

4TH EXAMINATION



Brag on Buffalo

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. If you are uncertain whether an introductory phrase or clause modifies the remainder of the sentence or just the predicate alone, underline the phrase or clause twice. Every part of the sentence should be underlined one way or another (unless there is an interjection). 1 pt. each

1) If no one was driving south on Interstate 81, whether or not the road was officially closed, Lloyd would know that the storm was really bad.

2) He smiled, thinking this thought.

3) Without question, this storm, which was blowing off Lake Ontario blasting an area from Syracuse in the south to who knows where in Canada, was a bad storm, a monster.

4) Brag on Buffalo, he thought, knowing that the real snow champ in New York State was the 81 corridor north of Syracuse, the very corridor he was now driving.

4TH EXAMINATION



II. ACTIVE AND PASSIVE VOICE

Identify the voice of the main verb in each sentence below, then rewrite the paragraph reversing the voice used in each sentence. You do not have to use every word in your revised sentences, but the general sense of the original main clause must remain. Just change the voice. 1 pt. each

Lloyd Gramadeg was driving his Subaru Forester, with new snow tires but gimpy wiper blades, north to Ottawa. He noted that a few stragglers seemed to be driving in the southbound lanes. As he drove, he counted cars that had slid off the road, now covered with snow. Twenty or so stranded cars had been passed at this point. He was disturbed by the sight of three jack-knifed eighteen wheelers.

5) Voice of 1st _____

6) Voice of 2nd _____

7) Voice of 3rd _____

8) Voice of 4th _____

9) Voice of 5th _____

4TH EXAMINATION



Lloyd Grammadeg was driving his Subaru Forester, with new snow tires but gimpy wiper blades, north to Ottawa. He noted that a few stragglers seemed to be driving in the southbound lanes. As he drove, he counted cars that had slid off the road, now covered with snow. Twenty or so stranded cars had been passed at this point. He was disturbed by the sight of three jack-knifed eighteen wheelers.

10) _____

11) _____

12) _____

13) _____

14) _____

4TH EXAMINATION



III. PREPOSITIONS AND PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES

Place parentheses around all prepositional phrases in the following sentences. Draw arrow(s) to the word(s) each phrase modifies. 2 pt. each

15) Heading to Ottawa for the seventh annual “Most Excellent Forensic Grammarian Bash,” Lloyd had decided against flying because of the snow.

16) Despite the obvious dangers, he had decided to drive up 81, thinking that he could beat the worst of the storm.

17) In preparation for the very real possibility of stranding, he had packed his sub-zero sleeping bag in the car, brought about 80 pounds of cat litter, stocked plenty of hot water in an insulated container, and included a bag of dog biscuits for chow, if necessary.

18) As long as the darn wipers kept the windshield clear, and his washer fluid lasted, he figured he would be okay.

4TH EXAMINATION



IV. VERB OBJECTS & COMPLEMENTS

Identify the verb object(s) and complement(s) in the following sentences by underlining and writing DO, IO or OC or PA or PN 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. If dependent clauses (or independent clauses) function as verb objects or complements, identify them appropriately. Stay alert; most of these sentences are tricky. 2 pt. each

19) Peering intently toward the road in front of him, he had reduced his speed to no

more than 30 miles per hour.

20) The left lane had eight or nine inches of snow covering it, with no chance to drive

there, and the right lane was two tire ruts that were barely visible.

21) The blizzard conditions blew snow, white sheets of it, which showed as fierce swirls

in Lloyd's low beams.

22) If he hit the brights, the glare from the thick snow gusts gave him a scare.

4TH EXAMINATION



23) After a white knuckled drive that should have taken two hours, but had lasted almost four, Lloyd saw the much-dimmed lights of the Duty Free Store.

For 2 extra points and regardless of your answer in sentence 23 above, provide a reasonable alternative theory about the grammatical function of “hours” and “four.”

24) Although the parking lot concerned him, he would be thirsty, so he pulled in and parked the car.

25) A single cashier gave him an odd look when he entered the otherwise empty store.

26) Lloyd figured he thought him nuts.

1 extra point if sentence 26 is answered completely and correctly.

27) “You know that 81 and 401 are closed?” asked the cashier as Lloyd placed a bottle of booze on the counter.

4TH EXAMINATION



28) Lloyd shook his head no: “Will they let me cross the border?” *tricky*

29) The cashier just shrugged and bagged the bottle before he said, “I seen the blizzard of ’77; this is worse.”

