

PUNCTUATION PRACTICE TEST

A. Select the sentence that uses commas correctly.

1. A. Jake and Fred eat too much sleep too much, and exercise too little.
B. Jake and Fred eat too much, sleep too much, and exercise too little.
C. Jake, and Fred eat too much, sleep too much, and exercise too little.
2. A. Well I'm sure, that there is an easier way.
B. Well, I'm sure that there is an easier, way.
C. Well, I'm sure that there is an easier way.
3. A. On December 2, 1993 Dr. Ramirez and his family moved into the old family home.
B. On December, 2, 1993, Dr. Ramirez and his family moved into the old family home.
C. On December 2, 1993, Dr. Ramirez and his family moved into the old family home.
4. A. The fat, lazy cat seems to do nothing but eat and sleep.
B. The fat lazy cat seems to do nothing but eat, and sleep.
C. The fat, lazy, cat seems to do nothing but eat and sleep.
5. A. The office closes, I believe at 4:00 P.M. on Fridays.
B. The office closes, I believe, at 4:00 P.M. on Fridays.
C. The office closes I believe, at 4:00 P.M. on Fridays.
6. A. The car has low mileage, new tires, and rubber bumpers.
B. The car, has low mileage, new tires, and rubber bumpers.
C. The car has low mileage new tires and rubber bumpers.
7. A. Actors and dancers work under glaring, lights.
B. Actors and dancers work under glaring lights.
C. Actors and dancers, work under glaring lights.
8. A. Amanda by the way, has been learning judo.
B. Amanda, by the way has been learning judo.
C. Amanda, by the way, has been learning judo.

B. Select the sentence that uses apostrophes correctly.

9. A. The ladies book club will meet on Tuesday's.
B. The ladies' book club will meet on Tuesdays.
C. The ladie's book club will meet on Tuesday's.
10. A. Both of us make our' 7's that way.
B. Both of us make our 7's that way.
C. Both of us make our' 7s that way.
11. A. Both doctors' offices have copies of poems on the wall.
B. Both doctor's offices have copies of poem's on the wall.
C. Both doctor's offices have copies of poems on the wall.

12. A. Everybody's dues are in.
B. Everybodys' dues are in.
C. Everybody's dues' are in.
13. A. The dancers entered the building and began their warmups.
B. The dancers entered the building and began their' warmups.
C. The dancer's entered the building and began their warmups.
14. A. Its'time for the game to begin.
B. Its time for the game to begin.
C. It's time for the game to begin.
15. A. You're not the first person to forget to bring tickets.
B. Your not the first person to forget to bring tickets.
C. Your'e not the first person to forget to bring tickets.
16. A. The mens team has a practice this Wednesday.
B. The men's team has a practice this Wednesday.
C. The mens' team has a practice this Wednesday.

C. Select the sentence that uses quotation marks or underlining correctly.

17. A. Did you read the article "Homeless Joe" in yesterday's "Daily News"?
B. Did you read the article Homeless Joe in yesterday's "Daily News"?
C. Did you read the article "Homeless Joe" in yesterday's Daily News?
18. A. Nobody, "the teacher said", should ever ignore a fire alarm.
B. "Nobody, the teacher said, should ever ignore a fire alarm."
C. "Nobody," the teacher said, "should ever ignore a fire alarm."
19. A. Lynn is going to play the song "Yesterday" by Paul McCartney for her piano solo.
B. Lynn is going to play the song, Yesterday, by Paul McCartney for her piano solo.
C. Lynn is going to play the song Yesterday by Paul McCartney for her piano solo.
20. A. His favorite classic novel is Moby Dick by Melville.
B. His favorite classic novel is "Moby Dick" by "Melville."
C. His favorite classic novel is "Moby Dick" by Melville.
21. A. Our class is studying John Keats' poem "Ode on a Grecian Urn."
B. Our class is studying John Keats' poem Ode on a Grecian Urn.
C. Our class is studying John Keats poem, Ode on a Grecian Urn.
22. A. "I will enter that contest as soon as I get home." Carla said.
B. "I will enter that contest as soon as I get home.," Carla said.
C. " I will enter that contest as soon as I get home," Carla said.

