friend.
   W. Sandy is my sister, but shes also my best friend.
   X. Sandy is my sister, but sh's also my best friend.

**FAST FACT**

A contraction is formed by putting two words together and leaving out some letters. An apostrophe takes the place of the missing letters.
7.  
   - Y. I'll play basketball after dinner.
   - Z. I'll play basketball after dinner.
   - A. I'll play basketball after dinner.
   - B. I'll play basketball after dinner.

8.  
   - C. We tried to move the boulder, but it wouldn't budge.
   - D. We tried to move the boulder, but it wouldn't budge.
   - E. We tried to move the boulder, but it wouldn't budge.
   - F. We tried to move the boulder, but it wouldn't budge.

9.  
   - G. My grandparents said they'd visit, but they didn't say when.
   - H. My grandparents said they'd visit, but they didn't say when.
   - I. My grandparents said they'd visit, but they didn't say when.
   - J. My grandparents said they'd visit, but they didn't say when.

10. 
    - K. I've always wanted to travel around the world.
    - L. I've always wanted to travel around the world.
    - M. I've always wanted to travel around the world.
    - N. I've always wanted to travel around the world.

11. 
    - O. Don't forget to bring a jacket!
    - P. Don't forget to bring a jacket!
    - Q. Don't forget to bring a jacket!
    - R. Don't forget to bring a jacket!

12.  
    - S. Let's ask the librarian for help finding the book.
    - T. Let's ask the librarian for help finding the book.
    - U. Let's ask the librarian for help finding the book.
    - V. Let's ask the librarian for help finding the book.

Now solve the riddle! Each number below stands for one of the questions. Write the letter of the correct answer above each number. You will spell out the answer to this riddle:

When is an astronaut's favorite time to eat?

3  7  6  4  1  2  5  9  10  8
Look at each set of sentences. Fill in the circle next to the sentence in which the subject and verb agree. When you are finished, use the letters of your answers to solve the riddle at the end.

1.  
   - A. Janine plays in the school band.  
   - B. Janine play in the school band.  
   - C. Janine were playing in the school band.  
   - D. Janine are playing in the school band.

2.  
   - E. I lives about six blocks from Sam’s apartment building.  
   - F. I live about six blocks from Sam’s apartment building.  
   - G. I are living about six blocks from Sam’s apartment building.  
   - H. I is living about six blocks from Sam’s apartment building.

3.  
   - I. That book is one of my sister’s favorites.  
   - J. That book are one of my sister’s favorites.  
   - K. That book am one of my sister’s favorites.  
   - L. That book were one of my sister’s favorites.

4.  
   - M. Mirtha’s favorite topics is birds and plants.  
   - N. Mirtha’s favorite topics was birds and plants.  
   - O. Mirtha’s favorite topics are birds and plants.  
   - P. Mirtha’s favorite topics am birds and plants.

5.  
   - Q. Dogs love water, but cats hates it.  
   - R. Dogs love water, but cats hate it.  
   - S. Dogs loves water, but cats hates it.  
   - T. Dogs loves water, but cats hate it.

6.  
   - U. A tornado strike our area once every few years.  
   - V. A tornado strikes our area once every few years.  
   - W. Tornadoes strikes our area once every few years.  
   - X. Tornadoes is striking our area once every few years.

**FAST FACT**

If the subject of a sentence is singular, the verb must also be singular. If the subject is plural, the verb must be plural.
7.  
- Y. Owen am bringing chips and salsa to the party.
- Z. Owen are bringing chips and salsa to the party.
- A. Owen is bringing chips and salsa to the party.
- B. Owen bringing chips and salsa to the party.

8.  
- C. The Philadelphia Eagles has a talented coach.
- D. The Philadelphia Eagle have a talented coach.
- E. The Philadelphia Eagles have a talented coach.
- F. The Philadelphia Eagles has had a talented coach.

9.  
- G. Benjamin and Matthew goes to the same swim club.
- H. Benjamin and Matthew is going to the same swim club.
- I. Benjamin and Matthew go to the same swim club.
- J. Benjamin and Matthew am going to the same swim club.

