

SVOO --- SVOA

Exercise 1

Supply a prepositional phrase which could replace the indirect object in each of the following sentences:

- 1 May I ask you a great favour?
- 2 Listen! I'm going to play you a new record.
- 3 Can I play you a game of chess?
- 4 I can change you a cheque if you like.
- 5 Will you choose me an interesting book?
- 6 We wish all our friends a very happy New Year.
- 7 I have left you some soup on the stove.
- 8 An uncle of mine left me a thousand pounds.
- 9 Would you throw me that rubber, please?
- 10 Would you mind bringing me a towel?

Clause Elements Semantically Considered

Exercise 2

Indicate, by *a, b, c, etc.*, whether the element underlined is

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| a S agentive | e O affected |
| b S agent./instrumental | f O recipient |
| c S affected | g C current |
| d S recipient | h C resulting |

- 1 It feels cold today.
- 2 The cold affects me badly.
- 3 The cold killed the trees.
- 4 It is turning quite cold.
- 5 The bell rang loudly.
- 6 I heard it ring, too.
- 7 You've got brains.
- 8 Use your brains.
- 9 She lay in his arms.
- 10 We found the house empty.
- 11 They left the house empty.
- 12 I don't like toast burnt.
- 13 I had those books burnt.
- 14 Who owns this hat?
- 15 The table is shaking.
- 16 Who is shaking it?
- 17 We laid him on the sofa.
- 18 We made him some tea.
- 19 These shoes cut my feet.
- 20 I'll give you the answer.

Exercise 3

Rephrase the sentences so that O affected becomes S affected:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1 Terrorists blew up the dam. | 6 We rolled the car down the hill. |
| 2 I've broken my glasses. | 7 The doctor set my broken arm easily. |
| 3 The frost has killed my roses. | 8 The guard shut the gate quickly. |
| 4 Someone has moved that picture. | 9 The driver stopped the train. |
| 5 A visitor rang the bell. | 10 I can't turn this screw. |

Exercise 4

Indicate, by *a, b* or *c*, whether the object underlined is
a affected b effected c locative

- 1 Has anyone touched the television today?
- 2 Who is making all that noise?
- 3 We are just passing the Eiffel Tower.
- 4 Take a deep breath.
- 5 Somebody took my coat by mistake.
- 6 I climbed the hill as light fell short.
- 7 A gas leak can cause a serious explosion.
- 8 We have fought a good fight - and lost.
- 9 Have you dropped your handkerchief, my dear?
- 10 After that I paid her a visit every evening.

Subject-verb concord

Exercise 5

Choose an acceptable verb, giving two answers if necessary:

- 1 Everyone of us { has / have } his own burden to shoulder.
- 2 It is on each individual effort that the safety and happiness of the whole { depends / depend }
- 3 What are often regarded as poisonous fungi { is / are } sometimes safely edible.
- 4 What are these things doing here { is / are } what I'd like to know.
- 5 War and peace { is / are } a constant theme in history.
- 6 War and peace { is / are } alternatives between which man must constantly choose.
- 7 'War and Peace' { is / are } a fascinating novel.
- 8 The people outside { is / are } getting very impatient.
- 9 The public { is / are } demanding an official enquiry.
- 10 The Seven Sisters { is / are } a line of chalk cliffs on the coast of Sussex.
- 11 The seven wonders of the world { was / were } well-known in ancient times.

Assignment 1

Due Date: Thursday Feb. 20th

- 12 'The Three Bears' $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{is} \\ \text{are} \end{array} \right\}$ a well-known nursery story.
- 13 The Philippines $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{is} \\ \text{are} \end{array} \right\}$ a large group of islands.
- 14 None but the brave $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{deserve} \\ \text{deserves} \end{array} \right\}$ the fair.
- 15 Neither John nor Mary $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{has} \\ \text{have} \end{array} \right\}$ replied to my letter.
- 16 I wrote both to John and to Mary. Neither $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{has} \\ \text{have} \end{array} \right\}$ replied.
- 17 Physics, as well as chemistry, $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{is} \\ \text{are} \end{array} \right\}$ taught at this school.
- 18 The employment of girls under sixteen $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{is} \\ \text{are} \end{array} \right\}$ forbidden.
- 19 Everybody $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{know} \\ \text{knows} \end{array} \right\}$ what they have to do.
- 20 How is it that your answer and your neighbour's $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{is} \\ \text{are} \end{array} \right\}$ identical?

Other types of concord

Exercise 6

Select an appropriate alternative, noting that more than one may be acceptable.

