

Please read this test carefully and answer the questions to the best of your ability. It is usually wise to glance through a test before beginning to answer questions.



MOMENTS OF ILLUMINATION

**I. Sentences**

Find the complete subject and underline it once; that is, underline the subject plus associated modifiers. Find the complete predicate and underline it twice; that is, underline the main verb plus auxiliary verbs plus objects or complements plus associated modifiers. Every part of the sentence should be underlined one way or another (unless there is an interjection). If a word or phrase washes adverbially across the entire sentence, underline that phrase twice. All sentences worth 2 pt. except where noted.

1. Waking from a fitful sleep and frazzled by lack of proper rest, St. Appositive, a man of many interests, lit the bedside candle and resumed thinking deeply.
2. That same simple question kept running through his mind.
3. In what way had language changed his life?

II. Active and Passive Voice

Identify the voice of the verb in each following sentence; then rewrite the paragraph reversing the voice in each sentence. While you do not have to use each word in your revised sentences, the general sense of the original must remain. Just change the voice.

Playing with alphabet blocks as a youth had surely influenced him. The inaccuracies of world-wide signage had perturbed and stimulated his senses. The entire tenor of his solitary life was molded in incalculable ways by his early engagement with DC comics. Of course, his speaking voice had been affected, too.

4. Voice of 1st _____

5. Voice of 2nd _____

6. Voice of 3rd _____

7. Voice of 4th _____

8. _____

9. _____

The entire tenor of his solitary life was molded in incalculable ways by his early engagement with DC comics. Of course, his speaking voice had been affected, too.

10. _____

11. _____

III. Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases

Place parentheses around all the prepositional phrases in the following sentences.

Lying upon an exceedingly thin pillow, he thought over the voices [that he used to use for the Legion of Superheroes]. Mon-el, his favorite among many well-liked heroes, had a pleasant voice, tending toward sweet; he was nearly indestructible despite his vulnerability to lead. Superboy had a high, squeaky voice; [when kryptonite was in the vicinity], he was happy to have Mon-el as his buddy. Unlike other characters, Shrinking Violet had a deep and raspy voice [which St. Appositive, pedant [that he was], liked to practice.]

Place parentheses around all prepositional phrases in the following sentences and draw an arrow to the word(s) that each phrase modifies.

16. Giving voice to fictional characters was just one small influence [that language maintained over him].

17. His love for lexicography and the less strenuous task of glossary-making was also a direct outgrowth from language.

IV. Verb Objects & Complements

Identify the verb object(s) and complement(s) in the following sentences by writing DO, IO or OC or PN or PA above the appropriate word. If there are verbals or verbal phrases functioning as verb objects or complements, identify them as noted above. If there is more than one clause in a sentence, identify the verb objects and complements in each clause. I have identified dependent clauses; if they function as verb objects or complements, identify them appropriately.

18. With something like glee he remembered his first glossary, a success by any measure.

19. It was a glossary of textile terminology; his mother had taught him the proper names of several hundred fabric weaves and designs.

20. He was still partial to kersey and oznabrig, but then [whoever saw those fabrics] always thought them the best.

21. Another delight of his teen years was reading the preface and introduction to Liddell and Scott's Greek/English Lexicon; [that was good stuff], he thought.

1 pt. extra credit if your answer to 21 is complete and correct.

22. Delighting in words had also helped him to recognize the beauty of verse; that was true enough.

For an extra point, explain how "true" and "enough" function in sentence 22.

23. He had read with great avidity Pope, Dryden, Wordsworth, Swinburne, and of course Shakespeare, Donne, Wyatt, and Burns.

24. Reading sonnets made him feel most alive; [when he read Sidney's *Astrophel and Stella*], he felt invigorated. *tricky, tricky*

25. He stayed up all night on his twenty-second birthday reading the entire sequence, and when done, for an hour or two, he could remember all of it, every word; that was an astonishing gift.

26. [While the candle sputtered and guttered], he considered his long love affair with Virginia Woolf, her novels, and her prose [in which he witnessed moments of genius].

27. Then he remembered J. M. Barrie, the author of *Farewell Miss Julie Logan*; he had read that book a hundred times or so.

V. Phrases

Identify the type of verbal(s) or verbal phrase(s) underlined and/or italicized in the following sentences. You don't have to explain their function – just identify them. Take care to identify verbals as phrases where appropriate.

28. Reading, *having deeply influenced St. Appositive*, was only one of many linguistic influences.

Identify the underlined verbal and also the phrase in italics.

29. Writing, whether with worn quill pen or sharpened pencil, held surprising influence, too.

30. Watching ink flow from pen nib to hand-crafted paper aroused his tactile sensibilities.

Identify the underlined phrase and also the phrase in italics.

31. Typing on his non-electric Underwood, he sometimes cursed the newfangled contraption and wished for it to fade into mechanical obscurity.

Underline and then identify all verbals and verbal phrases. Then tell how each functions by labeling its function or drawing an arrow to the word(s) that it modifies.

32. He was partial to the use of number three pencils; their writing was fine and well-pointed.

33. Associating the color yellow with exciting rides on exotic school buses, St. Appositive, home-schooled as a child, now used yellow pencils exclusively.

For an extra point, accurately explain the function of “yellow” in sentence 33.

34. The soft, supple feeling of leather-bound books also brought great joy and helped him to feel in touch with the text in his hands.

35. To live without such pleasures was to miss true happiness.

36. Pausing at the thought of opening a book, St. Appositive, still sleepy, began to think about typography.

37. Considering the appearance of type was another favorite pastime.

Identify the type of phrases underlined or italicized (name them). Then tell how each functions by labeling its function or drawing an arrow to the word(s) that it modifies.

38. In his youth, identifying type faces had been a rewarding game to play.

39. To be able to discern Baskerville from Goudy was a point of pride.

Identify the underlined phrase and also the phrase in italics.

40. Understanding [that he was becoming obsessive], he purchased an old iron printing press and several hundred pounds of loose Times Roman.

41. His mother had finally objected [when the weight of the press made the ceiling bow to a dangerous degree].

VI. Case

Choose the correct pronoun.

42. St. Appositive, [for **who/whom** language served as stress relief], often entertained himself with enjoyable etymologies.

43. “Just betwixt you and **I/me**, cat, is it ready?” she asked, knowing [what **she/her** already knew].

44. Only a handful of immortals, [those **who/whom** the human kind feared], could see this way.

45. She drank the broth and wondered [**who/whom** she would come to next].

46. *Identify and explain the function of the pronoun in question in sentence 45.*

VII. *Something is Wrong*

In terms of rule-based grammar explain why the following sentences are incorrect.

47. Sitting in the chair with the cat now in her lap, the broth settled in Brighid's stomach. *there is something wrong – think carefully.*

48. She thought, we will not be sitting, he and me; not like this.

49. That man [whomever he might be] will be a hero and a man of action.

50. There is no one else for he to be.

Extra Credit

The following dawn, walking from out of the woods across the valley, Brighid determinedly approached Dermot, a cat trailing behind.

Rewrite the sentence above using the passive voice. 2 pts.

Describe the grammatical function of “cat” and “a cat trailing behind.” 2 pts.

In grammatical terms, discuss the way that “from out of” operates. 2 pts.