10.  
- K. Traffic on the highway have been backed up for five miles.
- L. Traffic on the highway is backed up for five miles.
- M. Traffic on the highway are backed up for five miles.
- N. Traffic on the highway am backed up for five miles.

11.  
- O. My aunt knows a lot about current events because she am a reporter.
- P. My aunt knows a lot about current events because she are a reporter.
- Q. My aunt know a lot about current events because she is a reporter.
- R. My aunt knows a lot about current events because she is a reporter.

12.  
- S. The cafeteria often run out of ice cream, and the students get disappointed.
- T. The cafeteria often runs out of ice cream, and the students gets disappointed.
- U. The cafeteria often run out of ice cream, and the students gets disappointed.
- V. The cafeteria often runs out of ice cream, and the students get disappointed.

Now solve the riddle! Each number below stands for one of the questions. Write the letter of the correct answer above each number. You will spell out the answer to this riddle:

What has a mouth but cannot smile?

___  ___  ___  ___  ___
Is It a Sentence?

Look at each set of answers. Fill in the circle next to the answer that is a complete sentence. When you are finished, use the letters of your answers to solve the riddle at the end.

1.  
   A. Chicken for dinner.  
   B. We are having chicken for dinner.  
   C. Having chicken for dinner.  
   D. We chicken for dinner.

2.  
   E. Did the mail arrive yet?  
   F. The mail?  
   G. Mail yet?  
   H. Did arrive yet?

3.  
   I. The park opens at seven o’clock in the morning.  
   J. At seven o’clock in the morning.  
   K. The park at seven o’clock in the morning.  
   L. At seven o’clock in the morning, the park.

4.  
   M. Enough apples to make an apple pie.  
   N. We picked enough apples to make an apple pie.  
   O. Picked enough apples to make an apple pie.  
   P. We apples to make an apple pie.

5.  
   Q. A new CD.  
   R. Got a new CD for her birthday.  
   S. Lori a new CD for her birthday.  
   T. Lori got a new CD for her birthday.

6.  
   U. Please close the door behind you.  
   V. The door behind you.  
   W. The door behind you, please.  
   X. Behind you.

FAST FACT

A sentence must have a subject and a verb. In a command, the subject is understood to be “you.” For example: (You) Answer the phone, please!
7. Y. Since the weather is so nice.
   Z. The window.
   A. Let’s open the window, since the weather is so nice.
   B. The window, since the weather is so nice.

8. C. How to play softball at summer camp.
   D. Kelly learned how to play softball at summer camp.
   E. Kelly how to play softball at summer camp.
   F. To play softball.

9. G. Which movie would you like to see?
   H. Which movie?
   I. Like to see?
   J. Which movie would like to see?

10. K. Mr. Finley a math teacher for fourteen years.
     L. A math teacher for fourteen years.
     M. For fourteen years, Mr. Finley.
     N. Mr. Finley has been a math teacher for fourteen years.

11. O. Filled the sky just before noon.
     P. Just before noon, dark clouds.
     Q. Just before noon.
     R. Just before noon, dark clouds filled the sky.

12. S. Natalie, who already knows French.
     T. Natalie, who already knows French, plans to study Spanish next year.
     U. Natalie to study Spanish next year.
     V. To study Spanish next year.

Now solve the riddle! Each number below stands for one of the questions. Write the letter of the correct answer above each number. You will spell out the answer to this riddle:

What do grizzlies do when they are having a bad day?

9 11 3 4 7 10 8 1 2 7 11 3 12
Be a Comma Cop!

Look at each set of sentences. Fill in the circle next to the sentence that uses commas properly. When you are finished, use the letters of your answers to solve the riddle at the end.

1.  
   A. I’d like a hamburger, salad, and milk for supper.  
   B. I’d like a hamburger salad and milk for supper.  
   C. I’d like a hamburger salad and, milk for supper.  
   D. I’d like, a hamburger, salad, and milk for supper.

2.  
   E. Louisa has a pair of red white and blue shorts.  
   F. Louisa has a pair, of red, white and blue shorts.  
   G. Louisa has a pair of red, white, and blue shorts.  
   H. Louisa has a pair of red white, and blue, shorts.

3.  
   I. The shopkeeper said “Everything is on sale.”  
   J. The, shopkeeper said, “Everything is on sale.”  
   K. The shopkeeper said “Everything, is, on sale.”  
   L. The shopkeeper said, “Everything is on sale.”

