

EXERCISE G2 Diagnosing grammar difficulties

Use the following grammar quiz as a diagnostic tool. Some of the sentences contain an error. Other sentences are correct. Correct any errors that you find.

Alpine meadows are a tranquil sight.

~~Elderly~~ sometimes need special care.

The elderly

The first sentence is correct. For the second sentence, you should write *The* before the word *elderly* because *the* is needed when an adjective is used as a noun. You could also correct this sentence by writing *Elderly people*.

1. A laser cane, which the blind find useful, sends out beams that detecting obstacles.

2. In 1918, Charles Strite invented the timer that turns off the toaster when the bread is toasted.

3. The most convincing evidence that female chimpanzees in Tanzania use the aspilia plant for medicinal purposes.

4. When adults come to night classes eager to learn has been the experience of most adult-education teachers.

5. A vending machine is a kind of robot that automatically give out candy or other items when money is inserted.

6. Apprentices sometimes fear that they must not be able to master the intricacies of their chosen craft.

7. The importance of the Chaco Canyon archaeological site is that they reveals insights into a whole civilization.

8. Arched roofs were built for a first time 2,500 years ago.

9. Because of financial restrictions, some schools cannot contemplate to stay abreast of advances in modern technology.

10. Birds that breed on high cliffs have pear-shaped eggs that roll in a tight circle. However, that makes them somewhat less likely to roll off the cliff.

11. Botulism spores, which bees carry from certain kinds of plants, have been found in jars of honey.

12. Butterfly wings have iridescent scales consist of thin, interlaced layers.

13. China's first emperor was buried surrounded by 7,000 life-sized clay figures of soldiers standing in battle formation along by life-sized ceramic chariots.

14. Christopher Columbus persuaded the Spanish monarchs Isabel and Fernando financing his expeditions to the Caribbean.

15. East Coker is where the Anglo-American poet T. S. Eliot buried in 1965.

16. Even though the team of scientists encounter snow and strong winds, they continued their excavation.

17. Every four years the International Olympic Committee selects that city will hold the next games.

18. Filming a wild animal in its habitat requires meticulous preparation, unending patience, and, at times, one must be courageous.

19. George Gershwin gathered motifs for his folk opera *Porgy and Bess* while lived in Charleston.

20. Having first domesticated for milk production, sheep were then used for wool.

21. John Wesley Hyatt discovered plastics by accident while cooking up a recipe for making the billiard ball.

22. Lucid dreamers are those people who recognize when they are dreaming and thus controlling the plot of their dreams.

23. Many traditional attitudes and value seem to be disappearing under the pressure of global media.

24. Marine excavation is a race against time, the sea, and the looters who want history's treasures for themselves.

25. Mice aren't really more attracted to cheese as they are to grains.

26. Monteverdi, whose works were mainly written on commission for the private theaters of wealthy Italian nobility, wrote his final opera in 1642.
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27. Most pioneers walked across the continent than rode in wagons or on horses.
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28. When immersed in liquid oxygen, a magnet's pulling power is intensified.
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29. Mount Rainier towers nearly three miles above sea level.
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30. NASA does not quarantine space crews since returning astronauts have carried no harmful agents or living organisms.
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31. Postwar women had more opportunities to find the work than they had had in the prewar days.
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32. Natural oils taken from the rose and the jasmine flower are valuable ingredients of perfume.
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33. New Orleans is a city where older traditions can still be seen.
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34. Not until the early nineteenth century was the modern notion of the atom formulated.
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35. Of all salmon species, the king salmon is the rare.
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36. Only if packages are labeled properly sufferers will be able to avoid severe allergic reactions.
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37. Political researchers have explained why female candidates have a difficult time raising campaign money.
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38. Putrefaction is caused by bacteria and not by a chemical process.
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39. The diary of Samuel Pepys contains an eyewitness description of the Great Plague and the Great Fire of London.
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40. When a hive becomes overcrowded, a swarm of bees will search for a new home.
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41. Scientists must be willing to change their position when confronted with new and conflicting data as is this openness to change that allows scientific progress to be made.
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42. Scissors, a Bronze Age invention remained basically unchanged to this day, consist of two blades linked by a C-shaped spring.
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43. Since the discovery of the double-helix structure of DNA, geneticists have made great advances in the knowledge of life at a molecular level.
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44. When telephones were first invented, many business owners refused to have them installed in their offices because were messenger services that they believed to be more efficient.
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45. Sixteenth-century mariners called Bermuda the "Isle of Devils" partly because breeding seabirds are making horrid sounds in the night.
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46. Small animals can survival the desert heat by finding shade during the daytime.
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47. So incredible explorer John Colter's descriptions were of the Yellowstone area that people didn't believe in its existence.
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48. Public lands in many parts of the West may be overgrazed as cattle, sheep, and wildlives compete for forage.
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49. Studies into the effects of music suggest that it can serve as a type of drug which regulates behavior.
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50. Swimmers should avoid to enter ocean areas contaminated by red tide organisms.
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51. That Thomas Hardy used real locations in his novels is disguised by his having altered place names.
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52. The great stone city Angkor flourished for six centuries so that it fell in 1431 and lay prey to the jungle for four long centuries.
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53. The largest known gathering of bald eagles anywhere is on the Chilkat River.
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54. When llamas were first brought into the Colorado wilderness, no one could have predicted how popularly the animal would become.
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55. The more technical today's world becomes, the most compatible with both humans and machines language needs to be.

56. Though capable of walking upright, apelike Australopithecus did so only for short periods of time.

57. Today, *carpet* refers to floor coverings that reach from wall to wall, and therefore, *rug* refers to a piece of material that covers only one section of the floor.

58. What we will already learn about tornadoes has contributed to reducing the casualty rates.

59. Silk has been woven into luxurious tapestries, rugs, clothes, and accessories for some 4,000 years.

60. While large numbers of eagles have long nested in national parks, only recently the birds generating outside curiosity.

EXERCISE G3 *Evaluating your knowledge of grammar*

Use the Answer Keys in the back of the book to check your answers to Exercise G2. Have a fresh copy of the Grammar Structures Checklist ready. For each answer that you got wrong – whether you corrected the wrong part of a sentence, corrected a sentence that had no errors, or did not correct a sentence that had an error – identify the grammar structure involved and check it off on your checklist as something that you need to work on. Make a check for every error. It is okay to check the same grammar structure more than once.

Alpine meadows are a tranquil sight.

Alpine meadows are tranquil sight.

Your answer is incorrect. The sentence is correct as is. You should check *Articles* on your Grammar Structures Checklist.

Elderly sometimes need special ~~care~~.

special cares

Your answer is incorrect. The correct answer is *The elderly*. You should check *Articles* and *Nouns* on your Grammar Structures Checklist.

EXERCISE G4 *Analyzing problem areas*

Compare your self-assessment checklist from Exercise G1 with your diagnostic checklist from Exercise G3. Answer the questions on the following page.