

## **Supplemental Studies Available for High School**

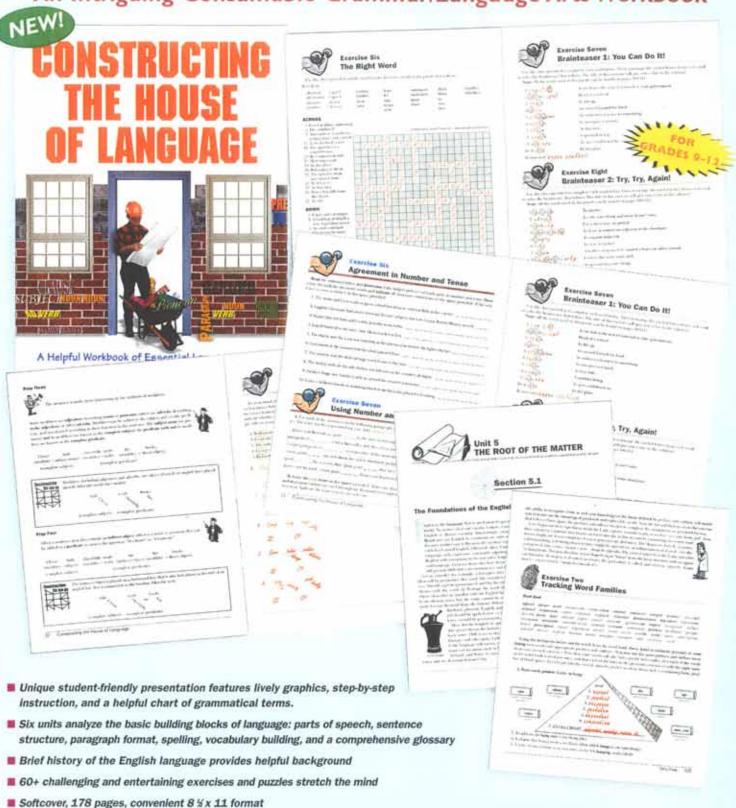




TextWord Press Is Proud to Announce the Publication of

## **CONSTRUCTING THE HOUSE OF LANGUAGE**

An Intriguing Consumable Grammar/Language Arts Workbook







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ow do we start to construct our House of Language? It seems obvious that we should begin by learning about the various parts of speech. After all, words are the foundation of language.



Words are the rivets that lock into place to form sentences. The beams of language will crumble and fall if they are not securely fastened with words, words that are correctly used and properly placed for maximum effectiveness. The acquisition of effective language skills requires a recognition of the role that each individual word plays in the greater whole — the sentence. The part of speech of any word is determined by its own unique

thumbprint in a specific sentence, and may change according to context.

You may ask, "I already speak English — why do I have to learn to identify the parts of speech?" The answer is simple: reviewing the parts of speech and identifying their purpose in a sentence will help you get the big picture,

I already
speak
English —
why do I
have to learn
to identify
the parts of
speech?

and you will learn to speak and write more accurately. In this unit, to help you visualize each word's integral role in a sentence, each of the eight parts of speech has been assigned its own unique identifying color that will be used consistently in the explanations, examples, and exercises that follow.



#### The Parts of Speech

Ask yourself, "How can I recognize the parts of speech? What task does a particular word perform in any individual sentence?" Did you know that, except for interjections (Oh! Well!), you can sum up the function of any word in a sentence in one of just four ways?

How can I recognize the parts of speech?



any people feel almost traumatized when they are confronted by grammatical terms such as *subject*, *predicate*, *subject complement*, *direct* and *indirect object*, *clause* and *phrase*. Their initial reaction is to hope that the whole "nuisance" will somehow disappear forever! Never become discouraged and don't give up! After all, you already speak English — and you usually speak it correctly!



The best way to become familiar with the architecture of language is to practice, review, and practice again. The information provided in this unit is reinforced by numerous exercises that will prove to you that you really can master grammar. Once you have completed the exercises you will find that you will develop an instinctive awareness of what is correct English and what is not. While you may not become a grammar expert, you can certainly harness your recently-acquired expertise in identifying parts of speech to help you continue building effective language skills. Above all, don't be intimidated! Frequently, definitions and explanations may seem complicated, but when you apply the rules, and practice, using the exercises that follow, you will find yourself comfortably attaining levels of expertise you had not expected to achieve.