30) Back in the car, Lloyd inched toward the border crossing where he was the only person crossing.

31) The electric window ground slightly before it came down, and Lloyd leaned toward a glum looking guard who asked him for his passport.

32) After answering truthfully that he had no fire arms, no fireworks, and nothing that he was leaving in Canada, Lloyd got the okay to drive on, but first he asked the guard whether the river highway was open, and was told that it was but it was gusty and in bad shape.

4TH EXAMINATION



V. VERBALS & VERBAL PHRASES

Identify the type of verbal(s) or verbal phrase(s) underlined or italicized in the following sentences. Clearly identify each as its appropriate verbal or verbal phrase. 1 pt. each

33) Viewing the river was impossible, but Lloyd knew it to be an impassible, **frozen**

mass of ice.

Note the two phrases plus the verbal in bold italics.

34) Heading northeast, he drove slower now, making only 10 to 15 miles per hour.

35) Instead of taking five minutes, the drive to the turn off eight-kilometers away took

an agonizing 25.

36) Lloyd, watching his speedometer, knew to turn onto a snow thick road, Leeds &

Grenville, No. 5, **heading toward Mallorytown.**

Note the two underlined phrases plus the third in bold italics.

4TH EXAMINATION



In the sentences below, underline and identify all verbals and verbal phrases. Clearly identify each as a verbal or verbal phrase. SHOW OR TELL HOW EACH FUNCTIONS. 2 pt. each

37) The blinking light in Mallorytown was white and indistinct, but Lloyd knew it was there and turned right, spinning his wheels as he made the slow turn.

38) Driving through the snow on the road was like driving over thickened pads of cardboard or soft mattresses.

39) Swerving to the left onto Caintown Road, not even stopping, Lloyd began to really worry. *tricky, tricky.*

40) Suddenly he felt disoriented.

41) Looming ahead of him, cutting directly across the roadway, was a mountain of drifting snow that must have been twenty feet high.

4TH EXAMINATION



42) Going any further was out of the question and turning around seemed hopeless, so he backed up the car, parking it where he thought it was off the road, although determining this accurately was impossible.

This sentence is worth 4 points

VI. CLAUSES

Identify the dependent clause(s) underlined (or italicized and bolded) in the following sentences (relative or subordinate) and THEN DESCRIBE THE FUNCTION OF EACH WITHIN THE SENTENCE, for example as subject, direct object, indirect object, adjective, adverb, etc. 1 pt. each

43) After he had tucked the car as far off the road **as he dared**, Lloyd took stock of the situation.

IDENTIFY THE FIRST CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

IDENTIFY THE SECOND CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

44) He figured that with his sleeping bag he would not freeze.

IDENTIFY THE CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

4TH EXAMINATION



45) But he also knew that snowplows were a clear danger *if he stayed in the car.*

IDENTIFY THE FIRST CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

IDENTIFY THE SECOND CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

46) Squinting his eyes, trying to peer through the blizzard, which raged more fiercely still, he thought he saw the outline of a nearby barn.

IDENTIFY THE FIRST CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

IDENTIFY THE SECOND CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

47) Although he was unsure, he concluded that for safety's sake he should head for it.

IDENTIFY THE FIRST CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

IDENTIFY THE SECOND CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

4TH EXAMINATION



Identify any dependent clause(s) in the following sentences as relative or subordinate. Place them in brackets and then **DESCRIBE THE WAY EACH FUNCTIONS**, for example as subject, direct object, indirect object, adjective, adverb, etc. The number of lines below each sentence accurately signals the number of dependent clauses that you should find. 2 pt. each

48) He donned the boots that he had brought with him, stuffed a plastic bag of dog biscuits into a knapsack along with a flashlight, lighter, and two grammar texts, then zipped up his jacket and pulled on his hat and gloves.

IDENTIFY THE CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

49) After taking one more look around the car, he grabbed the sleeping bag that he figured would save his life, shouldered the knapsack, and at the last moment brought the water, which still felt warm in the thermos.

IDENTIFY THE FIRST CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

IDENTIFY THE SECOND CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

4TH EXAMINATION



50) As he began to wade through waist-deep snow toward the barn, he thought, a bit formally, “It is at times like this that I wish I had my snowshoes.”

