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The Nearest Port

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). All sentences are worth 2 points except where noted.

- 1. For most of the seventeen-day crossing, the extended family had huddled together in their third-class berth, far below the upper deck.
- 2. Being the most adventurous, the thirteen-year-old Ibrahim had made several short forays to the promenade deck.
- 3. His two sisters, two younger brothers, father, mother, and grandmother never left their crowded cabin.

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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.

Ibrahim's grandfather did leave the cabin exactly once during the voyage. The family's supply of food was insufficient to last the entire trip. Grandfather Roumano had asked the captain for aid. The crew had subsequently been ordered to supply ship's rations to the family.

- 4. Voice of 1st
- 5. Voice of 2nd _____
- 6. Voice of 3rd_____
- 7. Voice of 4th _____
- 8. _____

See next page for additional space

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III. PREPOSITIONS AND PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES

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

As the patriarch of the family, Strief Roumano had to safeguard the honor and health of his family. At dockside in Gibraltar, he had purchased tickets with haste in the fear [that the ship would embark soon]. Using broken Spanish, he had requested to travel to Brazil or to the nearest port to that country. For a moment, the ship's agent gazed upon the old man and his family, and then drew up tickets and directed the family aboard the ship.

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

- 16. Unknown to Strief Roumano and his family, the one and only terminus of the steamer Wydale would be Philadelphia.
- 17. For most of the seventeen-day crossing, the extended family had huddled together in their third-class berth, far below the upper deck.

For one extra point, describe the function of "far" in sentence no. 17; for yet another point explain how this can be so.

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 function as verb objects or complements, identify them appropriately. Note that subordinate conjunctions if present have been placed in small caps; for this test it is safe to ignore them.

18. [As the good ship gently swayed], Ibrahim's sisters, Aziza and Hanif, entertained themselves with simple games.



- 19. Aziza would hand her sister an empty spool of thread and Hanif pretended to make tea with it.
- 20. They played quietly and disturbed no one.
- 21. The two youngest boys were a different matter.
- 22. Rafiq, the youngest, gave his parents and grandparents frequent smiles and required attention from all on a near constant basis.
- 23. Rafiq also frequently, though gently, kicked his other young brother, Masuda.
- 24. Strief Roumano's wife, the grand matriarch of this family, smiled stoically and never said a word.



- 25. Rounding out this family unit were Yazid and Alya, the son and daughter-in-law of Strief and Anah Roumano.
- 26. They were headed to Brazil [WHERE they planned to settle with the help of their great uncle].
- 27. This rich and benevolent relation had provided them a portion of the passage fee, and everyone in the little family praised him, their benefactor.
- 28. Each family member dreamed their own dreams except for little Rafiq, [who always appeared awake and attentive].

For two extra points identify or describe the function of "except for" in sentence no. 28.

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V. PHRASES

Identify the type of verbal(s) or verbal phrase(s) underlined, italicized, and/or placed in small caps in the following sentences. You don't have to explain their function – just identify them. <u>Please take care to identify verbals as phrases where appropriate</u>.

- 29. On the seventeenth morning, <u>standing on the bow like Jack Dawson and Rose</u>, Ibrahim peered intently through the mists <u>to see the shores of South Jersey</u>.
- 30. Quickly, the steamer began moving up the coast into the Delaware River.
- 31. Soon, a <u>floating</u> village surrounded the ship: old brigs with <u>tattered</u> sails, two-man oar boats with <u>squeaking</u> oarlocks and oyster boats *manned by sailors in <u>worn</u> clothing*.

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

32. Arriving soon at the Port of Philadelphia, the steamer, with the tired but excited Roumano family on board, dropped anchor and awaited inspection by the Commissioner of Immigration.



- 33. Initially, Strief Roumano used his broken Spanish to attempt to communicate with ship and immigration officials.
- 34. Listening intently, these men shook their heads in frustration; they could only hear the word "Brazil," spoken repeatedly.
- 35. Strief Roumano was becoming frustrated, too, and concerned.
- 36. [WHEN his weak Spanish and weaker Portuguese fell on deaf ears], he switched to Arabic, then Farsi.
- 37. Exasperated, the representative of the Commissioner of Immigration decided to call in reinforcements.
- 38. He sent for Moses Klein, official interpreter for the Commission, hoping to have him provide translation services.

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Below, identify the type of phrases underlined or italicized (name them). <u>Then tell how each functions by labeling its function or drawing an arrow to the word(s) that it modifies.</u>

- 39. Translating among seven different languages was easy for Klein.
- 40. He was fluent in Russian, German, Hungarian, Hebrew, English and French, but <u>to</u> <u>tell the truth</u>, the seventh language has not yet been identified.
- 41. Klein arrived at the steamer and immediately began to communicate with Strief, using hand-signals and nods as much as language.
- 42. After conversing for a while, Klein, smiling and pointing to the Roumano family, explained [that they had hoped to disembark in Brazil, or close by].

VI. Case

Choose the correct pronoun.

43. Strief [who/whom was Egyptian by birth] was able to cross the Mediterranean with his family and to arrive in Gibraltar, Spain.



- 44. Although he was a merchant [who/whom traders knew throughout the Middle East], his knowledge of the Western Hemisphere was almost nil.
- 45. Before long, Moses Klein was able to communicate effectively between **he/him** and Strief.
- 46. "He explained that having arrived in Philadelphia, the Roumano family was not much closer to Brazil and their rich uncle, [who/whom they hoped to live with], than at the start of their trip.

VII. SOMETHING IS WRONG

In terms of rule-based grammar <u>explain why</u> the following sentences are incorrect.

47. Klein reassured the family that a solution would been found.



48 He spoke quietly with the ships captain, [whom seemed very unconcerned for the
familys fate], and with the Commissioner of Immigration.
49. Grudgingly, the Captain of the WYDALE agreed pay for passage for the Roumano
family on a steamboat bound for Brazil.
50. Until that ship, the COLORADO, embarked fourteen days later, Klein took the
wandering travelers into his own home and treated them like family.

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Extra Credit

A newspaper article <u>describing the event</u> concludes with the patriarch Roumano <u>standing</u>
on the deck of the soon-to-depart steamship shaking hands with Klein and stating: "All have
been so good and so just in aiding the strange and the helpless [who were cast upon their
shores]. God bless you."
Identify the phrase "describing the event" and describe fully its grammatical function in the
opening sentence; do the same with the phrase "standing on the deck of the soon-to-depart
steamship." 2 pts.
Identify the function of the dialogue which completes the first sentence and forms the second.
Explain its grammatical relationship with the opening sentence. 3 pts.
Identify the part of speech and explain the function of "good" in the first sentence of dialogue. 2 pts.