

3RD EXAMINATION—2021



# Structures

## 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. 2 pt. each*

1) Lloyd Gramadeg, forensic grammarian of long standing, South Jersey born and raised,  
had been badly overworked of late.

An Interjection

2) Hooooohhhh boy, was that an understatement!

3) The case of the missing pronoun had been quickly followed by the mystery of the  
missing apostrophe, which had been succeeded, hot on its heels, by the infamous case  
case, what a case that was.

**For 2 extra points explain identify the grammatical function of “what” in sentence 3 above.**

There are a couple of ways to see this. First, the clause in normal order is "what a case is that" or "that was what a case." If you see the first, then "what" is a subject with "case" renaming the pronoun as an appositive; if the second, then it is a predicate noun (or at least a subject complement) with "case" renaming it. Partial credit if you simply identified "what" as a relative pronoun, which it is.

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Sentence four opens with a gerund phrase that includes an infinitive phrase and also a prepositional phrase.



4) Having work to wake up to each day was, (of course), fulfilling for the grammarian, who was tired of being tired.

Don't forget to consult your dictionary when necessary.

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

When lawyers called Lloyd asking for grammatical consults on matters of significant legal import, he no longer felt that twinge of excitement. These legal eagles and other clients might offer him \$300 per hour or \$600 or more plus expenses. Most of the time, lots of money was offered. Yet when the latest job opportunity fell through, meaning that he didn't need to pack a case and drive to Schenectady, he was happy.

5) Voice of 1st \_\_\_\_\_ Active

6) Voice of 2nd \_\_\_\_\_ Active

7) Voice of 3rd \_\_\_\_\_ Passive

8) Voice of 4th \_\_\_\_\_ No Voice

9) Voice of 5th \_\_\_\_\_ there are only 4 sentences (silly Tom)

{You will get the chance to rewrite these sentences on the following page.}

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When lawyers called Lloyd asking for a grammatical consult on a matter of significant legal import, he no longer felt that twinge of excitement. These legal eagles and other clients might offer him \$300 per hour or \$600 or more plus expenses. Most of the time, lots of money was offered. Yet when the latest job opportunity fell through, meaning that he didn't need to pack a case and drive to Schenectady, he was happy.

10) *That twinge of excitement was no longer felt by him.*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11) *\$300 per hour or \$600 per hour or more plus expenses might be offered to him by these legal eagles and other clients.*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12) *They offered lots of money, most of the time.*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

13) *No voice in the main clause, "he was happy."*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

14) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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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) Lucky (for Lloyd,) Lauren the lovely cab driver had become his partner in syntax—

they modified one another—and she understood exactly [what was called for.]

Some of you saw "for" in the final clause and reworded as "(for what) was called." This, however, takes away the subject of the clause.

16) (Upon learning [that the trip to Schenectady was cancelled]) she booked a Pine Barrens getaway (for both of them.)

"learning [that the trip (to Schenectady) was cancelled]" is a gerund phrase acting as object of preposition "Upon."

17) (At a camp near the old Friendship settlement) (between Chatsworth and Tabernacle) (on Bread and Cheese Run,) Lauren had found a weekend retreat.

I see the second, third, and fourth prep phrases modifying "camp," but the third might modify "settlement" and fourth, "Chat. & Taber."

18) This was a chance for Lloyd to recharge his batteries [as he returned to the natural settings] that he so loved.

"Lloyd" here is pseudo subject to the infinitive "to recharge" and all of its modifiers, so the object of the preposition "for" is actually the entire infinitive phrase. Fun, right?!

19) His batteries, (of course,) meant his brain, (by which) he made his living.

Tricky, tricky.

This is tricky. If you see "by which" modifying "brain," that's okay, but in normal order the relative clause is "he made his living by which." Where "which" means "brain," thus I think it modifies "living," though you might also see it as adverbial, describing "made." Made "how"? "By which."