4.  
   M. I was born on May 23 1991.  
   N. I was, born on May 23, 1991.  
   O. I was born on May, 23, 1991.  
   P. I was born on May 23, 1991.

5.  
   Q. My favorite cousins live in, Los Angeles California.  
   R. My favorite cousins, live, in Los Angeles, California.  
   S. My favorite cousins live in Los Angeles California.  
   T. My favorite cousins live in Los Angeles, California.

6.  
   U. The cake smelled delicious, which made the children hungry.  
   V. The cake smelled delicious which made the children hungry.  
   W. The cake smelled delicious which made the children, hungry.  
   X. The cake smelled delicious which, made the children hungry.

FAST FACT
Commas are used to separate items in a list, to separate a quotation from the rest of the sentence, to separate a city from a state or country, to separate the month and day from the year, and to separate clauses in a sentence.
7. (Y) Grown-ups, kids, and animals all enjoyed the good weather.
   (Z) Grown-ups, kids, and animals, all enjoyed the good weather.
   (A) Grown-ups kids and animals all enjoyed the good weather.
   (B) Grown-ups kids, and animals all enjoyed the good weather.

8. (C) The next century will begin on January 1 2100.
   (D) The next century will begin on January 1, 2100.
   (E) The next century will begin on January 1 2100.
   (F) The next century will begin on January, 1, 2100.

9. (G) My chores are to make my bed clean my room and set the table for dinner.
   (H) My chores are to make my bed, clean my room and set the table for dinner.
   (I) My chores are to make my bed, clean my room, and set the table for dinner.
   (J) My chores are to make my bed clean my room and set the table for dinner.

10. (K) Mr. Linnett, the principal of our school, is very funny.
    (L) Mr. Linnett the principal of our school is very funny.
    (M) Mr. Linnett the principal of our school is very funny.
    (N) Mr. Linnett, the principal of our school is, very funny.

11. (O) Brett wanted to be here, today but he has the flu.
    (P) Brett wanted to be here today, but he has the flu.
    (Q) Brett wanted to be here today, but, he has the flu.
    (R) Brett wanted, to be here today but he has the flu.

12. (S) Grandma grew up in Bismarck, North Dakota.
    (T) Grandma grew up in Bismarck North Dakota.
    (U) Grandma grew up in Bismarck North, Dakota.
    (V) Grandma grew up in, Bismarck North Dakota.

Now solve the riddle! Each number below stands for one of the questions. Write the letter of the correct answer above each number. You will spell out the answer to this riddle:

What flowers have big mouths?

5 6 3 9 11 12

53
Look at each set of sentences. Fill in the circle next to the sentence that is punctuated properly. When you are finished, use the letters of your answers to solve the riddle at the end.

1. ○ A. We stayed at the park for one hour.
   ○ B. We stayed at the park for one hour.
   ○ C. We stayed at the park for one hour?
   ○ D. We stayed at the park for one hour

2. ○ E. Help! There’s a fire!
   ○ F. Help. There’s a fire.
   ○ G. Help. There’s a fire?
   ○ H. Help! There’s a fire

3. ○ I. Do you know the capital of California.
   ○ J. Do you know the capital of California!
   ○ K. Do you know the capital of California?
   ○ L. Do you know the capital of California

   ○ N. Is Francine home sick today!
   ○ O. Is Francine home sick today
   ○ P. Is Francine home sick today?

5. ○ Q. My name is Colin?
   ○ R. My name is Colin.
   ○ S. My name is. Colin
   ○ T. My name is Colin!

   ○ V. Marigolds need a lot of sun
   ○ W. Marigolds need a lot of sun.
   ○ X. Marigolds need a lot of sun.

FAST FACT

A statement ends in a period. (.) A question ends in a question mark. (?) A strong command or an exclamation ends in an exclamation point. (!)
7. 〇 Y. Stop, thief?
    〇 Z. Stop, thief
    〇 A. Stop, thief!
    〇 B. Stop, thief.