## Section 2.1

#### The Subject and the Predicate

Let's begin with the basic building blocks of the sentence. In order to be considered a sentence, a group of words must have both a subject and a predicate. The main person or thing referred to in a sentence is its subject. The action or state of being described in a sentence is its predicate. Both the subject and predicate may contain modifiers, such as adjectives, adverbs, and descriptive phrases, as you will see in the pages that follow. Subjects and predicates fall into three categories: simple, compound, and complete.

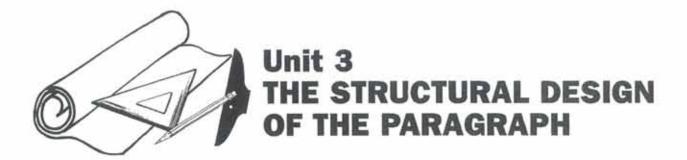
#### The Subject

#### The Simple Subject

The simple subject consists only of the noun or pronoun that performs the action or experiences the state of being that is described in the sentence. The principal word, without its modifiers, is the essence of the subject. Note that the simple subject can be a noun in the plural, such as books, or a compound noun such as macaroni and cheese or fighter jet.



TERM	DEFINITION	EXAMPLE	SENTENCE CHART
appositive	a noun or pronoun placed immediately after another word in a sentence to identify it or to provide more information about it an appositive is usually set off by commas.  An appositive may be a single noun or pronoun,	A terrier, Skye, won "best of breed" at the dog show. (noun as appositive)	terrier (Skye) won best of breed
	it may be a phrase consisting of a noun or pronoun and its modifiers.	Connor, our best athlete, will try out for the Olympic team. (appositive phrase consisting of a noun and its modifiers)	Connor (athlete) will try out
clause	a group of words that consists of a subject (noun or pronoun and any modifying words or phrases) and a predicate (verb and any modifying words, phrases, or objects) that a forms a complete sentence (an	a. Bill worked hard. (1 independ-	Bill worked
	independent clause), OR	ent clause, forming a complete sentence.)	nard:
	b. forms part of a sentence together with another independent clause (compound sentence), OR	b. Susan went out, but Betsy stayed home. (2 independent clauses forming a compound sentence.)	Susan went but the but
	c. forms a sentence with an inde- pendent clause and a subordi- nate (dependent) clause (com- plex sentence).	c. Rob missed class, so he received detention. (1 independent clause + 1 subordinate clause forming a complex sentence.)	Rob missed  class &



n the first two units in this book you have laid the groundwork for building your own individual house of language. You have drawn up a set of architectural plans and you have established the foundations. The beams, held together with rivets, are in place. Words, their parts of speech, and their unique roles within sentences, have become significant building blocks that define meaning, down to the finest nuance, and the correct application of what you have learned thus far will comfortably support the structure you plan to erect. By now you should be able to see the big picture, and the interlocking nature of the information you have absorbed so far. The building process proceeds apace

In this unit, you will use skills you have developed thus far to create paragraphs that can, in turn, be used to build more complex language assignments. Now you are ready to produce paragraphs that say exactly what you want them to say. Below you will find rules and challenging exercises that will set you on your way to becoming a master language builder.

Everyone recognizes the format that gives a paragraph its unique appearance. If asked to define a paragraph, most people will say:

- 1. It is a group of sentences that is arranged in a block on the page.
- 2. It usually starts with an indentation.
- 3. It is often separated from other paragraphs by means of line spacing.

While these may be helpful visual signs, they are not significant criteria to apply when writing a well-constructed paragraph. Instead, before you start writing, ask yourself:

- "What do I need to know in order to write a paragraph?"
- "How should I start a particular paragraph?"
- "How should I end it?"
- "What information do I wish to transmit in the body of the paragraph?"
- "How should I organize the material so that it follows a logical thought sequence?"
- "How can I engage the interest of the reader?"
- "How do I decide when to complete one paragraph and commence another?"
- "What role will any individual paragraph play in a larger piece of writing?"
- "How do I know how many paragraphs will be needed to complete a writing assignment?"

It takes skill and patience to construct well-balanced, relevant paragraphs, yet the key to good writing lies in doing just that. You will discover that, by following the guidelines and tips below and by doing the exercises, you will be able to produce better-quality written assignments.

A paragraph consists of a group of sentences all of which relate to, and develop, a single, central idea. Each sentence in the paragraph must relate to the topic under discussion. Thus, unrelated sentences with no common denominator or topic, even though visually arranged in paragraph format, do not meet the criteria of a paragraph.



