Essential Conventions Check Mate
Teacher Resource Guide Sampler

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1. Daily Quick-Fix Sentences (Sampler pages 2-5)
The Daily Quick-Fix Sentences provide reproducible masters for practice with the essential conventions presented in Check Mate. The Teacher Resource Guide has 20 sets of exercises and accompanying Answer Keys. For each set of Daily Quick-Fix Sentences there are:
   - Focused Practices (exercises 1-3)
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   - ACEs (suggestions for using the conventions in authentic writing activities)

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→ For more FREE Daily Quick-Fix Sentences, Tip Sheets, and Glossary Terms visit: collinsed.com/resources.htm

→ To learn about the full line of Essential Conventions materials for grades 2-12, visit: www.collinsed.com

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Gary B. Chadwell
Daily Exercises

Focus on Check Mate Rules 1.A, 1.B, 1.C: A sentence must have a period, question mark, or exclamation mark at the end.

Sentence Theme: Language arts

(Focused Practice)

1. What is your favorite Aesop's fable (1 fix)

2. Do you want to know mine? My favorite is The Tortoise and the Hare. I love that story (3 sentences/3 fixes)

3. The term “sour grapes” comes from an Aesop’s fable. Do you know which one? It comes from the fable The Fox and the Grape (3 sentences/3 fixes)

(Mixed Practice)

4. Do you know who Aesop was? He was a slave and story-teller who lived in ancient Greece. Aesop was not the first to create fables, but he may be the most famous of all story-tellers (3 sentences/7 fixes) Rules 1.A, 1.B, 2.A, 2.B, 2.D

5. Aesop’s fables became a model for fables throughout history. His fables were short stories that usually had animals talking, thinking, and doing things that humans do. Aesop’s fables try to teach a lesson that helps us be better human beings (3 sentences/9 fixes) Rules 1.A, 2.A, 2.B, 3.B, 5.B

Extended Passage

Since he lived so long ago, the details of Aesop’s life are disputed. Most historians agree that he was a slave, a story-teller, and an advisor to kings. Did he write the stories, or just tell them? Most agree that he did both. We also are unsure of what he looked like. Some ancient pictures show him as an ugly man with a deformed body. Others show him as a handsome man from Ethiopia (7 sentences/18 fixes) Rules 1.A, 1.B, 2.A, 2.B, 2.D, 3.B, 5.B
**Daily Exercises**

(Focused Practice)

1. What is your favorite Aesop's fable? (1 fix)

2. Do you want to know mine? My favorite is *The Tortoise and the Hare*. I love that story! (3 sentences/3 fixes)

3. The term "sour grapes" comes from an Aesop's fable. Do you know which one? It comes from the fable *The Fox and the Grapes*. (3 sentences/3 fixes)

(Mixed Practice)

4. Do you know who Aesop was? He was a slave and story-teller who lived in ancient Greece. Aesop was not the first to create fables, but he may be the most famous of all story-tellers. (3 sentences/7 fixes) Rules 1.A, 1.B, 2.A, 2.B, 2.D

5. Aesop's fables became a model for fables throughout history. His fables were short stories that usually had animals talking, thinking, and doing things that humans do. Aesop's fables try to teach a lesson that helps us be better human beings. (3 sentences/9 fixes) Rules 1.A, 2.A, 2.B, 3.B, 5.B

**Extended Passage**

Since he lived so long ago, the details of Aesop's life are disputed. Most historians agree that he was a slave, a story-teller, and an advisor to kings. Did he write the stories or just tell them? Most agree that he did both. We also are unsure of what he looked like. Some ancient pictures show him as an ugly man with a deformed body. Others show him as a handsome man from Ethiopia. (7 sentences/18 fixes) Rules 1.A, 1.B, 2.A, 2.B, 2.D, 3.B, 5.B

★ To the Teacher:  
Don't forget! There are ACEs (Applications, Challenges, Extensions, and Samples) activities for this and other Check Mate rules starting on page 48 of this Teacher Resource Guide.
Daily Exercises

Focus on Check Mate Rule 6.A: A verb must agree with its subject. If the subject is singular, the verb must be singular.

Rule 6.B: If the subject is plural, the verb must be plural.

Sentence Theme: Mathematics

(Focused Practice)

1. The first paper money in North America were in Canada. The Liberty coins, worth one dollar, was the first official money in the United States. They was issued in 1795. (3 sentences/3 fixes)

2. Where do the word “dollar” come from? It come from a very long German word that was simplified to “thaler” in Europe. In English it were changed to “dollar.” (3 sentences/3 fixes)

3. Everyone know about plastic credit cards, but did you realizes that Australia have bills printed on plastic? (3 fixes)

(Mixed Practice)

4. did you ever notice that every american currency bill read, This Note Is Legal Tender” on it However, their is no law that force a seller to accept it. heres a law that might surprise you, though. no living person can appears on united states currency (4 sentences/14 fixes) Rules 1.A, 1.B, 2.A, 2.E, 4.A, 5.A, 6.A, 6.B, 7.A


Extended Passage

replacing worn out money are a big job. The U.s. Treasurys bureau of Engraving and printing make 38 million bills each day. Thats about $750 million worth of money The government also make about 80 million coins every day. Stamping each coin with a special design are called “minting.” Thats why the governments factory is called the u.s. mint (6 sentences/17 fixes) Rules 1.A, 1.C, 2.A, 2.E, 2.F, 5.A, 5.B, 6.A
Daily Exercises

(Focused Practice)

1. The first paper money in North America was in Canada. The Liberty coins, worth one dollar, were the first official money in the United States. They were issued in 1795.

