

Assignment 1

Basic English Usage

August 20, 2014

A. Choose the correct alternative:

1. some more tea? Would you like/do you like/ you'd like
2. I the film we saw at the cinema on Wednesday. doesn't like/ haven't liked/ didn't like
3. ever seen a comet? Did you/ Have you/ Do you
4. If I were rich, I buy a huge farm in Somerset. Will/ shall/ would
5. They pass their exam if they studied hard. Would/ will/ did
6. I wish I play a musical instrument. Can/ could/ should
7. When Gregory arrived at the disco, Hania already left/ has already left/ had already left
8. If I on holiday to Poland, I wouldn't have met Donata. didn't go/ haven't gone/ hadn't gone
9. By the time you get this letter I will have left/ am going to leave/ would leave
10. A: What are you doing tonight? B: I'm not sure, I to the cinema. will go/ would go/ might go

B. Rewrite the following sentences after correcting the errors in the use of contractions:

1. The children wasn't ready for the test.

2. It is a beautiful picture, wasn't it?

C. Choose the appropriate verb given in brackets and rewrite the correct sentences:

1. My friend and my guide (were/was) very generous.

2. Gambling, as well as drinking, (is/are) bad.

3. The purse, with all its contents, (is/are) with the Principal.

4. Either you or your brother (is/ are) the thief.

D. Report the following sentences in indirect speech. (1)

1. Raju said, "The man will come."

2. He said to us, "Are you going away today?"

E. Rewrite the following sentences, changing the form of the verb. Make any other changes that are necessary. Underline the verb in the passive voice. (1)

1. The engineers have just built a new bridge.

2. The officer killed the mad dog.

A. Read the sentences and answer the comprehension questions.

1. Jane talks on the phone.
Bob has been talking on the phone for an hour.
Mary is talking on the phone.

Who is not necessarily on the phone now?

2. Jane paid when Bob answered her question.

Did Jane pay first or did Bob answer the question first?

3. Jane left when Tim arrived.
Bob left when Tim had arrived.
Tim arrived when Mary was leaving.
John had left when Tim arrived.
After Tim arrived, Frank left.

Who did not run into Tim?

C. Complete the following sentences using the appropriate tense.

1. When Carol ____ (call) last night, I _____ (watch) my favorite show on television.
2. I _____ (**work**) for that company for more than thirty years.
3. Sharon _____ (love) to travel. She _____ (go) abroad almost every summer.
4. Thomas is an author. He ____ (write) mystery novels and travel memoirs. He _____ (write) since he was twenty-eight. Altogether, he _____ (write) seven novels, three collections of short stories and a book of poetry.
5. We were late because we _____ (have) some problems.
6. Sam _____ (try) to change a light bulb when he _____ (slip) and _____ (fell).
7. Every day I _____ (wake) up at 6 o'clock, _____ (eat) breakfast at 7 o'clock and _____ (leave) for work at 8 o'clock. However, this morning I _____ (get) up at 6:30, _____ (skip) breakfast and _____ (leave) for work late because I _____ (forget) to set my alarm.
8. Right now, Jim _____ (read) the newspaper and Kathy _____ (make) dinner. Last night at this time, they _____ (do) the same thing. She _____ (cook) and he was _____ (read) the newspaper. Tomorrow at this time, they _____ (do, also) the same thing. She _____ (prepare) dinner and he _____ (read). They are very predictable people!

9. By this time next summer, you _____ (complete) your studies and found a job. I, on the other hand, _____ (accomplish, not) anything. _____ (study, still) and you _____ (work) in some new high paying job.

10. The heart is a pump that _____ (send) the blood circulating through our body.

D. Read the following sentences and choose the best definition for the italicized word by searching for context clues in the sentence.

1. The designer window treatments in her house, installed 17 years ago were *outmoded*.

- a. unnecessary
- b. pointless
- c. out-of-date
- d. worthless

2. The baseball player's malice toward the referee was revealed in his *spiteful* remarks to the media, which almost ruined the referee's career.

- a. crazy
- b. rude
- c. vindictive
- d. unpleasant

3. Although Mike is much too inexperienced for the managerial position, he is a willful young man and *obdurately* refuses to withdraw his application.

- a. foolishly
- b. reluctantly
- c. stubbornly

d. constantly

4. His neighbor's **superficial** remarks trivialized the property line dispute and infuriated Brian.

a. enraged

b. petty

c. insulting

d. misleading

5. When Janet refused to lie to her parents about where she was spending the night , she was completely **ostracized** by her usually loyal friends, who had never shunned her before.

a. hurt

b. cheered

c. helped

d. excluded