And now, finally, it is time for you to write your own paragraphs! Use the checklist below to help you remember all the requirements necessary for the construction of a coherent paragraph.



I have chosen my topic carefully.

# Check List for Paragraph Design

☐ I have researched the information I will provide, or I am very familiar with it.
☐ I have decided on my topic sentence
☐ I have limited my material to the scope presented in my topic sentence
☐ I have decided to use the narrative, compare/contrast, question/answer, cause and effect, or definition method of developing my paragraph.
□ I plan to employ one of the following organizational techniques: chronological, spatial, or logical arrangement
☐ I have deleted all extraneous sentences.
☐ I have chosen definitive or vivid words in order to reach my reader.
☐ I have decided on my concluding sentence.
☐ I have checked and proofread my work for spelling, grammar, and usage.
Select a topic sentence from the list below and create a coherent paragraph that contains supporting sentences and a conclusion. Use the checklist to help you construct a paragraph that meets all the criteria.
Topic Sentences
The state of the s
When beginning a crafts project, it is often wise to review the necessary steps before starting to work. I couldn't believe the sight that met my eyes when I awakened Thursday morning!
Writing a novel may be compared to composing a symphony.
Jumping to conclusions can lead to misunderstandings that take years to be resolved.
Our library door opens inward, revealing a treasure trove ready to be explored.
My hobby is considered quite unusual, but I have always enjoyed being different from the crowd.
34



## Exercise Six The Right Word

Use the clues provided and the words in the list below to fill in the puzzle that follows.

#### Word Bank

alternate	capital	farther	leave	stationary	their	weather
alternative	capitol	further	let	stationery	there	whether
amount	desert	hear	rain	than	to	
number	dessert	here	reign	then	too	
			rein		two	

#### **ACROSS**

- 3. Fixed in place; unmoving
- 4. The number 2
- Atmospheric conditions; temperature and rainfall
- 11. A meal's final course
- The quantity of a counted mass
- 13. By comparison with
- 15. Most important
- 19. In this place
- 20. Belonging to them
- 22. The quantity of an uncounted mass
- 24. To listen to
- 25. At that time
- 26. Water that falls from the clouds
- 27. To rule

#### DOWN

- 1. Paper and envelopes
- A building in which a state legislature meets
- 5. An arid wasteland
- 6. Occurring by turns
- 8. Toward
- 9. Allow
- 10. In addition to; moreover
- 14. A choice between two or more things
- 16. Go away
- 17. Conj. indicating choices
- A leather strap used to control a horse
- 20. Also
- 21. More distant
- 23. In that place

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Created with Eclipse Crossword - www.eclipsecrossword.com

## C. Acrostic Challenge

Fill in the blank spaces below with words defined by the clues; then place the letters in the appropriate spaces in the acrostic that follows, and you will discover an interesting comment about spelling. The first and last letters of each word have been provided for you. The words can be found in the list on pages 116-117. The black dots (•) separate the words in the quotation.

- C. c \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 1
- D. u \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 1 157117 109 27 85 62
- E. d \_\_\_\_\_ <u>t</u> 87 89 145 91 122 150 141
- F.  $\frac{s}{38\ 146\ 40}$   $\frac{}{44}$   $\frac{}{99}$   $\frac{}{81}$   $\frac{}{63}$   $\frac{}{110}$
- G. c \_\_\_\_ y 119 113 104 126 68 70 138 57
- H. 1 e
- I. <u>s</u> <u>t</u> 143 132 13 128 142 100 60 127 108 35
- K.  $\frac{w}{96}$   $\frac{}{64}$   $\frac{}{4}$   $\frac{}{53}$   $\frac{}{18}$   $\frac{}{72}$   $\frac{g}{43}$
- L. m \_ 125 98 17 31 93 32 23 24
- M. q \_\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ t 115 116 55 114 19 11 74 88
- N. u \_ \_ \_ \_ e
- O. v \_ 112 131 8 111 25 3 2
- P. o \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ n 69 71 102 1 75 86 73 118
- $Q.\ \frac{h}{54}\ \frac{}{28}\ \frac{}{20}\ \frac{}{12}\ \frac{}{77}\ \frac{}{76}\ \frac{s}{94}\ \frac{s}{95}$
- S. s \_ \_ \_ <u>m</u> 97 84 121 39 7 129 123
- T. <u>u</u> \_ \_ \_ <u>e</u> 120 107 26 80 105 82 34

School lunchroom.

