

Daily Grammar Sponge

5-minute daily warm-ups, notes, and tests
for the classroom on the essential
punctuation and usage areas
that trip up students

18 Weeks

A note to the instructor:

If you are viewing with Acrobat Reader, click the “bookmarks” tab on the left to quickly navigate through this set of materials.

This module is logically structured in 18 weeks/units—i.e., a full semester. The structure represents, partially, the building of one concept onto another. Thus, although any week/unit of lessons can be used independently of the others, the program as a whole is best used in the order given since it represents a unified concept-by-concept progression toward language proficiency.

In particular, the sentence structure section (weeks eleven through sixteen) would be most effective if taught as one unit since the concepts do build on one another (e.g., one must understand the difference between a phrase and a clause before learning how to recognize a clause and subsequently join it to other clauses. Likewise, one must learn how to properly join clauses before one can spot punctuation errors that exist in poorly constructed compound and complex sentences, etc.)

Most weeks are organized as follows:

- Daily Overhead Assignments (DOA) for the week
- Practices, Quizzes, and/or Exams on the information covered in the DOA
- Additional overhead notes and/or student handouts for assisting with instruction, re-teaching or covering material with further examples.

At the end of the 18th week’s materials, there is a four-page review of all the rules given in the sponge activities for reviewing. This may be given out in week one as a handout to avoid having students take time to copy the rules. Keys containing sample responses are also available at the end of this module.

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Week 1	Titles and Quoting
Week 2	Titles and Quoting Continued
Week 3	Apostrophes
Week 4	Subject-Verb Agreement
Week 5	Subject-Verb Agreement Continued
Week 6	Basic Pronoun Agreement
Week 7	Pronoun Agreement in Compounds and Case
Week 8	Modifier Errors
Week 9	Parallelism and Person Shifts
Week 10	Using Prepositions and Infinitives
Week 11	Phrases vs. Clauses
Week 12	Sentences vs. Non-Sentences (Sentences vs. Fragments)
Week 13	Creating Complex Sentences
Week 14	Creating Compound Sentences
Week 15	Identifying Sentence Types
Week 16	Identifying Sentence Errors
Week 17	Review of Weeks 1-8
Week 18	Review of Weeks 9-16

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WEEK 16

IDENTIFYING SENTENCE ERRORS

Fragment (A phrase or dependent clause standing alone)

*Examples: After the game was over.
The old dog with spots.*

Run-On (Two independent clauses without the proper punctuation to join them.)

Example: The game ended we left.

Comma Splice (Two independent clauses with merely a comma to join them.)

Example: The game ended, we left.

Name the sentence error for each sentence. Write “no error” if you don’t find one.

1. I went to the store and bought a loaf of bread.
2. I went to the store I bought a loaf of bread.
3. I went to the store, I bought a loaf of bread.
4. A loaf of bread with seeds.

1. No error
2. Run on
3. Comma splice
4. Fragment

Name the sentence error for each sentence. Write “no error” if you don’t find one.

1. After the dance was over.
2. We went home the dance was over.
3. We went home since the dance was over.
4. We went home, the dance was over.

1. Fragment
2. Run on
3. No error
4. Comma splice

Name the sentence error for each sentence. Write “no error” if you don’t find one.

1. I dreamed I awoke.
2. I dreamed, and I awoke.
3. I dreamed, I awoke.
4. I dreamed before I awoke.

1. Run on
2. No error
3. Comma splice
4. No error

Name the sentence error for each sentence. Write “no error” if you don’t find one.

1. I studied; I passed the exam.
2. I studied I passed the exam.
3. When I passed the exam.
4. I passed the exam after I had studied.

1. No error
2. Run on
3. Fragment
4. No error

Name the sentence error for each sentence. Write “no error” if you don’t find one.