IDENTIFY THE FIRST CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

IDENTIFY THE SECOND CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

For 2 extra points identify the complete subject of the clause within quotation marks in sentence 50 above; in other words, identify the complete subject of the dialogue.

51) Once he made it halfway across the field, a hundred meters or so, he thought he could see a glimmering in the barn.

IDENTIFY THE FIRST CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

IDENTIFY THE SECOND CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

4TH EXAMINATION



52) When he finally reached it, the drift pattern of the snow had left the door accessible, and Lloyd was cheered to find that it swung easily open.

IDENTIFY THE FIRST CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

IDENTIFY THE SECOND CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

53) After he had brushed the snow from his legs and torso, he shut the door and, even though he was tired and cold, stood silently, not quite believing what fell into his line of sight.

IDENTIFY THE FIRST CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

IDENTIFY THE SECOND CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

IDENTIFY THE THIRD CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

4TH EXAMINATION



54) At the far end of the barn, next to a lantern that burned brightly, an antique blackboard had been positioned, and next to it stood a woman who looked older than the slate board.

IDENTIFY THE FIRST CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

IDENTIFY THE SECOND CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

55. Before he could say a word, Lloyd overheard the woman speaking to herself, as though she did not notice him, although she must have felt the cold gusts that he had let into the barn.

IDENTIFY THE FIRST CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

IDENTIFY THE SECOND CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

IDENTIFY THE THIRD CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

IDENTIFY THE FOURTH CLAUSE: _____

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: _____

4TH EXAMINATION



Circle the correct pronoun. 1 pt. each

56) “Whenever, however, whatever you plan to do, you **who/whom** think to bring fury upon this land; it shall not stand.”

57) The woman **who/whom** swirled her arms as she chanted these words then, with a decisiveness, scratched something final on the board.

58) Lloyd, **who/whom** most people agreed was an outstanding grammarian, was stunned by what he saw.

VII. EVERYTHING

In the following sentences, answer the questions posed below. 2 pt. each

59) There on the board was the most complex, sophisticated, and elegant sentence diagramming that he had ever seen.

a. Identify the part of speech and tell how “diagramming” functions in sentence 59; b. Identify the part of speech and tell how “that” functions.

a. _____

b. _____

4TH EXAMINATION



60) Little concerned now about interrupting her, Lloyd moved forward and stood next to the woman, both side by side, looking at the board.

a. Describe the function of “concerned” in sentence 60; b. “both” acts as a pronoun; it complements what noun(s) within the sentence?

a. _____

b. _____

61) The sentences written upon the board, and therefore the diagramming, were not linear.

Identify part of speech of “therefore” in sentence 61; In what way does it function?

62) Instead, there appeared to be a verbal center, a core that was encircled – modified was the better word – by surrounding phrases and clauses.

Discuss how the clause “modified was the better word” functions with the remainder of the sentence.

4TH EXAMINATION



63) “How does that work; what does it mean?” asked Lloyd, pointing to a particularly evocative analysis at the center of the board.

a. Identify the grammatical unit and explain the function of “How does that work; what does it mean?” in sentence 63.

64) “Ah,” said the woman, turning to Lloyd, “That is the center of the charm, good boy; it wards off the snowbeast that knocks at our door.”

Identify the part of speech of “Ah” in sentence 64. How does it function?

65) Lloyd didn’t know *what* to think about the snowbeast comment, but as the wind howled and the snow blasted outside the surprisingly snug barn, he knew that he had been allowed to witness something very much like a heavenly revelation.

Here is a crowd pleaser: explain the function of “what” in sentence 65. Hint, don’t miss the infinitive.

4TH EXAMINATION



66) “Sleep now,” said the woman, pointing Lloyd toward a clean thick bedding of straw, “it is done.”

a. Identify the subject of the clause “Sleep now” in sentence 66; b. In what way does “bedding” function?

a. _____

b. _____

4TH EXAMINATION



Extra Credit

The next morning Lloyd awoke, crawled out of his sleeping bag, and looked around. Both old woman and chalkboard were gone. Getting to his feet, he opened the barn door and saw tremendous, sculpted drifts, ten, twenty, even thirty feet high. But the sky was blue and the way back to the road easy enough. In the distance he heard the roar of a snowplow, the large Canadian plow that was coming to open the road. He might make it to Ottawa after all.

In the sentence above, place brackets around every dependent clause. 2 points.

For an extra two points, comment on at least two grammatical points that you find interesting. 2 points.
