

## The Harold Syntax Guide to Sentences, Part Two

### Pre-Test

**Directions:** In the blank space, write a "T" if the statement is true and an "F" if the statement is false.

- \_\_\_ 1. Verbal phrases can function as subjects, objects, and modifiers.
- \_\_\_ 2. Verbals are composed of a verb plus "ed" and "ing."
- \_\_\_ 3. Participles are composed to the word "to" plus a verb.
- \_\_\_ 4. Infinitive phrases can be used as predicate nominatives.
- \_\_\_ 5. Infinitive phrases can be used as adverbial modifiers.
- \_\_\_ 6. Participial phrases usually modify verbs.
- \_\_\_ 7. Gerundive phrases can function as subjects, objects, and predicate nominatives.
- \_\_\_ 8. Gerundive verbal phrases can function as objects of prepositions.
- \_\_\_ 9. All clauses have subjects, but not necessarily predicates.
- \_\_\_ 10. Independent clauses can stand along and still express a complete, understandable thought.
- \_\_\_ 11. When two or more independent clauses are joined by a conjunction, they form a compound sentence.
- \_\_\_ 12. A complex sentence has at least one independent clause and at least two dependent clauses.
- \_\_\_ 13. A dependent clause depends on an independent clause for its full meaning.
- \_\_\_ 14. Dependent clauses in complex sentences are introduced by either a relative pronoun or coordinating conjunction.
- \_\_\_ 15. Compound-complex sentences contain at least two independent clauses and one or more dependent clauses.

## The Harold Syntax Guide to Sentences, Part Two

### Identifying Verbals and Verbal Phrases

**Prof. Syntax reminder: A verbal is made up of a verb plus an "-ed" or "-ing" ending. Some verbals are composed of the word "to" plus a verb. A verbal phrase is composed of a verbal and the rest of the words in the phrase. Verbals and verbal phrases function as either subjects, objects or modifiers.**

**Directions:** Circle the verbals and underline the verbal phrases in the sentences below.

1. Playing volleyball, Shelly twisted her ankle.
2. Maria wanted to read a good novel.
3. Her goal was running the marathon.
4. Painting houses was Tom's summer job.
5. To learn a foreign language requires daily study.
6. Stashed carefully, the jewels were safe from the burglars.
7. Frightened by the thunder, the dog barked continuously until the storm passed.
8. Charlie enjoys playing hockey.
9. His dream was to become an architect.
10. Sherlock Holmes hoped to solve every crime.
11. Fleeing the oncoming soldiers, the child was in a panic.
12. He said he was told to go to the concert.
13. Painted bright white, the kitchen looked new.
14. The frog, croaking all night, kept us awake.

## The Harold Syntax Guide to Sentences, Part Two

### Infinitive and Infinitive Phrases

⌚ **Prof. Syntax reminder: An infinitive is made with the word "to" plus a verb. Infinitives and infinitive phrases can function as subjects, objects, predicate nominatives and modifiers.**

**Directions:** Circle the infinitive in the sentences below. Underline the infinitive phrases. Below the sentence tell how the infinitive functions.

1. She was picked to train the new recruits.
2. To obtain new knowledge is the goal of all good students.
3. Her plan was to go downtown as soon as it stopped raining.
4. Benton went to the store to get the new DVD.
5. Juan downloaded the music to appear technologically savvy.
6. To appear intelligent, the boy used big words.
7. He fought the judgment to retain his spotless record.
8. His strategy was to get there first.
9. To maintain his composure was a difficult task.
10. Marla plastered on the makeup to look gaudy.
11. Sun Ming ran seven miles every day to practice her method.
12. She decided to take the path.
13. To be first was Mark's obsession.
14. The directive said to increase market share.
15. He impressed his teacher to get better grades.

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### Participles and Participle Phrases

**E** Prof. Syntax reminder: A participle is a verb plus an "-ed" or "-ing" ending. The participial phrase is used as a modifier and generally modifies subjects and objects. It commonly is used as an adjective.