1. Whenever I am hungry.
2. Whenever I am hungry, I eat.
3. I am hungry I eat.

1. Fragment
2. No error
3. Run on
4. Run on

Identifying Faulty Sentences

Directions: Please rewrite the following short sentences, labelling each with FRAGMENT, COMMA SPLICE, RUN-ON, or NO ERROR.

1. We have seen such men.
2. Burned alive in the square of the city.
3. It was a sight which has stayed with us through the years, it haunts us.
4. It gives us no rest.
5. While we stood in the great square then.
6. With all the children and all the men of the city.
7. They brought out the Transgressor they led him to the pyre.
8. They had torn out his tongue; he could speak no longer.
9. He was young and tall.
10. Also, he had hair of gold.
11. As the chains were wound over his body at the stake.
12. There was a thin thread of blood running from the corner of his mouth, he was smiling.
13. A monstrous thought came to us then, which has never left us.
14. Because he have heard of saints.
15. There are the Saints of Labor.
16. The Saints of the councils.
17. However, we have never seen a saint nor what the likeness of a saint should be.
18. We thought then.
19. That the likeness of a Saint was the face we saw before us in the flames.
20. The face of the Transgressor of the Unspeakable Word.
21. As the flames rose.
22. A thing happened no eyes saw it but ours.
23. Otherwise, we would not be living today.
24. It seemed that the Transgressor had chosen us from the crowd, he was looking straight upon us.
25. There was no pain in his eyes; there was no knowledge of the agony of his body.
26. There was only joy.
27. And pride.
28. It seemed as if the eyes were trying to tell us something through the flames they were trying to tell us of the Unspeakable Word.

[adapted from Ayn Rand's novel *Anthem*]

Week 16 Identifying Sentence Errors

“Identifying Faulty Sentences”

1. NE	2. FRAG	3. CS	4. NE	5. FRAG	6. FRAG	7. RO
8. NE	9. NE	10. NE	11. FRAG	12. CS	13. NE	14. FRAG
15. NE	16. FRAG	17. NE	18. NE	19. FRAG	20. FRAG	21. FRAG
22. RO	23. NE	24. CS	25. NE	26. NE	27. FRAG	28. RO

“Coordination and Subordination Review Sheet”

I.

1. D 2. B 3. C 4. C 5. B 6. D 7. A 8. D 9. C 10. C 11. A 12. B 13. C 14. B 15. A
16. C 17. C 18. B 19. B 20. B 21. A 22. B 23. B 24. C 25. A

II.

26. B 27. D 28. D 29. C 30. D 31. A 32. B 33. B 34. A 35. A 36. D 37. B 38. C 39. D 40. A
41. D 42. C 43. D 44. B 45. D 46. B 47. A 48. A 49. B 50. B

Week 17 Cumulative Review on Weeks 1-8

“Cumulative Exam D.O.A. Weeks 1 - 8”

1.B	6.B	11.B	16.C	21.D	26.D	31.A	36.C	41.D	46.C
2.C	7.D	12.B	17.A	22.C	27.C	32.B	37.C	42.B	47.A
3.B	8.D	13.D	18.D	23.B	28.D	33.A	38.B	43.D	48.A
4.B	9.A	14.B	19.A	24.C	29.C	34.A	39.C	44.D	49.D
5.D	10.D	15.C	20.A	25.D	30.C	35.B	40.A	45.D	50.A

Week 18 Cumulative Review on Weeks 9-16

“Cumulative Exam: D.O.A. Weeks 9 – 16”

1.B	6.D	11.A	16.B	21.D	26.D	31.C	36.D	41.C	46.D
2.B	7.B	12.B	17.B	22.D	27.D	32.C	37.A	42.D	47.A
3.C	8.D	13.C	18.B	23.C	28.A	33.A	38.C	43.A	48.A
4.D	9.B	14.B	19.D	24.B	29.D	34.A	39.C	44.C	49.B
5.C	10.A	15.D	20.C	25.C	30.A	35.D	40.D	45.A	50.B