



DAILY PRACTICE EXERCISES IN BASIC ENGLISH RULES

1	Common and Proper Nouns A common noun names any person, place, or thing. A proper noun names a particular person, place, or thing.
2	Concrete and Abstract Nouns Concrete nouns refer to things you can see or touch — tangible objects. Abstract nouns refer to qualities or ideas — things which are intangible.
3	Collective Nouns Collective nouns are singular in form yet either singular or plural in meaning.
4	Pronouns Pronouns are noun substitutes.
5	Pronouns in Nominative Case Nominative case refers to subjects. Nominative case pronouns include "I," "you," "he," "she," "it," "we," and "they."
6	Pronouns in Objective Case Objective case refers to direct objects, indirect objects, and objects of the preposition. Objective case pronouns include "me," "you," "him," "her," "it," "us," and "them."
7	Interrogative Pronouns "Who," "what," "whose," "whom," and "which" are interrogative pronouns that introduce questions.
8	Demonstrative Pronouns "This," "that," "these," and "those" are demonstrative pronouns when they are used to point out. "This" (singular) and "these" (plural) refer to things nearby. "That" (singular) and "those" (plural) refer to things away.
9	Adjectives Adjectives are words that tell which one, what kind, or how many. They usually precede the noun they modify.
10	Demonstrative Adjectives When "this," "that," "these," and "those" are used before nouns, they are called demonstrative adjectives.
11	Adverbs An adverb is a word that tells when, where, why, and how.
12	Intensifiers Intensifiers show how strong or weak the adjective or adverb is.
13	Using the Comparative Degree (er) Most one- and two-syllable adjectives and adverbs form the comparative degree by adding the suffix "er."
14	Using the Superlative Degree (est) Most one- and two-syllable adjectives and adverbs form the superlative degree by adding the suffix "est."
15	Using the Comparative Degree (More) Most adjectives and adverbs of two or more syllables form the comparative degree by adding the word "more."
16	Using the Superlative Degree (Most) Most adjectives and adverbs of two or more syllables form the superlative degree by adding the word "most."
17	Linking Verbs A linking verb relates the subject to its complement.
18	Auxiliary Verbs Auxiliary verbs are helping verbs. They precede the main verb.
19	Transitive Verbs Transitive verbs are action verbs. They require direct objects.
20	Intransitive Verbs Intransitive verbs do not require direct objects. (Linking verbs are intransitive.)
21	Progressive Verbs A progressive verb ends in "ing" preceded by a form of the verb "to be." It shows continuous action.
22	Active Voice A verb is active when the subject is the doer of the action.
23	Passive Voice A verb is passive when the subject is the receiver of the action.
24	Coordinating Conjunctions Coordinating conjunctions join words, phrases, or clauses that are grammatically equal.
25	Correlative Conjunctions When two coordinating conjunctions are used together, they are termed correlative conjunctions.
26	Prepositions A preposition shows the relationship between words. The preposition introduces the prepositional phrase.
27	Prepositional Phrases A prepositional phrase begins with a preposition and ends with an object of the preposition.
28	Prepositional Phrases That Function as Adjectives Prepositional phrases that tell which one, what kind, or how many have the same function as adjectives.
29	Prepositional Phrases That Function as Adverbs Prepositional phrases that tell when, where, why, or how have the same function as adverbs.
30	Commas to Set Off Introductory Prepositional Phrases Commas are often used after long or numerous introductory prepositional phrases to prevent misreading.
31	Subjects The subject is the noun or pronoun of the sentence about which something is stated.
32	Understood Subjects Understood subjects are not stated but are implied. They occur in imperative sentences.
33	S-V Agreement Subjects and verbs must agree in number (singular or plural) and person (1st, 2nd, or 3rd).
34	Direct Objects Direct objects follow transitive verbs and answer the question "who" or "what."

