

PROBLEMS WITH PRONOUNS

Skill 43: DISTINGUISH SUBJECT AND OBJECT PRONOUNS

EXERCISE 43: Each of the following sentences contains at least one subject or object pronoun. Circle the pronouns. Then indicate if the sentences are correct (C) or incorrect (I).

- ___ 1. The worst problem with it is that he cannot afford it.
- ___ 2. They saw Steve and I at the movies last night after class.
- ___ 3. Perhaps you would like to go to the seminar with they and their friends.
- ___ 4. The mother took her son to the doctor's office because he was feeling sick.
- ___ 5. I did not know that you and her were working together on the project.
- ___ 6. She did not buy the sweater because it had a small hole in it.
- ___ 7. The man leading the seminar gave me all the information I needed to make a decision.
- ___ 8. The cords connecting the computer to its printer need to be replaced before them wear down.
- ___ 9. He is going to the party with you and me if you do not mind.
- ___ 10. You and her ought to return the books to the library because they are already overdue.

Skill 44: DISTINGUISH POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVES AND PRONOUNS

EXERCISE 44: Each of the following sentences contains at least one possessive pronoun or adjective. Circle the possessives in these sentences. Then indicate if the sentences are correct (C) or incorrect (I).

- ___ 1. If she borrows your coat, then you should be able to borrow her!
- ___ 2. Each pot and pan in her kitchen has its own place on the shelf.
- ___ 3. Mary and Mark invited theirs parents to see their new apartment.
- ___ 4. When my roommate paid her half of the rent, I paid mine.
- ___ 5. All students need to bring theirs own pencils and answer sheets to the exam.
- ___ 6. All her secretaries are working late tonight to finish her report.
- ___ 7. The horse trotting around the track won its race a few minutes ago.
- ___ 8. Before the report is finalized, the information in their notes and our must be proofed.
- ___ 9. She worked all day cooking food and making decorations for her son's birthday party.

- ___ 10. The weather in the mountains this weekend will be extremely cold, so please take yours heavy jackets.

Skill 45: CHECK PRONOUN REFERENCE FOR AGREEMENT

EXERCISE 45: Each of the following sentences contains at least one pronoun or possessive. Circle the pronouns and possessives. Draw arrows to the nouns they refer to. Then indicate if the sentences are correct (C) or incorrect (I).

- ___ 1. If a person really wants to succeed, they must always work hard.
- ___ 2. If you see the students from the math class, could you return their exam papers to them
- ___ 3. Some friends and I went to see a movie, and afterwards we wrote a critique about them.
- ___ 4. If you have a problem, you are welcome to discuss it with me before you try to resolve them.
- ___ 5. I know you had a terrible time last week, but you must try to forget about it.
- ___ 6. At the start of the program, each student needs to see his advisor about his schedule.
- ___ 7. In spite of its small size, these video recorders produce excellent tapes.
- ___ 8. Whatever the situation, you should reflect profoundly about them before coming to a decision.
- ___ 9. The people I admire most are those who manage to solve their own problems.
- ___ 10. If anyone stops by while I am at the meeting, please take a message from them.

EXERCISE (Skills 43-45): Circle the pronouns and possessives in the following sentences. Then indicate if the sentences are correct (C) or incorrect (I).

- ___ 1. Helicopters are being used more and more in emergency situations because of its ability to reach out-of-the-way places.
- ___ 2. The worker was fired by the chemical company because his refused to work with certain dangerous chemicals.
- ___ 3. If you have car trouble while driving on the freeway, you should pull your car over to the side of the freeway and wait for help.
- ___ 4. The administration will not install the new security system because they cost so much.
- ___ 5. Some parents prefer to send their children to private schools because they believe the children will be better educated.
- ___ 6. The air traffic controller was not blamed for the accident because he had strictly followed the correct procedures.
- ___ 7. The new student has been assigned to work on the project with you and I.
- ___ 8. Many different kinds of aspirin are on the market, but theirs effectiveness seems to be equal.
- ___ 9. You must bring a tent and a sleeping bag for your trip to the Sierras.
- ___ 10. Each of the team members had their new uniform.

TOEFL EXERCISE (Skills 43-45): Choose the letter of the underlined word or group of words that is not correct.

- _____ 1. Superman made their comic debut in 1938 in Action Comics.
A B C D
- _____ 2. Commercial letters of credit are often used to finance export trade, but them can have other uses.
A B C D
- _____ 3. When children experience too much frustration, its behavior ceases to be integrated.
A B C D
- _____ 4. On March 30, 1981, President Reagan was shot as his was leaving a Washington hotel.
A B C D
- _____ 5. Although the destruction that it causes is often terrible, cyclones benefit a much wider belt than they devastate.
A B C D
- _____ 6. President Andrew Jackson had an official cabinet, but him preferred the advice of his informal advisors, the Kitchen Cabinet.
A B C D
- _____ 7. After Clarence Day's book Life with Father was rewritten as a play, they ran for six years on Broadway.
A B C D
- _____ 8. Almost half of the Pilgrims did not survive theirs first winter in the New World.
A B C D
- _____ 9. There was no indication from the Senate that he would agree with the decision made in the House.
A B C D
- _____ 10. A baby learns the meanings of words as they are spoken by others and later uses him in sentences.
A B C D

TOEFL REVIEW EXERCISE (Skills 1-45): Choose the letter of the word or group of words that best completes the sentence.

1. _____ worst phase of the Depression, more than thirteen million Americans had no jobs.
(A) It was in the
(B) During the
(C) While the
(D) The
2. When reading a book, you must keep your point of view separate from the point of view in _____ you are studying.
(A) that
(B) the material and
(C) the materials that
(D) the materials that are
3. Speech consists not merely of sounds but _____ that follow various structural patterns.
(A) of organized sound patterns
(B) organized sound patterns
(C) that sound patterns are organized
(D) in organizing sound patterns

Choose the letter of the underlined word or group of words that is not correct.

- _____ 4. The latest medical report indicated that the patient's temperature was near normal and their lungs were partially cleared.
A B C D
- _____ 5. Most oxygen atoms have eight neutrons, but a small amount have nine or ten.
A B C D
- _____ 6. When Paine expressed his belief in independence, he praised by the public.
A B C D
- _____ 7. A vast quantity of radioactive material is made when does a hydrogen bomb explode.
A B C D

- _____ 8. Genes have ^A several alternative form, or alleles, ^B which are ^C produced by mutations. ^D
- _____ 9. A star ^A that has used up ^B its energy and has lost its ^C heat ^D became a black dwarf.
- _____ 10. Each ^A lines of poetry ^B written in blank verse ^C has ten syllables, which are ^D alternately stressed and unstressed.