**Directions:** Write a participle or participial phrase in the blank spaces. Cross out the comma if it is not needed.

1. \_\_\_\_\_, I ran for a touchdown.
2. The cat, \_\_\_\_\_, gobbled down the fish.
3. \_\_\_\_\_, Mark and Leon opened the door.
4. Mr. James, \_\_\_\_\_, caught his students by surprise.
5. Jane, \_\_\_\_\_, cried bitterly at the news.
6. \_\_\_\_\_, he excitedly picked up the receiver.
7. He dropped the ball, \_\_\_\_\_.
8. The city, \_\_\_\_\_, was his ultimate destination.
9. She commented on the platter, \_\_\_\_\_.
10. \_\_\_\_\_, the contestant answered quickly.
11. He snagged the butterfly, \_\_\_\_\_.
12. The millionaire, \_\_\_\_\_, said he would donate a large share of his fortune to medical research projects.
13. He spied a delicate bracelet, \_\_\_\_\_, in the jeweler's case.
14. Her hair, \_\_\_\_\_, shone in sunlight.
15. He worked on the portrait, \_\_\_\_\_.

## The Harold Syntax Guide to Sentences, Part Two

### Gerunds and Gerundive Phrases

⌚ Prof. Syntax reminder: A gerund is a verb plus an "-ed" or "-ing" ending. Gerunds and gerundive phrases function as subjects, objects or predicate nominatives.

**Directions:** Write three sentences with a gerund or gerundive phrase that functions as a subject, three with a gerund or gerundive phrase that functions as an object and three with a gerund or gerundive phrase that functions as a predicate nominative. Label each with an "S," "O" or "PN."

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

## The Harold Syntax Guide to Sentences, Part Two

### Independent Clauses and Compound Sentences

⌚ **Prof. Syntax reminder: A clause is a group of words containing a subject and a predicate. Independent clauses express a complete, understandable thought. When two or more independent clauses are joined by a conjunction, a semi-colon - or both - they form a compound sentence.**

**Directions:** Add an independent clause to each of the partial sentences below to form a compound sentence. Remember that your clause must have a subject and predicate and must express a complete thought.

1. Either Maggie will pay for the tickets, or \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Janice was afraid to watch horror movies, but \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Not only did the war cause great hardship at home, but also \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Tornadoes are dangerous storms in the Midwest; \_\_\_\_\_.
5. One of the greatest inventions was the wheel, and \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Clark Kent was a mild-mannered reporter by day; \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Looking dejected, Anne came home from school and \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Either Ken must do his homework in his room, or \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Shaleesa believed in daily exercise; \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Carol had a bad cold, yet \_\_\_\_\_.

## The Harold Syntax Guide to Sentences, Part Two

### Dependent Clauses, Complex, and Compound-Complex Sentences

**Ⓔ Prof. Syntax reminder: Dependent clauses have a subject and predicate, but must be accompanied by an independent clause in order for its meaning to be clear. Complex sentences have one independent clause and one or more dependent clauses. Compound-complex sentences contain two or more independent clauses and one or more dependent clauses.**

**Directions:** If the sentence is complex, write a "C" in the blank. If it is compound-complex, write a "C-C" in the blank. Underline subordinating conjunctions that introduce dependent clauses and circle relative pronouns that introduce dependent clauses.

- \_\_\_ 1. The judges chose whoever had the highest scores.
- \_\_\_ 2. Theresa ran the concession and she sold the goods when it opened.
- \_\_\_ 3. Zachary showered after the race was completed.
- \_\_\_ 4. Ellen went on a shopping spree and then she ate dinner when her credit card was maxed out.
- \_\_\_ 5. The doctors examined the children who came to the clinic.
- \_\_\_ 6. Phyllis saved the folders and her assistant gave them to the members as they arrived.
- \_\_\_ 7. Political conventions come every four years, when summer days are long.