8. 〇 C. Wearing sunscreen protects your skin from dangerous rays
    〇 D. Wearing sunscreen protects your skin from dangerous rays
    〇 E. Wearing sunscreen protects your skin from dangerous rays.
    〇 F. Wearing sunscreen protects your skin from dangerous rays?

9. 〇 G. What time will the next train depart?
    〇 H. What time will the next train depart
    〇 I. What time will the next train depart!
    〇 J. What time will the next train depart.

10. 〇 K. Zachary rides a green mountain bike
    〇 L. Zachary rides a green mountain bike.
    〇 M. Zachary rides a green mountain bike,?
    〇 N. Zachary rides a green mountain bike:

11. 〇 O. I just won a million dollars
    〇 P. I just won a million dollars,
    〇 Q. I just won a million dollars.?
    〇 R. I just won a million dollars!

12. 〇 S. Would you like to share a snack
    〇 T. Would you like to share a snack?
    〇 U. Would you like to share a snack!
    〇 V. Would you like to share a snack.

Now solve the riddle! Each number below stands for one of the questions. Write the letter of the correct answer above each number. You will spell out the answer to this riddle:

Who gets paid for loafing around?

7 1 7 3 8 11
Quotation Location

Look at each set of sentences. Fill in the circle next to the sentence that uses quotation marks properly. When you are finished, use the letters of your answers to solve the riddle at the end.

1.  ○ A. “Please open the letter, said Jeffrey.”
    ○ B. “Please open the letter, said Jeffrey.
    ○ C. “Please open the letter,” said Jeffrey.
    ○ D. Please open the letter, said Jeffrey.”

2.  ○ E. Our national anthem is The Star-Spangled Banner.
    ○ F. Our national anthem is “The Star-Spangled Banner.
    ○ G. Our national anthem is The Star-Spangled Banner.”
    ○ H. Our national anthem is “The Star-Spangled Banner.”

3.  ○ I. “I was on TV!” Lucy exclaimed.
    ○ J. “I was on TV! Lucy exclaimed.”
    ○ K. I was on TV! Lucy exclaimed.
    ○ L. “I was on TV! Lucy exclaimed.

    ○ N. The umpire shouted, “You’re out!”
    ○ O. The umpire shouted, You’re out!
    ○ P. “The umpire shouted, You’re out!”

5.  ○ Q. Chapter 4 is called A New Beginning.
    ○ R. “Chapter 4” is called A New Beginning.
    ○ S. Chapter 4 is called A New Beginning.”
    ○ T. Chapter 4 is called “A New Beginning.”

    ○ V. Will you join me for lunch? Gil asked.
    ○ W. “Will you join me for lunch?” Gil asked.
    ○ X. “Will you join me for lunch? Gil asked.”

FAST FACT

Quotation marks go around a person’s exact words. They also set apart the titles of songs and poems and the titles of chapters in books. Quotation marks always come in pairs.
7.  
   ○ Y.  “Check the card catalog, the librarian suggested.
   ○ Z.  Check the card catalog the librarian suggested.
   ○ A.  “Check the card catalog,” the librarian suggested.
   ○ B.  “Check the card catalog, the librarian suggested.”

8.  
   ○ C.  Jody’s favorite saying is, Live and let live.”
   ○ D.  Jody’s favorite saying is, Live and let live.
   ○ E.  Jody’s favorite saying is, “Live and let live.”
   ○ F.  “Jody’s favorite saying is, Live and let live.”

9.  
   ○ G.  The poem is called, “The Hilltop.”
   ○ H.  The poem is called The Hilltop.
   ○ I.  The poem is called, The Hilltop.
   ○ J.  The poem is called, The Hilltop.”

10.  
    ○ K.  The clerk asked may I help you find something?
    ○ L.  The clerk asked, May I help you find something?
    ○ M.  The clerk asked, “May I help you find something?”
    ○ N.  The clerk asked, “May I help you find something?”

11.  
    ○ O.  I pledge allegiance to the flag, the class recited.
    ○ P.  “I pledge allegiance to the flag,” the class recited.
    ○ Q.  “I pledge allegiance to the flag, the class recited.
    ○ R.  “I pledge allegiance to the flag, the class recited.”