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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

20) Kicking off early in the afternoon, Lloyd and Lauren packed the car with snacks and gear ) and began the drive (to the heart (of the Pine Barrens)

21) Lloyd gave Lauren an appreciative smile, a big one, [ as she slid (behind the wheel) and hit the gas. ]

22) His ability to navigate grammar was excellent; her skills (of navigation and driving) were outstanding.  
 If you see "outstanding" as the main verb, I guess that is acceptable--there is verb history in the word--but I think it is best seen as a participle acting as a predicate adjective, or just an adjective which has crossed over from verbal land.

23) For miles, pine trees lined the highway, route 563, although as they drew closer to Friendship, cranberry bogs dotted the landscape.

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24) Upon arriving at Camp Gentian, Lauren and Lloyd headed (to the main office,)

[ <sup>S</sup> LV <sup>PN</sup> ]  
which was a rather striking structure.]

25) Someone had attached a collection (of mismatched pallets ~~X~~ to a two-by-four frame)

and had created a striking meeting hall and office complex.

26) Inside, an older gentlemen gave them a hearty welcome and handed each a copy of the weekend's events.)

27) Lloyd reviewed the list: storytelling, traditional cooking, lectures (on Piney folklore and Piney syntax) hiking, and a woodland concert.

28) He saw [ that the concert included a five-piece orchestra. ]

Tricky.

29) A singer would be accompanying the orchestra as well.

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30) Because of their early afternoon start, the two found that they were an hour early for dinner.

DO  
L PA

If you saw "hour" as a PN, that's reasonable, but I think "an hour" is telling "how" early, "an hour."

Tricky, again.

31) To pass the time until they met the other attendees, they decided to take a short walk into the woods that surrounded them.

DO DO  
Infinitive phrase as DO of "decided."

32) Lloyd took Lauren by the hand and together they walked a path that led deep in a southeast direction.

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) Strolling along a track in winding sugar sand, the couple examined the surrounding flora and fauna.

Participial phrase      participle      participle

Note the verbal phrase and the two individual verbals.

34) Walking through the woods, time seemed to slow.

participial phrase      infinitive

This is a poorly written sentence. The introductory participial phrase is dangling. What is it modifying? "Time"? How can "time" walk through the woods? A better sentence would have provided an appropriate subject for the phrase to modify, such as "Walking through the woods, Lloyd and Lauren thought time seemed to slow."

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gerund phrase as subject

35) For a spell, thinking grammatical thoughts was far from Lloyd's mind.

participial phrase

36) Instead, reaching out TO TOUCH THE BARK OF A SMALL HOLLY TREE, careful to avoid

adverbial infinitive phrase

infinitive phrase

the prickly leaves, Lloyd smiled at Lauren and pointed to a protected bird's nest

participle

participial phrase

nestled deep within its branches.

This sentence is worth two points.

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) Dinner was a joyous occasion [where the couple met the other attendees at the retreat.]

No verbals here

Gerund phrase as subject

38) Telling tall tales of the pines was the main topic of dinner conversation.

participial phrase modifying "gentleman"

participial phrase

39) Thinking that the two picnic tables lined with people couldn't hear too much a rough hewn gentleman named Piney Jack told story after story.

Tricky

participle

participial phrase



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40) Laughing at his own punchlines, he spoke comically of the ghost of the whispering pines and the tale of the worn tire.

participial phrase modifying subject      participle modifying "pines"  
 participle

41) To call the stories bawdy was an understatement, but speaking to polite society did not seem to be Piney Jack's aim.

Infinitive phrase as subject      gerund phrase as subject  
 infinitive phrase as predicate adjective (perhaps subject complement is a better analysis).

