



11+ English: Grammar and Punctuation

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Choose the correct option or rewrite the sentence as asked. Write clearly. There is one mark for each question unless shown otherwise.

Suggested time: 20 minutes · **Questions:** 20

1. Rewrite the sentence with the missing apostrophe: The girls coats were hung by the door. [1]
2. Which sentence is punctuated correctly?
A) Lets go to Riverwell, its not far.
B) Let's go to Riverwell, it's not far.
C) Lets go to Riverwell, it's not far.
D) Let's go to Riverwell, its not far. [1]
3. Add commas to this sentence: After the assembly Nia packed her bag her lunch and her recorder. [1]
4. Identify the verb in this sentence: The tide clock shivered, then crept toward low water. [1]
5. Change this sentence into the past tense: The gulls argue over the wall. [1]
6. Underline the subordinate clause: Although the wind was cold, they sat on the harbour wall. [1]
7. Which word is an adverb? quiet slowly rusty harbour [1]
8. Rewrite as a question: The bus stops at Oakmead. [1]
9. Choose the correct homophone: The class walked quietly to (there / their / they're) seats. [1]
10. Correct the sentence: Me and Sam is going to the library. [1]
11. What type of sentence is this? Please pass the torch. [1]
12. Add a relative pronoun: The boy ____ carried the rope paused by the clock. [1]
13. Place the colon correctly: She packed three tools a screwdriver an oil can and a cloth. [1]
14. Identify the subject of the sentence: Grandad oiled the brass wheel. [1]
15. Rewrite in direct speech, punctuated correctly: Nia said they had not finished. [1]

16. Choose the correct verb: Neither of the maps (is / are) complete. [1]
17. What is the function of the commas in: My cousin, a keen sailor, lives in Whitlock. [1]
18. Correct the comma splice: The hand moved, the clock agreed with the tide. [1]
19. Form an adjective from the noun patience. [1]
20. Which prefix turns possible into its opposite? [1]

Answers and short explanations

Check your work only after you have finished. Equivalent wording is accepted where the meaning is the same.

1. **Answer:** The girls' coats were hung by the door.
Why: More than one girl, so the possessive apostrophe goes after the s.
2. **Answer:** B
Why: Let's = let us; it's = it is. Both apostrophes are needed.
3. **Answer:** After the assembly, Nia packed her bag, her lunch and her recorder.
Why: A comma after the opening clause, and commas in the list (Oxford comma optional before and).
4. **Answer:** shivered / crept (both verbs)
Why: Shivered and crept are the action words. Accept either or both.
5. **Answer:** The gulls argued over the wall.
Why: Argue → argued.
6. **Answer:** Although the wind was cold
Why: The clause beginning with Although cannot stand alone.
7. **Answer:** slowly
Why: Slowly describes how an action is done.
8. **Answer:** Does the bus stop at Oakmead? / The bus stops at Oakmead?
Why: Invert or add an auxiliary. Accept any correctly punctuated question with the same meaning.
9. **Answer:** their
Why: Their shows possession — the seats belong to the class.
10. **Answer:** Sam and I are going to the library.
Why: Use I (subject) and plural verb are. Putting the other person first is polite.
11. **Answer:** Imperative
Why: It gives an instruction or request.
12. **Answer:** who (or that)
Why: Who refers to the boy. That is also acceptable in this defining clause.
13. **Answer:** She packed three tools: a screwdriver, an oil can and a cloth.
Why: A colon introduces the list; commas separate items.
14. **Answer:** Grandad
Why: Grandad is who performs the action.
15. **Answer:** Nia said, "We haven't finished." (or similar)
Why: Invert into spoken words inside speech marks, with a capital and end punctuation inside the marks.
16. **Answer:** is
Why: Neither is singular, so the verb is is.
17. **Answer:** They mark a parenthesis / extra information about the cousin.
Why: The phrase "a keen sailor" is extra information set off by commas.
18. **Answer:** The hand moved, and the clock agreed with the tide. / The hand moved; the clock agreed with the tide. / The hand moved. The clock agreed with the tide.
Why: A comma alone cannot join two full sentences; add a conjunction, a semicolon, or make two sentences.

19. Answer: patient

Why: The related adjective is patient.

20. Answer: im- (impossible)

Why: The prefix im- is used before p: impossible.

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