

PRACTICE FOR

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## Basic English Grammar: Usage and Terminology

### **PRACTICE FOR SECTION 1: Common Grammar Errors Made by Native Speakers**

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#### **Exercise 2.01: Identifying Errors with Unnecessary Prepositions (HB pp. 39, 314–315)**

Check Yes if the underlined preposition is necessary and, therefore, correct or No if the underlined preposition is not necessary and should be omitted. Seven of the ten are correct.

1. John wanted to know what was going on.
2. James is a person everyone can depend on.
3. If you are looking for a restaurant in a city that you do not know well, it is difficult to know where to go to.
4. Where have you been buying your produce at?
5. Which mall did you buy those shoes at?
6. That is the actor Ashley is crazy about.
7. This is his favorite band to listen to.
8. Tonight is the concert I have been waiting for.
9. Where is your family living at?
10. Who is that person your sister is talking to?

Yes	No

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### **Exercise 2.02: Identifying and Editing Errors with *I* and *me* (HB pp. 39, 315–316)**

Identify and correct any grammatical errors in these sentences. Three of the ten are correct.

1. Between you and I, it seems that I don't think I can trust him anymore.
2. James, Laura, and me have been invited to a birthday party on Sunday.
3. My sister and I have been fortunate to see our grandparents live into their nineties.
4. When our boss came back from Italy, he decided to create a new international division that included Tim, Rodrigo, and I.
5. It has been difficult for my husband and I to take time off at the same time.
6. I have always wanted to visit Japan. My friend and I finally got a chance to go last summer.
7. The best thing that could happen as a result of our recent problems is for my brother and I to keep in touch more often.
8. My sister and me have always found foreign languages fascinating.
9. The tickets to the show were given to Brenda and me, so there are no more tickets for anyone else.
10. People like Ed and I do the best work because we are naturally very organized.

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### Exercise 2.03: Identifying and Editing Errors with *myself* (HB pp. 39, 317)

Identify and correct any grammatical errors in these sentences. Three of the ten are correct.

1. It was going to be a long drive from Florida to Rhode Island, so John and myself decided to stop for rest breaks every six hours.
2. Since I was a child, when something needed to be done right, my mother always told me to do it myself rather than asking for someone's help.
3. Most people in my office take their vacations in July or August. As for myself, September is the best month to take my vacation because flights are cheaper then.
4. The tickets to the football game on Saturday afternoon are for Kelly and myself, so the rest of you will have to buy your own tickets as soon as possible.
5. Some people might find it surprising, but both Ian and myself enjoy long flights because we finally get to see new movie releases we always miss due to our busy schedules.
6. When I cook, I like to prepare the entire meal from beginning to end all by myself as this is the only way to control the ingredients and the amount of spice that goes in.
7. Driving is not something I enjoy doing very much, but it is absolutely necessary to make myself feel independent.
8. I wish I knew what the future holds for myself.
9. The love of gardening is something that I inherited from my father, who used to spend hours with myself digging in the garden.
10. I have always wanted to visit Korea, but I don't think that I would truly enjoy the experience were I to travel by myself because I'd have to leave my husband home.

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### **Exercise 2.04: Identifying and Editing Errors with Past Participles and Past Tense (HB pp. 39, 318)**

Identify and edit any errors in past participle usage. Three of the ten are correct.

1. The factory could have took more than five years to build, but the workers managed to finish the construction project in slightly more than three years.
2. It is too late to do the laundry now. I really should have did it earlier.
3. I could have drank the whole bottle of water, but I didn't.
4. Since I moved here to New York, I've seen so many great Broadway shows.
5. If the tickets were cheaper, all of the girls would have went to the concert.
6. Having looked at dozens of designs for weeks, Marie has finally chosen her wedding dress.
7. What a horrible accident! The driver of the blue car said she seen something dart out in front of her vehicle, so she swerved to avoid hitting it.
8. Rita will have to buy a new watch since her old one is broke.
9. Being broke is something that happens to all of us at some time.
10. Had he knew that his friend was sick, he would have taken him some medicine.

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### Exercise 2.05: Distinguishing Usage of *lie* and *lay* (HB pp. 39, 319)

Underline the correct form of the verb in each sentence.

1. Maria's grandfather (lie, lay, laid) the foundation of the family business 40 years ago.
2. Only a few people can (lay, lie) down and take a power nap almost anywhere.
3. Dermatologists warn people to avoid (laying, lying) out in the sun so much.
4. When was the last time you (lie, lied, lay, laid) down on the grass and looked up into the blue sky?
5. The construction company has been (laying, lying) the bricks with record speeds in order to finish the building as scheduled.
6. The contracts (laying, lying) on the desk have not been signed yet.
7. Have you ever (lay, laid, lain, lied) on a water bed before? It is said to relieve back pain.
8. We found a turtle (laying, lying) on its back.
9. When Joe finally told the truth and (lay, laid, lied, lain) the proverbial cards on the table, we all felt guilty for not seeing what he was going through.
10. It is time to get up and do something productive. You have (lay, lied, lain, laid) in bed watching TV half the day.

### **Exercise 2.06: Identifying and Editing Errors with *whoever* and *whomever* (*who* and *whom*) (HB pp. 39, 320)**

Correct any errors in the use of *whoever*, *whomever*, *who*, or *whom*. Three of the ten are correct.

1. Whomever told you about the trip did not provide you with all the necessary details.
2. When I want to go see a movie, I ask my friend Rosa, whom knows all about the latest releases, which one I should see.
3. One of my best friends, whom I have known since first grade, decided to move to China to teach English.
4. Please meet Mario, my good friend from Portugal and one of our international friends who my husband and I took a trip with to Barcelona last summer.
5. Every Monday night when I am flipping though channels looking for something interesting, I find the show with the guy who travels to exotic places and eats bizarre foods.
6. The committee members differed as to who they should choose as the chairperson.
7. It is difficult to find the persons whom are responsible for that car accident as a few cars left the scene right away.
8. Please give these shoes to whomever wants to have them. They are not my size.
9. No matter what my sister does, she is one person who I cannot be mad at for a long time.
10. Please look over the various candidates' portfolios and then select whoever most clearly has the best set of materials.