42) Whistling to gain the room's attention, the weekend host, Willy Plumber, pointed out a window, which had a cracked glass pane, to the firepit, and asked whether the group wanted to adjourn to the fire pit or would they rather continue listening to Jack.

participial phrase modifying Plumber      adverbial infinitive phrase  
 participle  
 infinitive phrase as DO      gerund phrase as DO

Quite tricky; this sentence is worth 4 points

VI. CLAUSES

***Identify the dependent clause(s) underlined 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) Once they were outside, the group sat in comfortable Adirondack chairs awaiting the opening lecture on Piney life and language.

subordinate clause

IDENTIFY THE CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

Adverbial, modifying the remainder of the sentence

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

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44) The fire pit, which clearly had been in use for many years, had an well-built wooden pyre that soon would be set ablaze.

relative clause

IDENTIFY THE FIRST CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

adjectival, modifying "pit."

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

relative clause

IDENTIFY THE SECOND CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

adjectival, modifying "pyre."

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

45) "Before we get too far into the evening festivities," spoke Willy to the crowd, "I thought I would ask how many of you are familiar with the folklore work of Herbert Halbert?"

Subordinate Clause

IDENTIFY THE FIRST CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

Modifying the remainder of the dialog (not the entire sentence); many described this as DO of "spoke," which was okay.

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

Subordinate Clause

IDENTIFY THE SECOND CLAUSE (which contains two clauses): \_\_\_\_\_

elliptical, missing "that." Noun, DO of "thought."

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

Subordinate clause

IDENTIFY THE THIRD CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

Noun, DO of "would ask."

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

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46) Although Lloyd was familiar with Halpert, the rest of the crowd shook their heads, signaling that they needed more detail.

*Tricky, tricky.*

Subordinate Clause

IDENTIFY THE FIRST CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

Adverbial, modifying the remainder of the sentence.

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

Subordinate Clause

IDENTIFY THE SECOND CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

Noun, object of the participle "signaling."

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

47) Whatever the group knew when they first sat down, they were soon enlightened and entertained by an informal but informative discussion of Halpert’s pioneering research into Pine Barrens folklore.

Relative Clause

IDENTIFY THE FIRST CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

Adjectival, modifying the subject "they" (I think); many of you called this adverbial, which may be correct, modifying the remainder of the sentence.

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

Subordinate clause

IDENTIFY THE SECOND CLAUSE (IN ITALICS): \_\_\_\_\_

Adverbial, telling more about when they "knew."

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

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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) Noting [that a traditional spelling was "bone-fire,"] Willy lit the pyre using [what looked like dryer lint as fire starter and old-fashioned matches.]

Relative Clause

IDENTIFY THE FIRST DEPENDENT CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

Functioning as a noun, the object of the participle "noting."

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

Relative Clause

IDENTIFY THE SECOND DEPENDENT CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

Functioning as a noun, the object of the participle "using."

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

49) ["Since we have a fire going,] we might as well throw in some sweet potatoes," he said; "Each is wrapped in foil [which I guarantee makes them taste great.]"

Subordinate Clause

IDENTIFY THE FIRST DEPENDENT CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

Adverbial, modifying the following piece of dialog.

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

Relative Clause

IDENTIFY THE SECOND DEPENDENT CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

Adjectival, modifying "foil"; one of you argued that this modifies "is wrapped" and is therefore adverbial. I don't think so, but interesting, and perhaps.

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

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50) [As Lloyd and Lauren watched on,] Willy tucked the potatoes into the coals, [which had burned down near the fire's edge,] and the group laughed and talked far into the night [as they waited and then ate the tasty spuds.]

You might see the final clause as simply "as they waited," with "and then they ate the tasty spuds" as part of the series beginning with "laughed and talked."

Subordinate Clause

IDENTIFY THE FIRST DEPENDENT CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_  
Adverbial, modifying the following two clauses.

IDENTIFY THE SECOND DEPENDENT CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_  
Relative Clause

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_  
Adjectival, modifying "coals."

IDENTIFY THE THIRD DEPENDENT CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_  
Subordinate Clause

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_  
Adverbial, modifying the preceding clause.

51) [When he woke in their two-person tent the following morning,<sup>1</sup>] Lloyd smiled [because he realized<sup>2</sup> that<sup>3</sup> the day was sure to be enjoyable.]