23. A. We bought a print of William Merritt Chase's painting "Beach at Zanvoort."
 B. We bought a print of William Merritt Chase's painting, Beach at Zanvoort.
 C. We bought a print of William Merritt Chase's painting Beach at Zanvoort.
24. A. Minh told me that he had received his grades.
 B. Minh told me, "That he had received his grades."
 C. Minh told me, that he had received his grades.

D. Select the sentence that uses commas, colons, and semi-colons correctly.

25. A. Murray missed work again on Monday, Tuesday he was fired.
 B. Murray missed work again on Monday: Tuesday he was fired.
 C. Murray missed work again on Monday; Tuesday he was fired.
26. A. I am making three desserts for the party: eclairs, strawberry tarts, and chocolate cake.
 B. I am making three desserts for the party, eclairs, strawberry tarts, and chocolate cake.
 C. I am making three desserts for the party; eclairs, strawberry tarts, and chocolate cake.
27. A. Caroline has never, as you know; been interested in sports.
 B. Caroline has never; as you know, been interested in sports.
 C. Caroline has never, as you know, been interested in sports.
28. A. The three winners of the contest were Ann, Lee, and Carlotta.
 B. The three winners of the contest were: Ann, Lee, and Carlotta.
 C. The three winners of the contest were; Ann, Lee, and Carlotta.
29. A. Ahn has always given one person credit for her success: her father.
 B. Ahn has always given one person credit for her success; her father.
 C. Ahn has always given one person credit for her success, her father.
30. A. Leah loves math, Rachel prefers science.
 B. Leah loves math; Rachel prefers science.
 C. Leah loves math: Rachel prefers science.

F. Select one of the following punctuation marks to go in the blank.

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|----------------------|-------------------------|
| A. period | D X . hyphen |
| B. question mark | E G . dash |
| C. exclamation point | |

31. Mr. Samuelson is a self__made man.
32. Abdul asked if the prizes had already been awarded__
33. The ants swarmed all around the donut on the counter__ We realized we should have cleaned up the crumbs before going to bed.
34. The bus will be leaving at 8:00 in the morning__ don't forget to bring your signed permission slips__ and will be returning at 6:00 p.m.

35. Richard, have you heard the who won last night's game___
36. I have a worn___out pair of tennis shoes in my closet that I should throw away.

G. Select the correct punctuation mark for each situation listed. Some answers may be used more than once.

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|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| A. Period | D. Italics (underlining) | A. & C. Hyphen |
| B. Comma(s) | E. Colon | A. & D. Exclamation Point |
| C. Quotation marks | A. & B. Semicolon | |

- ___37. Used to join two sentences when a coordination conjunction is not used.
- ___38. Used for the title of a short story or poem.
- ___39. Used after words or sentences expressing strong feeling.
- ___40. Used to enclose the exact words of a speaker.
- ___41. Used for the name of a newspaper or magazine.
- ___42. Used for the name of a work of art.
- ___43. Used to separate the parts of an address from each other and from the sentence.
- ___44. Used between two words that act as one description.
- ___45. Used with a coordinating conjunction between two sentences.
- ___46. Used between a complete sentence and a list that follows or completes it.
- ___47. Used to separate a nouns of direct address (a person being spoken to) from the rest of the sentence.
- ___48. Used after abbreviations.
- ___49. Used to indicate a song title.
- ___50. Used after an introductory fragment and before the sentence that follows it.

H. In the following sentences choose the letter that corresponds with the underlined word that displays incorrect capitalization.

- (51) I did my undergraduate work sat the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the same **A.**
B. **C.** **A.**
university my Dad attended in the 1950s. (52) On arriving at Chapel Hill, I immediately fell in love with
B. **C.** **A.** **B.**
the tree-lined walks and colonial-style buildings of the Campus. (53) The northern part of the campus is
C.
especially beautiful in the Fall when the leaves begin to change colors. (54) During my four years in

North Carolina, I took a variety of classes including Physics, chemistry, German, and Math 101. (55) After

spring semester of my freshman year, I decided to major in english and minor in French. (56) In my spare

time, I enjoyed attending the basketball games of the nationally ranked North Carolina Tar Heels in the

recently constructed site named Event Center.

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