35	Indirect Objects An indirect object falls between the transitive verb and the direct object. It answers the question "to whom" or "for whom."
36	Nouns Used as Objective Complements An objective complement is a noun that follows the direct object and renames the direct object. (Note: Test the objective complement by inserting the words "to be" before it.)
37	Adjectives Used as Objective Complements An objective complement is an adjective that follows the direct object and describes the direct object. (Note: Test the objective complement by inserting the words "to be" before it.)
38	Objective Complements An objective complement is a noun or an adjective that follows the direct object and renames or describes the direct object.
39	Expletives Expletives are words like "it" or "there" when they are used as fillers.
40	Appositives An appositive is a noun or noun phrase which renames the noun it follows.
41	Double Negatives Never use more than one negative in the same sentence.
42	The Infinitive An infinitive is the word "to" and the present tense form of a verb.
43	The Infinitive Phrase The infinitive phrase contains an infinitive, its complement, and its modifiers.
44	Avoiding Split Infinitives For clarity in meaning, it is best to avoid splitting infinitives.
45	Infinitives Used as Subjects The infinitive or infinitive phrase may serve as the subject of the sentence.
46	Infinitives Used as Direct Objects An infinitive or infinitive phrase may serve as the direct object of the sentence.
47	Infinitives Used as Adjectives The infinitive or infinitive phrase may serve as an adjective.
48	Infinitives Used as Adverbs The infinitive or infinitive phrase may serve as an adverb.
49	The Gerund A gerund is a verb form ending in "ing" and used as a noun.
50	The Gerund Phrase The gerund phrase contains the gerund, its complement, and its modifiers.
51	Gerunds Used as Subjects A gerund or a gerund phrase may serve as the subject of the sentence.
52	Gerunds Used as Direct Objects A gerund or a gerund phrase may serve as the direct object of the sentence.
53	Gerunds Used as Objects of the Preposition A gerund or a gerund phrase may serve as an object of the preposition.
54	Forming the Present Participle A present participle is formed by adding "ing" to the present form of a verb.
55	Forming the Past Participle The third principal part of the verb is the past participle. It may be used as a verb or an adjective.
56	The Participial Phrase The participial phrase contains the participle, its complement, and its modifiers.
57	The Function of Participles Participles and participial phrases function as adjectives.
58	Independent Clauses — Main Clauses The independent clause contains a subject, a verb, complements, and modifiers. It is a complete sentence.
59	Dependent Clauses — Subordinate Clauses The dependent clause contains a subject, a verb, complements, and modifiers. However, it cannot stand alone as a complete sentence.
60	Restrictive Clauses A restrictive clause is necessary to a sentence's meaning.
61	Nonrestrictive Clauses A nonrestrictive clause is not necessary to a sentence's meaning.
62	Commas to Set Off Nonrestrictive Clauses Nonrestrictive clauses are set off by commas.
63	Antecedents An antecedent is a noun to which a pronoun has reference.
64	Avoiding Ambiguous Reference There should exist a clear reference between a pronoun and its antecedent.
65	Dangling Modifiers Dangling modifiers occur when phrases do not show a clear reference to the words they modify.

66	Parallel Construction of Words Parallel structure occurs when nouns are balanced with nouns, adjectives with adjectives, infinitives with infinitives, gerunds with gerunds, or adverbs with adverbs.
67	Parallel Construction of Phrases Parallel structure occurs when infinitive phrases are balanced with infinitive phrases, gerund phrases with gerund phrases, or prepositional phrases with prepositional phrases.
68	Sentence Fragments A fragment is an incomplete sentence.
69	Sentence Run-Ons Sentence run-ons occur when two or more sentences are fused through a lack of punctuation.
70	The Order of Words The order of words in a sentence conveys the meaning.
71	Simple Sentences A simple sentence is an independent clause. It contains a subject, a predicate, and modifiers.
72	Compound Sentences A compound sentence is two or more simple sentences joined together with a coordinating conjunction.
73	Semicolons to Divide Compound Sentences In compound sentences a semicolon (;) may be used to separate the two independent clauses when no coordinating conjunction is used. (Avoid overuse of the semicolon.)
74	Complex Sentences A complex sentence contains an independent clause and one or more dependent clauses.
75	Differentiating Between Simple, Compound, and Complex Sentences A simple sentence contains an independent clause. A compound sentence contains two or more independent clauses joined by one or more coordinating conjunctions. A complex sentence contains an independent clause and one or more dependent clauses.
76	Writing & Punctuating Declarative Sentences Declarative sentences make statements. They end with periods.
77	Writing & Punctuating Interrogative Sentences Interrogative sentences ask questions. They end with question marks.
78	Writing & Punctuating Imperative Sentences Imperative sentences make commands. They end with periods.
79	Writing & Punctuating Exclamatory Sentences Exclamatory sentences express strong feelings. They end with exclamation points.
80	Writing & Punctuating Interjections Interjections are words that express emotion. Strong interjections are followed by exclamation points. Mild interjections are followed by commas.
81	Punctuating the End of a Sentence Periods end declarative and imperative sentences. Question marks end interrogative sentences. Exclamation points end exclamatory sentences and interjections.
82	N-V The N-V pattern includes a subject and its predicate.
83	N-V-N The N-V-N sentence pattern includes a subject, its predicate, and a direct object.
84	N-LV-N The N-LV-N sentence pattern includes a subject, a linking verb, and a predicate noun.
85	N-LV-ADJ The N-LV-ADJ sentence pattern includes a subject, a linking verb, and a predicate adjective.
86	N-V-IO-DO The N-V-IO-DO sentence pattern includes a subject, a verb, an indirect object, and a direct object.
87	N-V-DO-OC The N-V-DO-OC sentence pattern includes a subject, a verb, a direct object, and an objective complement.
88	Identifying the Sentence Pattern: There are six basic sentence patterns. They are as follows: N-V, N-V-N, N-LV-N, N-LV-ADJ, N-V-DO-OC, and N-V-IO-DO.
89	Commas to Set Off Introductory Phrases A comma is used after introductory participial and infinitive phrases.
90	Colons to Introduce Lists The colon is used to introduce a list of items. Commas are used between items in the list.
91	Hyphenating at the End of a Line A hyphen is used when a word is divided at the end of a line. Divide words only between syllables.
92	"Who" and "Whom" "Who" is the nominative (subject) form. "Whom" is the objective form.
93	"Which" and "Who" "Which" is used to refer to places and things (including animals). "Who" is used to refer to persons.
94	Affixes Affixes are either prefixes or suffixes. They have definite meanings and change the meanings of the words to which they are added.
95	Synonyms Synonyms are words that have similar meanings.
96	Antonyms Antonyms are words that have opposite meanings.

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