IDENTIFY THE FIRST DEPENDENT CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_  
Subordinate clause

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_  
Modifying the remainder of the sentence.

IDENTIFY THE SECOND DEPENDENT CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_  
Subordinate

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_  
Adverbial, modifying "smiled."

IDENTIFY THE THIRD DEPENDENT CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_  
Subordinate

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_  
Functioning as a noun, the DO of "realized."

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52) Filled with good food, good cheer and just a smattering of grammar, for Lloyd was not one who could go long without a fix of syntax, the day was indeed enjoyable.

Subordinate clause

IDENTIFY THE FIRST DEPENDENT CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

Adverbial. This is tricky, but I think it modifies "Filled"; telling why.

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

Relative Clause

IDENTIFY THE SECOND DEPENDENT CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

Adjectival, modifying "one."

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

Two points if sentence 52 is answered correctly.

53) Anxious that they get good seats for the final woodlands concert, Lloyd and Lauren arrived early at the secluded concert dell and looked for a spot where they would have good sight lines and auditory corridors.

Subordinate Clause

IDENTIFY THE FIRST DEPENDENT CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

Adverbially modifying "Anxious."

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

Relative Clause

IDENTIFY THE SECOND DEPENDENT CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

Making use of a relative adverb "where," this adjectivally modifies "spot."

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

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54. [Because there were no chairs,] Lloyd pointed Lauren toward a well-worn stump, thinking [that it would be a comfortable spot for her.]

Subordinate Clause

IDENTIFY THE FIRST DEPENDENT CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

Adverbial, washing across the remainder of the sentence.

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

Relative Clause

IDENTIFY THE SECOND DEPENDENT CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

Functioning as a noun, the object of the participle "thinking."

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

55) Looking around he saw a half-buried cinder block [which,] [when he had pulled it from the weeds,] looked like an oversized red brick and could be moved to a spot next to Lauren's stump. ]

Relative Clause

IDENTIFY THE FIRST DEPENDENT CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

Adjectival, modifying "block."

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

Subordinate Clause

IDENTIFY THE SECOND DEPENDENT CLAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

Adverbial, modifying at least "had pulled" and probably the entire relative clause.

NAME OR DESCRIBE ITS FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

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Circle the correct pronoun. 1 pt. each

56) The five piece orchestra turned out to be a fusion funk rock-a-billy band with a deep-voiced singer who/m reminded Lloyd of a female Woody Guthrie.

57) There was a wash-tub base player, who/m the other band members clearly liked.

58) Between he/him and the singer sat two acoustic guitarists, a bongo player and an accordion performer.

VII. EVERYTHING

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

59) "Not the most promising orchestra," whispered Lauren, leaning toward Lloyd.

a. What sort of clause is "Not the most promising orchestra" in sentence 59? b. How does the clause function?

As this stands, it is not a clause, but I think the idea is fully formed, if presented elliptically. So, I consider this to be short hand -- elliptical -- for a sentence such as "This is not the most promising orchestra."

a. \_\_\_\_\_

The dialog, however you describe it, functions as the DO of "whispered." It is what Lauren whispered.

b. \_\_\_\_\_



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60) But [when the music began,] a wonderment occurred.

a. Is the verb “began” transitive? b. Describe the function of “wonderment.”

It is intransitive.

a. \_\_\_\_\_

"Wonderment" is a great word! It is the subject of "occurred."

b. \_\_\_\_\_

61) The weird strains of the two guitars, accompanied by plunking base, bongos and accordion, created a fertile ground for the voice (of Woody the singer.)

a. Identify and explain the grammatical function of “plunking” in sentence 61; b. Explain the grammatical function of “the singer.”