## The Harold Syntax Guide to Sentences, Part Two

### Post-Test

#### Part I

**Directions:** In the blank space, write a "T" if the statement is true and an "F" if the statement is false.

- \_\_\_ 1. Verbals are composed of a verb plus "ed" and "ing."
- \_\_\_ 2. Participial phrases usually modify verbs.
- \_\_\_ 3. All clauses have subjects, but no necessarily predicates.
- \_\_\_ 4. A complex sentence has at least one independent clause and at least two dependent clauses.
- \_\_\_ 5. A dependent clause depends on an independent clause for its full meaning.

#### Part II

**Directions:** In the sentences below, underline the verbal phrase and write an "I" above it if it is an infinitive phrase, a "G" if it is a gerundive phrase, or a "P" if it is a participial phrase.

1. Robert decided to talk slower.
2. Stalking his prey, the hunting dog sniffed the ground furiously.
3. Tanned golden brown, the beach comber spread out his blanket.
4. His wish was to win the lottery and then quit his job.
5. Running the show was the producer's job.
6. Cloaked in secrecy, the report made the rounds of the security personnel.
7. He wanted to play all day.
8. His way of staying active was participating in all the events.
9. Passing the football was what he worked on day after day.
10. Hopping up and down, the dog won first place.

#### Part III

**Directions:** Write sentences that exemplify the named categories.

1. A compound sentence with a correlative conjunction \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. A complex sentence with a dependent clause introduced by a subordinating conjunction \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. A complex sentence with a dependent clause introduced by a relative pronoun \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. A compound sentence with a coordinating conjunction \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. A compound-complex sentence \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## The Harold Syntax Guide to Sentences, Part Two

### Discussion Questions

#### Part I: Simple Sentences with Verbal Phrases

1. What are the three kinds of verbal phrases?
2. How can verbal phrases function in sentences?
3. How is a verbal made?

#### Part II: Infinitives and Infinitive Phrases

1. How is an infinitive formed?
2. How can infinitives and infinitive phrases function in sentences?
3. Give an example of an infinitive phrase that functions as a subject.
4. Give an example of an infinitive phrase that functions as an object.
5. Give an example of an infinitive phrase that functions as a predicate nominative.

#### Part III: Participles and Participial Phrases

1. How is a participle formed?
2. How do participles and participial phrases function in sentences.
3. Give an example of a participial phrase that modifies the subject of the sentence.

#### Part IV: Gerunds and Gerundive Phrases

1. How is a gerund formed?
2. How do gerunds and gerundive phrases function in sentences?
3. Give an example of a gerundive phrase that functions as the subject of the sentence.
4. Give an example of a gerundive phrase that functions as the object of the sentence.
5. Give an example of a gerundive phrase that functions as the predicate nominative of the sentence.

#### Part IV: Gerunds and Gerundive Phrases

1. How is a gerund formed?
2. How do gerunds and gerundive phrases function in sentences?
3. Give an example of a gerundive phrase that functions as the subject of the sentence.
4. Give an example of a gerundive phrase that functions as the object of the sentence.
5. Give an example of a gerundive phrase that functions as the predicate nominative of the sentence.

#### Part V: Compound Sentences

1. What is a clause?
2. What is an independent clause?
3. What is a compound sentence?
4. Give an example of a compound sentence joined by a coordinating conjunction.
5. Give an example of a compound sentence joined by a correlative conjunction.
6. Give an example of a compound sentence joined by a semi-colon.
7. Give an example of a compound sentence joined by a conjunction and a semi-colon.

#### Part VI: Complex & Compound-Complex Sentences

1. What is a complex sentence?
2. What is a dependent clause?
3. What two parts of speech introduce dependent clauses?
4. Give an example of a complex sentence with a dependent clause introduced by a relative pronoun.
5. Give an example of a complex sentence with a dependent clause introduced by a subordinating conjunction.