MASTERY SERIES: GRAMMAR EXERCISES

Articles:

1. Y/N? Why did cat cross the road?
2. Y/N? Why did Cat cross the road?
3. Y/N? Why did the cat cross the road?
4. Y/N? The cats crossed the road.
5. Y/N? None of the cats crossed the road.

Modifiers:

1. Y/N? Having finished my dinner, the waitress offered to bring out the dessert tray.
2. Y/N? Once I finished my dinner, the waitress offered to bring out the dessert tray.
3. Y/N? Without knowing his name, it was hard to introduce him.
4. Y/N? It was hard to introduce him without knowing his name.
5. Y/N? A cop just knocked on my door and told me my dogs were chasing people on bikes.
6. Y/N? A cop just knocked on my door and told me my dogs were chasing people that were on bikes.
7. Y/N? The park ranger spotted a beaver peering through his binoculars.
8. Y/N? Peering through his binoculars, the park ranger spotted a beaver.

Prepositions:

1. Y/N? Jim has worked at Sears for 20 years.
2. Y/N? She arrived at the store around 4 p.m.
3. Y/N? Apartments in Monterey are expensive.
4. Y/N? The blue areas on the map indicate water.
5. Y/N? I met the nicest people at Venice, Italy.
6. Y/N? I met the nicest people at the Venetian in Las Vegas.

Tricky Pronoun Exercises:

1. Which is correct? The dog chased it’s ball. The dog chased its ball.
2. Which is a better use of which?
   I cut down all the trees, which gave the family lots of firewood for the winter.
   I cut down only the trees, which were marked with yellow ribbons.
3. Which is a better use of that?
   I phoned everyone I knew that was in the fire area.
   I phoned everyone I knew that made me feel a lot better.
4. Which is a better use of \textit{who} rather than \textit{whom}?
   Who lives there?
   For who am I holding this glass of wine?

\textbf{Subject / Verb Agreement:}

\textbf{CORRECT OR NO?}
   1. I walks to the store.
   2. Everyone walks to the store.
   3. James and his friend walks to the store.
   4. China walk to the store.
   5. The United States walks to the store.
   6. Five minutes are a lot of time.
   7. Five minutes is a lot of time.
   8. The crowd roars as the musicians come on stage.
   9. The crowd roar as the musicians come on stage.

\textbf{Sentence Abuse Quick Grammar Diagnostic:}

\textbf{Are the following proper sentences?}
If not, please fix them so that the puppies are all happy, and the road is all clear!
(By the way, if you’d like more practice on types of words, identify them below. Answers in booklet.) *Sentences borrowed from Warriner’s.

1. *When you drive a car you must carry liability insurance, which pays for any damage or injury that you may inflict on others.

2. *Insurance in some places is cheaper, than it is in others.

3. *How much insurance costs depends on how congested traffic is in the area.

4. *If you live in a rural community, you probably pay much less than you would, if you lived in a city.

5. *An unmarried male who is under twenty-five pays the highest premium, because statistics show that he is the worst risk.

6. *Drivers who have a record of accidents must also pay a high premium; since they have cost their insurance companies a great deal of money.

7. If you are properly insured it is a very good idea to drive to and around Lake Tahoe.

8. I particularly recommend the East shore of Lake Tahoe but if you are going during Winter then you might prefer Kirkwood and the West shore.