- 1 The Committee will insist on $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{its} \\ \text{their} \end{array} \right\}$ rights.
- 2 The Committee wishes to reconsider $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{its} \\ \text{their} \end{array} \right\}$ decision.
- 3 Every passenger has to carry $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{his} \\ \text{their} \end{array} \right\}$ own luggage.
- 4 Wait till everyone has finished before you start taking away $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{his} \\ \text{their} \end{array} \right\}$ plates.
- 5 You have always been such $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{a good friend} \\ \text{good friends} \end{array} \right\}$.
- 6 George asked Mary if $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{he} \\ \text{she} \end{array} \right\}$ would mind choosing some flowers for $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{his} \\ \text{her} \end{array} \right\}$ wife.
- 7 Mary told George that $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{he} \\ \text{she} \end{array} \right\}$ had to wait for $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{his} \\ \text{her} \end{array} \right\}$ cousin.
- 8 I consider them $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{the guilty party} \\ \text{scoundrels} \end{array} \right\}$.
- 9 We have received your estimate for the alterations you propose but have decided that $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{it} \\ \text{they} \end{array} \right\}$ would be $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{too high} \\ \text{unnecessary} \end{array} \right\}$.

Negation

Exercise 7

Negate the finite verb in each of the following sentences and make other changes that then become necessary:

- We have enough evidence already.
- There is someone doing research in this field.
- Smoking has something to do with cancer of the lung.
- Tar from cigarette tobacco, painted onto the skin of mice, produced skin cancer on some of them.
- This applies to some of the people here already.
- This experiment has revealed something of importance.
- It helps us in our daily work, to a certain extent, too.
- We must go a long way to find someone as good as this.
- Robertson is still living at this address.
- He has been away from home a very long time.
- Hundreds of students can find somewhere comfortable to live.
- The doctor has sometimes given me some useful advice.
- There are a lot of people in the auditorium already.
- I can understand both of these two sentences.
- I can understand all of these ten words.

Exercise 8

Note the following model:

- A There are some people in the auditorium already.
 B Oh, I'd say there are very few.
 C I agree. There are very few people in the auditorium.

Then, from each of the statements below made by A, produce a suitable comment by C, on the lines of the model above, agreeing with B's rejoinder:

- A Smoking has something to do with cancer.
B Ferguson denies that.
- A We must always go a long way to find someone interested.
B Oh, I would say seldom.
- A The experiment has revealed something of importance.
B Hm, scarcely.
- A We have all had some experience of real hunger.
B Surely only two of us have.
- A I am in favour of making some concessions to the other side.
B Well, I am against it.
- A I always see something good on television.
B You're fortunate. I rarely do.
- A People have sometimes given an honest answer to that question.
B I say that few people have.

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- 8 A I remembered to bring some food with me.
B Oh, I forgot to.
- 9 A There is surely hope of finding some of the passengers alive.
B I am afraid there is very little hope.
- 10 A There is certain opposition to our proposal.
B I am unaware of it myself.

Exercise 9

Rephrase each of the following sentences, beginning it with the words underlined:

- 1 We have never heard a more distinguished performance.
- 2 We seldom receive such generous praise.
- 3 This nation scarcely ever in the past faced so great a danger.
- 4 We were never before asked to make a sacrifice of this magnitude.
- 5 There is rarely an opportunity for us to serve the community in this way.
- 6 We shall only then begin to realize the appalling danger before us.

Exercise 10

Negate each of the following sentences in two ways, explaining what difference there is, if any, between one way and the other:

- 1 Many people attended the meeting.
- 2 All the people were at work.
- 3 Everyone here agrees with you.
- 4 Much of the food was bad.
- 5 One of the runners heard the starting pistol.
- 6 Another reason for the delay was given.
- 7 A little of the money was spent on this project.
- 8 A few of you will have noticed the warning.
- 9 Half of the work has already been completed.
- 10 The least of our problems has been solved.

Exercise 11

The sentences below can be interpreted in two ways, according to the scope or focus of negation. Reword them in two ways, so as to make the different meanings clear:

- 1 I don't lend my books to any of the students.
- 2 Everything that glitters is not gold.
- 3 We haven't completed half the work.
- 4 My instructions do not apply to a few of you.
- 5 All the people were not informed of the army's plans.
- 6 We did not inform you because we doubted your loyalty.

- 7 The meeting was not held on account of your absence.
- 8 You have not been dismissed in accordance with Clause 6 of your contract.
- 9 We did not receive your letter because of delays in the post.
- 10 The patient did not die as a result of your assistance, doctor.

Exercise 12

Note that *I may not go* can have two different meanings illustrated as follows:

<i>Auxiliary</i>	<i>Main Verb</i>
1 I am not allowed to	go
2 I probably will	not go

In 1, the auxiliary is negated; in 2 the main verb is negated. Analyse each of the following unambiguous sentences in one of those ways, and paraphrase each sentence so as to make its meaning quite clear.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Susan can't type very fast. | 6 You oughtn't to behave like that. |
| 2 She can't use my typewriter tomorrow. | 7 You needn't be alarmed. |
| 3 They can't be far away now. | 8 They won't be very pleased. |
| 4 I may not be very late. | 9 He won't listen to a word I say. |
| 5 They can't have arrived yet. | 10 You mustn't leave your coat there. |