



The Learning Centre

Grammar Skills

Sentence Structure Practice III (KEY)

***Note that the grammatical errors in these sentences could be corrected in many ways. The corrections in the answer key are not the only ways to correct the errors.**

1. Jogging along the esplanade, the heavy rain soaked Natalia.

Correct/Incorrect: *I*

Grammar error: *dangling modifier*

Correction: *Jogging along the esplanade, Natalia got soaked by the heavy rain.*

(In the incorrect version, the sentence suggests that the heavy rain is jogging along the esplanade. In the corrected version, Natalia is the one jogging along the esplanade.)

2. Sociology 121 told me that I was a bad writer; however, after a lot of hard work, my writing got better.

Correct/Incorrect: *I*

Grammar error: *faulty predication*

Correction: *My Sociology 121 teacher told me that I was a bad writer; however, after a lot of hard work, my writing got better.*

3. Skiing down the slippery hill, the ice nearly made Joanne fall.

Correct/Incorrect: *I*

Grammar error: *dangling modifier*

Correction: *Skiing down the slippery hill, Joanne nearly fell on the ice.*

4. *Cars*, the movie, are my son's favourite thing to watch during our Friday night movie marathons.

Correct/Incorrect: *I*

Grammar error: *faulty subject-verb agreement*

Correction: *Cars, the movie, is my son's favourite thing to watch during our Friday night movie marathons.*

5. The man in the yellow jacket walked next to a woman in a green jacket.

Correct/Incorrect: *C*

Grammar error: *n/a*

Correction: *n/a*

6. In *The Yellow Wallpaper*, the themes characterize the main character, Jane, as someone with a mental illness.

Correct/Incorrect: *I*

Grammar error: *faulty predication*

Correction: In *The Yellow Wallpaper*, the author characterizes the main character, Jane, as someone with a mental illness.

7. Frances caught the flu last Wednesday and gets over it quickly – just in time to write her exam on Friday.

Correct/Incorrect: *I*

Grammar error: *shift in perspective*

Correction: Frances caught the flu last Wednesday and got over it quickly – just in time to write her exam on Friday.

8. The woman struggled as she was chased by a dog in heels.

Correct/Incorrect: *I*

Grammar error: *misplaced modifier*

Correction: The woman in heels struggled as she was chased by a dog.

9. I think daycare workers should be required to have an Early Childhood Education certificate, it would prepare the workers to keep the children safe.

Correct/Incorrect: *I*

Grammar error: *comma splice*

Correction: I think daycare workers should be required to have an Early Childhood Education certificate. The ECE certificate would prepare the workers to keep the children safe.

10. Although Henry wanted to visit his hometown, he was afraid he might run into his high school girlfriend.

Correct/Incorrect: *C*

Grammar error: *n/a*

Correction: *n/a*

11. Because Tracy is more interested in Nigel than she is in Trevor, she avoids his flirty glances in the hallways at school.

Correct/Incorrect: *I*

Grammar error: *unclear pronoun*

Correction: *Tracy avoids Trevor's flirty glances in the hallways at school. This is because she is more interested in Nigel than she is in Trevor.*