Reliant on others.

A high-ranking officer in the army.

Being of service; serving a purpose.

The act of traveling downward.

A word segment representing one articulated sound.

A graveyard.

Not tight.

Enough.

In or to every part of; in every part.

The act of putting words on paper.

To write words incorrectly.

The result of division.

The only one of its kind; incomparable.

Able to be seen.

A special time or event, such as a birthday or anniversary.

Funny; comical.

Possessive case of they.

A sign or indication of something, as a disease.

Capable of being employed for a specific purpose.



## Section 5.1

### The Foundations of the English Language

nglish is the language that is used most frequently throughout the world. No matter what one's native tongue, a working knowledge of English is almost essential. Interestingly enough, a person from Brazil may use English to communicate with someone from Japan, because neither one is fluent in the mother tongue of the other, yet

each has learned English. Obviously then, English has become an international language. It is a living language, rich, expressive, constantly adjusting to accommodate the changing world in which we live. Replete with exceptions to its own rules, English certainly challenges those who must learn it as a second language. Even for those who have been raised to consider it as their mother tongue, English can still present difficulties, inconsistencies, and frustrations.

Let us consider, for example, a foreigner who is confronted with the word ought in print. How will he pronounce this word? He considers the word bough that rhymes with the word now. Should ought be pronounced out? On the other hand, the word cough rhymes with the word off. Perhaps the word should be pronounced off.

Those of us who are familiar with the English language are seldom troubled by its idiosyncrasies, but the same cannot be said of those who pursue its

study. George Bernard Shaw, the famous 20th-century playwright, called for a stan-

dardized, phonetic English spelling format, and suggested, tongue in cheek, that the word fish should be spelled ghoti — the letters gh would be pronounced as in the word laugh, the letter o would be pronounced as in the word women, and the letters ti as in association!

How did the English we speak develop and what makes it such a complicated language? The answer lies in the history of England itself. The earliest known roots of the language go back some 2400 years to the Celts, who had settled in England from various locations in Europe, and who spoke Celtic, a language of their own. Very few words from the original Celtic language still survive, except for the names of rivers such as Avon and Thames, and the names of locations such as Bryn Mawr and Kent. The languages of Southwestern England, Ireland, and Wales (Cornish, Gaelic, and Welsh, respectively) are in somewhat limited use

Celtic flagon Ireland,

today and are descended from Celtic.

Ghoti?

## Section 5.2

#### **Word Origins**

Did you ever think you might be able to speak Latin and Greek? Well, you already do! Although you may not be aware of it, many of the everyday words we use have their roots in the classical languages. Even words that seem to have no connection often share the same root, and it is fascinating to see how the denotation of the root branches out to create words with seemingly unrelated meanings. For example, the words assault and exult share the same Latin root; salire, meaning to jump, to leap. We can see that the base meaning branches out to form both assault — to leap out at (in order to attack) and exult — to leap out of oneself (with happiness). Other words originating from the Latin salire all relate, distantly in some cases, to the concept of something that leaps out at one—in one way or another. Thus, we find result — something that jumps out at you because it seems obvious; insult — something that leaps at you, attacking your perception of yourself; salient — capturing one's attention, significant; and sally — an attack in which one leaps at the enemy.



It becomes important to recognize the source of a word as you search for its meaning. Although the Latin root sal, meaning salt, appears similar to the Latin root salire mentioned above, it is totally unrelated. Yet sal is the source of its own word family, and you will discover that the word salary is a modernized form of the Latin word salarium, literally salt money. Salary refers back to the time when Roman soldiers, who received most of their needs from the army, were compelled to use their pay to buy salt, a valuable commodity in those days). In the same way, the word salami refers to a highly salted food product; saline refers to a salty liquid; and desalinate refers to the process of removing salt from water.



Note that the spelling of a root may change slightly when used in derived words. This is because the word may have come down to English from Latin, Greek, French, Norse, German, or even from another language, and its spelling may have been affected by the secondary source language.