(3 sentences/3 fixes)

2. Where does the word "dollar" come from? It comes from a very long German word that was simplified to "thaler" in Europe. In English it was changed to "dollar."

(3 sentences/3 fixes)

3. Everyone knows about plastic credit cards, but did you realize that Australia has bills printed on plastic? (3 fixes)

(Mixed Practice)

4. Did you ever notice that every American currency bill reads "This Note Is Legal Tender" on it? However, there is no law that forces a seller to accept it. Here's a law that might surprise you, though: no living person can appear on United States currency.

(4 sentences/14 fixes) Rules 1A, 1B, 2A, 2E, 4A, 5A, 6A, 6B, 7A

5. The American people don't seem to like $1 coins. Our government regularly issues new $1 coins, but the public doesn't like them. Why do the government keep issuing them? It's because they last so much longer than dollar bills. Coins last about 30 years, but dollar bills last only about 18 months.

(5 sentences/14 fixes) Rules 1A, 1B, 2A, 2E, 3C, 5A, 6A, 6B, 7A

Extended Passage

Replacing worn out money is a big job. The U.S. Treasury's bureau of Engraving and Printing makes 38 million bills each day. That's about $750 million worth of money! The government also makes about 80 million coins every day. Stamping each coin with a special design is called "minting." That's why the government's factory is called the U.S. Mint.

(6 sentences/17 fixes) Rules 1A, 1C, 2A, 2E, 2F, 5A, 5B, 6A

★ To the Teacher:
Don't forget! There are ACES (Applications, Challenges, Extensions, and Samples) activities for this and other Check Mate rules starting on page 48 of this Teacher Resource Guide.
Use a comma to separate two or more adjectives that describe the same noun.

There was a large, noisy crowd at the ball game.

He enjoys reading long, difficult books.

*Note:* Use a comma between two or more adjectives only if they are equal in strength and emphasis.

HINT

He is the one who sings the long, romantic ballads. *(Long and romantic describe ballads equally. It still sounds right with either test, so a comma is needed.)*

I had two fat hamburgers before going to the movie. *(Two and fat both describe hamburgers, but they are not equal in strength. It does not sound right with either test, so no comma is needed.)*

Her dress had many red stripes and a blue bow. *(Many and red both describe stripes, but they are not equal. It does not sound right with either test, so no comma is needed.)*
Glossary of Essential Terms

**Acronym** - An acronym is an abbreviation made up of the first letters or first sounds of several words. An Acronym is usually pronounced as a word like PIN (for Personal Identification Number) or ASAP (for as soon as possible). See FANBOYS below. (An initialism is a type of abbreviation in which each letter is pronounced separately like NBA or USA.)

**Adjective** - An adjective is a word that modifies (describes) a noun or pronoun [Example: I threw my stuffed backpack in my messy room.].

**Adverb** - An adverb is a word that modifies (describes) verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs. They tell how, when, where, why, how much, or how often [Example: I waited patiently for my turn.].

**Antecedent** - A pronoun is used in place of a noun. The noun that a pronoun refers to is called its antecedent. The pronoun antecedent is also called a pronoun referent. The noun usually goes before the pronoun (“ante” means before) [Example: Teachers like vacations because they get to rest, too. Note: In this sentence the pronoun “they” refers to the antecedent “Teachers.”].

**Apostrophe (’):** An apostrophe is used within a word to show possession [Example: Babe Ruth’s home run record was broken by Hank Aaron in 1974.], to indicate that one or more letters have been left out of a word [Example: haven’t instead of have not], or to make plural forms of letters, numbers, and symbols [Examples: He got mostly +’s on his quizzes. She gets all B’s in math.]. (See the Tip Sheet: Apostrophes-Specialized Rules.)

**Appositive** - An appositive is a word or phrase in a sentence that describes or renames a noun or pronoun. The appositive immediately follows the noun it renames and is usually set off with commas [Example: Jesse Owens, American track and field star, won four gold medals in the 1938 Olympics.].

**Clause** - A clause is a group of words that has a subject and a predicate (verb). A clause can be either an independent clause or a dependent clause. An independent clause expresses a complete thought and can stand by itself as a sentence [Example: I like to wear my baseball hat. Note: I is the subject, and like is the predicate in this independent clause.]. A dependent clause (also called a subordinate clause) has a subject and predicate but does not express a complete thought. Dependent clauses usually start with a subordinating conjunction like when, after, because, or if. [Example: when it is raining has a subject (it) and a predicate (is) but does not
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