12.  
    ○ S.  Donald asked, “What time is it?” and Lora answered, Ten thirty.
    ○ T.  Donald asked, What time is it? and Lora answered, Ten thirty.
    ○ U.  Donald asked, “What time is it? and Lora answered, Ten thirty.”
    ○ V.  Donald asked, “What time is it?” and Lora answered, “Ten thirty.”

Now solve the riddle! Each number below stands for one of the questions. Write the letter of the correct answer above each number. You will spell out the answer to this riddle:

What animal always wins at a game of cards?

```
7  1  2  8  8  5  7  2
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WORD SEARCH PUZZLES

Noun Hunt (page 9)

Verbs Help Out (page 11)

Find the Verb (page 10)

Good, Better, Best (page 12)
In the Past (page 17)

1. I slept; 2. She turned; 3. We decided; 4. Stephan drew; 5. I won; 6. Rachel nodded; 7. They drove; 8. The nurse examined; 9. Everyone danced; 10. I dared you to watch the scary movie; 11. We did.

Pick a Preposition (page 18)

1. below; 2. without; 3. toward; 4. despite; 5. except; 6. throughout; 7. to; 8. onto; 9. on; 10. near.

Create a Word (page 19)

1. footprint; 2. teardrops; 3. sunshine; 4. earthquake; 5. eyelid; 6. doorknob; 7. baseball; 8. lifetime; 9. eggshell; 10. lighthouse; 11. earring.

Which One (Won) Is It? (page 20)

1. aunt; 2. too; 3. one; 4. eight; 5. threw; 6. week; 7. know; 8. weigh; 9. heard; 10. deer; 11. right; 12. Their; 13. rows; 14. sore.
Do They Agree? (page 21)

**CROSSWORD PUZZLES**

**Make It Two!** (page 22)

**Invisible Nouns** (page 23)

**Where's the Action?** (page 24)

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Pronoun Magic (page 25)

**DOWN:**
1. they
3. they
5. she
8. mine
11. us
13. ours
17. her
18. my
20. its
21. she
23. our

**ACROSS:**
2. it
4. theirs
6. her
7. him
9. me
10. you
12. your
16. them
19. his
22. yours
24. their
25. whose

Awesome Adverbs (page 26)

**DOWN:**
1. happily
2. loudly
3. slowly
5. angrily
7. hopefully
9. fast
10. never

**ACROSS:**
1. hungrily
4. hard
6. lightly
8. well
9. finally
11. there

It's Only Proper (page 27)

**DOWN:**
2. Atlantic
3. American
4. Chinese
5. Christmas
6. Hawaiian
9. Irish

**ACROSS:**
1. Amtrak
3. Arctic
7. Great
8. Nike
10. South
11. Asian
12. Disney

Subject Search (page 28)

**DOWN:**
1. Travis
2. telephone
3. star
6. everyone
8. music
9. Shelly
10. Litter

**ACROSS:**
1. they
2. teachers
4. she
5. newspaper
7. shoes
8. mare
9. sun
11. store
13. cheese
PARTNER STORIES

Food Fight! (page 29): Answers will vary.

The Strangest Field Trip Ever (page 30): Answers will vary.

Alien Adventure (page 31): Answers will vary.

I See the Future! (page 32): Answers will vary.

Say It With Adjectives (page 33): Answers will vary.

A Parts-of-Speech Circus (page 34): Answers will vary.

CRACK-THE-CODE STORIES

Answers are listed in the order they appear in the stories.

A Pet Adventure (page 35): desperately, loudly, wildly, fearlessly, breathlessly, quickly, high, hungrily, suddenly, sadly, innocently.
Message: Be kind to furry friends.

Prepositions Show Position (page 36): to, from, on, without, in, except, inside, by, above, with, about, near. Message: Reach for your dreams.

A Conjunction’s Function (page 37): and, since, but, because, so, or, once, before, yet, if. Message: Friends are treasures.


To Be or Not To Be (page 39): is, be, was, am, were, are, being, been. Message: Be a winner.

RIDDLE BUBBLE TESTS

Riddle: In a snowbank.

Riddle: In a dictionary.

Riddle: To the moo-vies.

Riddle: launch time.

Riddle: A river.

Riddle: Grrrr and bear it.

Riddle: tulips.

Riddle: A baker.

Riddle: A cheetah.