

Prof. Ayvaunn Penn • ThePennSpeaks.com
Writing & Grammar College Readiness Quiz

PART I: PARTS OF SPEECH

Answer the questions in this section based on the *italicized* sentence below.

Bob and Sally went to the store.

1. What/Who is/are the subject(s) of the sentence?
2. What is/are the verb(s)?
3. What is/are the conjunction(s)?
4. What is/are the prepositional phrase(s)?
5. What is/are the preposition(s)?
6. What is/are the object(s) of the preposition?
7. What is/are the article(s) describing store?
8. What is/are the prepositional phrase(s) modifying?
9. Is/are this/these prepositional phrase(s) functioning as a/an adjective(s) or a/an adverb(s)?

PART II: TYPES OF SENTENCES

Correctly identify each sentence.

1. Bob and Sally are going skating.
 - a) Declarative
 - b) Imperative
 - c) Interrogative
 - d) Exclamatory
2. Get the door.
 - a) Declarative
 - b) Imperative
 - c) Interrogative
 - d) Exclamatory
3. Will you please get the door for Bob and Sally?
 - a) Declarative
 - b) Imperative
 - c) Interrogative
 - d) Exclamatory
4. You scared me!
 - a) Declarative
 - b) Imperative
 - c) Interrogative
 - d) Exclamatory

5. Sally and Bob went to the store.
 - a) Compound
 - b) Complex
 - c) Compound Complex
 - d) Triple Compound
 - e) Simple
6. Sally went to the store, and she bought a pair of shoes.
 - a) Compound
 - b) Complex
 - c) Compound Complex
 - d) Triple Compound
 - e) Simple
7. When Sally arrived at the store, they were nearly sold out of shoes.
 - a) Compound
 - b) Complex
 - c) Compound Complex
 - d) Triple Compound
 - e) Simple
8. When Sally arrived at the store, she bought a pair of shoes, but she didn't really need them.
 - a) Compound
 - b) Complex
 - c) Compound Complex
 - d) Triple Compound
 - e) Simple

PART III: PUNCTUATION

Fill in the blank and/or select the correct answer(s).

1. What type of punctuation goes at the end of a declarative sentence?
2. What type of punctuation goes at the end of an interrogative sentence?
3. When including the exact words of another person in your writing, those words should be placed within what type of punctuation?
4. Which sentence properly uses the colon?
 - a) Bob went to the store: the red and blue dilapidated building at the end of the road.
 - b) Bob went to the store: he bought pickles.
5. Which sentence properly uses the semicolon?
 - a) Sally went to the store; she bought blueberries.
 - b) Sally went to the store; Maya Angelou is cool.
 - c) Sally went to the store; and bought blueberries.
6. Select EACH sentence that correctly uses the comma.
 - a) Sally, will you please go to the store for me?
 - b) My best friend, Sally, loves to come over for sleepovers.
 - c) Since the two of you have known each other for so long, you should consider reconciling your differences.
 - d) Sally went to the store, Bob followed.
 - e) Sally went to the store, and Bob followed.

PART IV: IDENTIFYING INDEPENDENT & DEPENDENT CLAUSES

Fill in the blank and/or select the correct answer(s).

1. Select the answer that is true.
 - a) An independent clause contains a subject and a verb and forms a complete thought.
 - b) A dependent clause contains a subject and a verb and forms a complete thought.
2. Write the independent clause from the following italicized sentence: *When going out in the rain, it is best to wear rain boots.*
3. Write the dependent clause from the following italicized sentence: *When going out in the rain, it is best to wear rain boots.*
4. Write the independent clause from the following italicized sentence: *Bob and Sally always sit together when they go to the football game.*
5. Write the dependent clause from the following italicized sentence: *Bob and Sally always sit together when they go to the football game.*

PART V: COMPLETE SENTENCES VERSUS RUN-ON SENTENCES

Select the correct answer.

1. Run-on sentences join two or more independent clauses without the proper punctuation.
 - a) True
 - b) False
2. Which sentence is not a run-on sentence?
 - a) Sally and Susan go to the mall on Fridays that's where they hang out.
 - b) Sally and Susan go to the mall on Fridays, that's where they hang out.
 - c) Sally and Susan go to the mall on Fridays and hang out.

PART VI: ESSAYS & ESSAY STRUCTURE

Select the correct answer.

1. Proper essay structure includes having an intro paragraph, at least one body paragraph, and a conclusion paragraph.
 - a) True
 - b) False
2. The thesis statement is typically one sentence that states the main argument of the essay.
 - a) True
 - b) False
3. The thesis statement is typically the last sentence in the first body paragraph of an essay.
 - a) True
 - b) False
4. Only the intro paragraph and conclusion paragraph should have a topic sentence and concluding sentence.
 - a) True
 - b) False
5. Transitions are not necessary in essays.
 - a) True
 - b) False

6. Organizing thoughts in your essay is not as important as making sure to get all of your key points in.
 - a) True
 - b) False
7. Each body paragraph topic sentence should relate directly back to the thesis statement in the essay.
 - a) True
 - b) False
8. Concrete evidence – quotes, facts, statistics, evidentiary support for your argument – is only necessary in some of the body paragraphs of an essay.
 - a) True
 - b) False
9. With the exception of quotes exceeding three sentences, it is not acceptable to leave quotes standing alone rather than embedding them in a sentence of your own creation.
 - a) True
 - b) False
10. The first word of each sentence should always be capitalized whether in an essay or otherwise.
 - a) True
 - b) False