It is a participle modifying "base."

a. \_\_\_\_\_

There are two ways to see this: 1) "Woody" is the object of the preposition "of" and "the singer" acts as a complement (like an OC or SC) to "Woody." or 2) "singer" is the object of the preposition which is modified by "Woody." I see both but prefer the first.

b. \_\_\_\_\_

62) Lloyd knew the song immediately, Dylan’s “All Along the Watchtower,” and he listened intently [as the band weaved the chords into increasingly complex patterns.]

a. Identify the object complement of the first independent clause in sentence 62; b. Identify the final dependent clause and explain how it functions.

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The DO is "song," and its OC is "Dylan's "All Along the Watchtower."

a. \_\_\_\_\_

"as the band weaved the chords into increasingly complex patterns"; adverbial subordinate clause telling when he listened intently.

b. \_\_\_\_\_

63) Listening with unstressed enjoyment, Lloyd suddenly focused on the phrasing of the singer.

a. Identify the participles (or participial phrases) in sentence 63; b. Identify "phrasing"; provide a name more specific than "noun."

"Listening with unstressed enjoyment" and "unstressed."

a. \_\_\_\_\_

"Phrasing" is the gerund within the gerund phrase "phrasing of the singer." The gerund phrase serves as the object of the preposition "on."

b. \_\_\_\_\_

64) Damn, if Woody wasn't finding appropriate moments to drop whole grammatical units into the music.

a. Does sentence 64 contain an independent clause? b. Is this an effective sentence?

As it stands, there is no independent clause, but the idea is complete if elliptical.

a. \_\_\_\_\_

I think this is effective. If this were not elliptical it would read something like "Damn, if Woody wasn't finding appropriate moments to drop whole grammatical units into the music, then I don't know what he is doing." Or, "I will be damned if Woody wasn't finding . . ."

b. \_\_\_\_\_

The elliptical form conveys the meaning clearly enough and mimics natural thought patterns. Not every sentence needs to follow every rule of rule-based grammar.

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65) They formed a point and counterpoint, which not only accentuated the expressiveness of the lyrics, but melded them to the musical soundscape, creating meaning that only grammar and music, well married could achieve.

a. Identify the function of the word "not" in sentence 65; b. Identify the function of the word "only."

"Not" is an adverb modifying "only" and helping it to modify "accentuated." I often call "not" a negative trigger, but in this case it helps to emphasize both "accentuated" and "but melded." Good stuff.

a. \_\_\_\_\_

The first use of "only" simply modifies "accentuated." The second use of "only" is a bit tricky. "Only" is often adverbial, but it can be adjectival. In this case I believe it is adjectivally modifying "grammar" and "music."

b. \_\_\_\_\_

66) Lauren looked (at Lloyd's beaming face) knowing that he was lost in a reverie of syntax, and she smiled.

Identify the function of "face" in sentence 66. b. Identify the function of "that."

"Face" is the object of the preposition "at." It is curious that many of you identified "face" as DO. "Lauren looked face"?? I don't think so. I grant you that we may consider this a broken prepositional phrase. Consider the passive voice: "Lloyd's beaming face was looked at."

a. \_\_\_\_\_

"that" is a subordinate conjunction, subordinating the following clause and making it dependent.

b. \_\_\_\_\_

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*Extra Credit with Bob*

“There must be some way out of here,” said the joker to the thief  
“There’s too much confusion, I can’t get no relief  
Businessmen, they drink my wine, plowmen dig my earth  
None of them along the line know [what any of it is worth”]

“No reason to get excited,” the thief, he kindly spoke  
“There are many here among us [who feel [that life is but a joke]]  
But you and I, we’ve been through that, and this is not our fate  
So let us not talk falsely now, the hour is getting late”

All along the watchtower, princes kept the view  
[While all the women came and went, barefoot servants, too ]

Outside in the distance a wildcat did growl  
Two riders were approaching, the wind began to howl

*In the lyrics above, place brackets around every dependent clause. If you see anything of grammatical interest, comment below. 5 points.*

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There are many interesting points of grammar to be discussed in this fab song lyric. Remember, Bob Dylan won the Nobel Prize in Literature--I think deservedly--for his contributions to the American songbook.