

## Grammar Review Exercises English 0301—Fall 2013

This set of assignments constitutes the “lab” requirement for our class. It should roughly constitute two hours of work per week. For every week’s review, you will READ and STUDY/REVIEW first, and then do some exercises. I will also look for you to APPLY what you are learning to your own writing as I review your essays.

\*\*\*\*\*

Due Dates:

Grammar Review Exercises (GREs) are due every Wednesday (unless otherwise noted).

### Step #1: Signing up for Exercise Central

Exercise Central is a free resource of online exercises. You will be able to set up an account and then do exercises which will be sent to me. Please follow the instructions below for setting up your account.

1. Go to Exercise Central 3.0’s Comprehensive Study Plan page:  
<http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/exercisecentral/Exercises/QuizHome/8>
2. Next click the Register link as “Student”
3. Next, if you have a previous account, enter your email, or just click “Go.”  
--if you do have an account, then just login by clicking the “Go to Log In” link.
4. By clicking “Go” when you don’t have an account, it opens a form for you to create your account.

Use your ACES email PLEASE (and write down your password (I recommend that you also use your ACES password).

What is your ACES email: It is your ACES username followed by @student.alamo.edu (E.G. [fjones45@student.alamo.edu](mailto:fjones45@student.alamo.edu))

### Step #2: Logging In to Exercise Central and Doing Exercises

Once you have created an account, from here on in the course you can follow these instruction for doing these exercises.

1. Go to Exercise Central 3.0’s Comprehensive Study Plan page:  
<http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/exercisecentral/Exercises/QuizHome/8>
2. Click the “Go to Log In” link and log in.
3. Once you are in, you find the particular exercise by typing in the number of the exercise in the SEARCH textbox in the top left.  
The link to the exercise will appear in the middle bottom of the page.
4. ONCE YOUR COMPLETE AN EXERCISE, be sure to enter my email address so the results can be sent to me: [lirvin@alamo.edu](mailto:lirvin@alamo.edu)  
(If you don’t enter my email, I will have no way of giving you credit for your work.)

## **WK2 GRE—Focus on Sentence Basics: Independent and Dependent Clauses**

Due 9/7 (not due on Wed. because we are just starting these review exercises)

Read: The Scott, Foresman Handbook chapter 16 pp. 233-258 (16a-16e). This reading will be dense and fairly overwhelming. I want you to see the “guts” of sentences and how they are put together. I won’t expect you to remember a lot of the grammar language or differences say between an “appositive” and an “absolute phrase.” My goal from the reading is for you to review and learn two things:

1) What makes a “clause” and the difference between an “independent” and a “dependent clause.” (16d) You should be able to recognize independent and dependent clauses.

2) To learn the four types of sentence patterns in English (16e): simple, compound, complex, compound-complex.

Reinforcing Readings:

1) Powerpoint on Clauses:

<http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/ppt/clauses.pps> (be sure to hit your space bar to make the slide show work)

2) Irvin Writing Guide on Sentence Basics:

<http://www.lirvin.net/WGuides/sentbasics.htm>

Exercises: Do the following exercises inside Exercise Central 3.0

293: Identifying independent and dependent clauses

80: Subordinate clauses

81: Sentence clauses

## **WK 3 GRE—Punctuation Review**

Read: Read and review SFH chpts 34, 36-42. Focus particularly on chpt. 36 and 37, but skim through the other chapters. Skip chpt. 35 for now (we focus on it next week). When you read section 36b, glance back again at 16c3 and 16c4 as well as 16d2 on pp 254-255 where it talks about essential and non-essential clauses.

Exercises: Do the following exercises inside Exercise Central 3.0

433. Identifying correct comma placement

547. Commas in compound sentences

686. Commas in compound and complex sentences

219. Using semicolons, colons, and commas

## **WK 4 GRE— Avoiding Run-ons and Sentence Fragments**

Read: Read in SFH chpt. 35 (pp. 513-522). You should learn the difference between a “fused sentence” and a “comma-splice.” Your work learning about identifying

independent and dependent clauses will help you here. A run-on is basically an incorrectly formed compound sentence. A fragment is a false independent clause—it really can't stand alone, but it is punctuated as an independent clause. Another key term here is "coordinate conjunction."

Also, review this website on run-ons (it is pretty cheesy, but it lays it all out pretty clearly): <http://www.myenglishteacher.net/runonsentences.html>

Exercises:

Do the following exercises inside SFH

—35.1, 35.3, 35.4.

Write out your answers and post in the WK4 GRE assignment inside Canvas

Do the following exercises inside Exercise Central 3.0

—83. Run-on sentences and comma splices

—561. Eliminating fragments

## **WK 5 GRE—Subject Verb Agreement**

Read chapter 22 in SFH pp. 366-380.

Exercises:

Do the following exercises inside the SFH

--22.1, 22.2, 22.3, 22.4, 22.5, 22.6

To do these exercises, just write the correct word for each exercise. Please number the exercise and the particular sentence so I know which one you are doing.

For example:

Exercise 22.1

1. Occur

...

## **WK6 GRE—Pronoun Reference and Agreement**

Read chpts. 26 and 27 in SFH pp. 412-427.

Exercises:

Do the following exercises inside the SFH

--26.2, 26.3, 27.1, 27.4

Write out the full sentence for answers

Do the following exercises inside Exercise Central

--87. Pronoun-antecedent agreement

--86. Pronoun reference

## **WK 7 GRE— Questions About Nouns and Using Quotation Marks**

This week will combine two different subject that are different. The first reading on nouns is meant to be a review of an area that many people have problems with (particularly possessives).

Read chapters 25 and 38 inside the SFH.

Exercises:

Do the following exercise in the SFH

--Exercise 25.1, 25.2, 38.1,

Do the following exercise inside Exercise Central:

--689. Punctuating direct quotations

## **WK 8 GRE— Commonly Confused Words**

Read through the “Notorious Confusables (part I and II) at

<http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/notorious.htm> and

<http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/notorious2.htm>

There are A LOT of confusable words, so feel free to skim and explore ones that strike you in particular. You mouse of the word to get a definition of it.

Do the following exercises inside Exercise Central:

--70: Spelling: Confused words

--451: Commonly confused words

--452: Commonly confused words

--380. Homonyms