## Exercise One Tracing Word Origins

Now let's play word detective. On the next page you will find a list of Latin word roots and their definitions, as well as a chart. Complete the chart by matching the word with its root word, and then list the current meaning of the English word. Note that prefixes and/or suffixes have been added to the source word. You may use a dictionary or the GLOSSARY (UNIT 6) to help you find the answers. You will find that sometimes a word contains more than one root, and that its current meaning, while connected to the root, can vary somewhat from the original.

the ability to recognize roots, as well your knowledge of the limits defined by prefixes and suffixes, will enable you to ferret out the meanings of previously indecipherable words. Scan the list and then go on to the exercise that follows. Once again, the prefixes and suffixes needed to complete the assignment are provided for you.

Let's begin our first expedition (from the Latin expedire, to make ready; to set free: ex = out, from; ped = foot; thus, expedition; a journey that begins on foot) into the realm of roots by examining two words your doctor might use if you complain of severe pain in your abdomen. The diagnosis (Greek, diagnosis, a distinguishing; a defining characteristic) might be appendicitis, an inflammation of (Greek: -itis) the vermiform (Latin: vermis = worm + form = shaped) appendix. The root of appendix is the Latin appendere, "to hang from," because this thin, worm-shaped organ "hangs" from the large intestine, with no apparent function. If surgery is deemed necessary, the procedure is called appendectomy: appendix (Latin base) + ectomy (Greek, "surgical removal of").

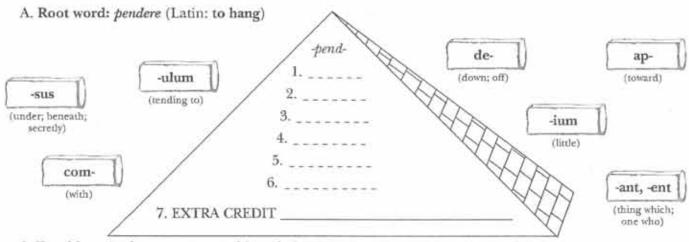


# Exercise Two Tracking Word Families

#### Word Bank

append attract avert circumscribe compendium conduct conductor conspire contract convivial corporal corporation corpse corpulent corpuscle deduction denomination dependent deportment describe divert duct educate expire extract extrovert ignominious import incorporate induce inscription intractable introvert invert nominal nominate nominative pendant pendulum perspire porter prescription report respiration retract revert revive scribble scribe spirit subscription subtract survive suspense traction tractor transpire transport vital vivacious vivid

Using the definitions below and the words from the word bank above, build word-family pyramids by combining root words with appropriate prefixes and suffixes. (You may use the same prefixes and suffixes more than once in each exercise.) Note that some words will take both a prefix and a suffix, that each of the words in the word bank is used just once, and that each of the lines in the pyramids contains exactly the right number of blank spaces. Let's begin with the root of appendix, pendere, or, in its shortened or combining form, pend:



- To add on (to hang onto something else)
- 2. A charm that hangs from a necklace (that which hangs from something)
- 3. A state of uncertainty as to outcome (to be left hanging; undecided)

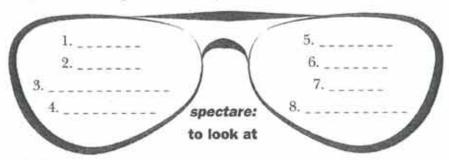


#### Word Bank

affirm affirmative allocate aspect circumlocution colloquial confirm elocution eloquent firmament infirm infirmity inspect introspection local location locomotive loquacious preside president prospect relocate reside respect sedentary sediment spectacles spectacular suspect

In the exercise that follows, complete each word graphic by using words from the word bank above. Derive your answers by using the clues under each graphic and your knowledge of prefixes and suffixes. The root words will assist you. Each line contains just the right number of spaces for the appropriate word, and each of the words in the word bank is used once in this exercise. Use the GLOSSARY (Unit 6) to check the etymology (the source) and meaning of the words you choose.

A.



- 1. To examine; to look carefully at
- 2. To doubt or mistrust; to look beneath the surface for hidden motives
- 3. To look into oneself; to examine one's own motivations
- 4. A device used to look at objects closely; eyeglasses
- 5. Outlook for the future; outlook or view over a region
- 6. To show consideration for; to look back at with a sense of worth
- 7. Outward appearance; look; a way in which something may be viewed or looked at
- 8. Impressive; a striking or impressive show; a large scale display designed to make one look at it

#### B.

- 1. Unhealthy; not strong
- 2. To state positively; to uphold strongly
- 3. To add strength to; to corroborate
- 4. Strongly expressing agreement or consent
- The sky; the heavens, believed to be the strong support of the world
- 6. Physical weakness; lack of strength

#### firmare: to make strong

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