Essential Conventions Check Mate
Teacher Resource Guide Sampler

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Gary B. Chadwell
Daily Exercises


Sentence Theme: Music and the arts

(Focused Practice)

1. Bel canto literally “beautiful singing.” (1 fix)

2. The Baroque period about drama and ornamentation. The dramatic, busy styles of the era’s fashion and architecture its inspiration. (2 sentences/2 fixes)

3. A very abstract and fragmented style of painting, the invention of Cubism by Picasso and Georges Braque an important development in 20th century art. (1 fix)

(Mixed Practice)


Extended Passage

The first camera was called a camera obscura, it consisted of a room with a small opening in one wall that allowed the image outside to be projected onto the opposite wall then the person in the room would trace the image. Nobody knows who invented it but the ideas behind it were mentioned as early as the 4th century by Aristotle and Mozi. Various scholars from the 16th century like Girolamo Cardano Erasmus Reinhold and Gemma Frisius left records of the contraption. (5 sentences/16 fixes) Rules 1.B, 1.C, 2.A, 2.B, 3.A, 3.B
**Daily Exercises**  

*(Focused Practice)*

1. Bel canto literally means “beautiful singing.” (1 fix)

2. The Baroque period was about drama and ornamentation. The dramatic, busy styles of the era’s fashion and architecture were its inspiration. (2 sentences/2 fixes)

3. A very abstract and fragmented style of painting, the invention of Cubism by Picasso and Georges Braque was an important development in 20th century art. (1 fix)

*(Mixed Practice)*


**Extended Passage**

The first camera was called a *camera obscura*; it consisted of a room with a small opening in one wall that allowed the image outside to be projected onto the opposite wall; then the person in the room would trace the image. Nobody knows who invented it, but the ideas behind it were mentioned as early as the 4th century by Aristotle and Mozi. Various scholars from the 16th century like Girolamo Cardano, Erasmus Reinhold, and Gemma Frisius left records of the contraption. (5 sentences/16 fixes) Rules 1.B, 1.C, 2.A, 2.B, 3.A, 3.B

★ **To the Teacher:**  
Don’t forget! There are ACES (Applications, Challenges, Extensions, and Samples) activities for this and other Check Mates rules starting on page 48 of this Teacher Resource Guide.
Daily Quick-Fix Sentences

Daily Exercises

Focus on Check Mate Rule 6.B: Use a semicolon to join two closely related independent clauses or to separate items in a series that already have commas.

Sentence Theme: Literature and drama

(Focused Practice)

1. All English poets, Thomas Hardy was born on June 2, 1840, Oscar Wilde on October 16, 1854, and Rudyard Kipling on December 30, 1865. (4 fixes)

2. After Frederick Douglass wrote a moving book about his experience as a slave, skeptics questioned its authenticity, few believed a black man could have written it. (2 fixes)

3. Graham Greene, author of The Quiet American, also wrote two unsuccessful books. He later disowned them. (3 fixes)

(Mixed Practice)

4. Waiting for godot a play by the irish playwright Samuel Beckett centers around two characters stuck on a road, waiting for a person named Godot. Godots mysterious absence inspired many interpretations of the play philosophers historians and psychologists all understood it differently.


5. In poetics, aristotle defines catharsis as the affect that a greek tragedy has on the audience of alleviating it of the despair that the play inspires. It can also however refer to the tragic heros own experience. For example towards the end of the play oedipus rex, Oedipus cuts out his own eyeballs to rid himself of his sins.


Extended Passage

While the marvels presented in science fiction don’t actually exist in real life, there still based on the writers practical knowledge of his or her world. For example mary shelley the british author credited with writing the first science fiction novel in 1818 used contemporary ideas about electricity to explain how dr. frankenstein brought his monster back to life. Because electricity was considered to be the life force in the 19th century, shelleys readers might have believed that a jolt of it could revive a corpse. (3 sentences/12 fixes) Rules 2.B, 2.E, 3.E, 3.F, 5.A, 8.A
Daily Exercises

(Focused Practice)

1. All English poets, Thomas Hardy was born on June 2, 1840, Oscar Wilde on October 16, 1854, and Rudyard Kipling on December 30, 1865. (4 fixes)

2. After Frederick Douglass wrote a moving book about his experience as a slave, skeptics questioned its authenticity. Few believed a black man could have written it. (2 fixes)

3. Graham Greene, author of *The Quiet American*, also wrote two unsuccessful books. He later disowned them. (3 fixes)

(Mixed Practice)


5. In *poetics*, Aristotle defines "catharsis" as the effect that a Greek tragedy has on the spectators of alleviating them of the despair that the play inspires. It can also, however, refer to the tragic hero's own experience. For example, towards the end of the play *Oedipus Rex*, Oedipus cuts out his own eyeballs to rid himself of his sins. (3 sentences/13 fixes) Rules 2.B, 2.C, 3.E, 3.F, 4.A, 4.B, 5.A, 8.A

Extended Passage

While the marvels presented in science fiction don't actually exist in real life, they're still based on the writer's practical knowledge of his or her world. For example, Mary Shelley, the British author credited with writing the first science fiction novel in 1818, used contemporary ideas about electricity to explain how Dr. Frankenstein brought his monster back to life. Because electricity was considered to be the life force in the 19th century, Shelley's readers might have believed that a jolt of it could revive a corpse. (3 sentences/12 fixes) Rules 2.B, 2.E, 3.E, 3.F, 5.A, 8.A

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Quotation marks give the writer a way for characters to express themselves in narratives and for bringing the words of others into a piece of expository writing. The following reminders will help make your writing clear and easy to follow.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Interrupted Quotes</strong></td>
<td>When a quoted sentence is interrupted by an expression such as <em>she said</em> or <em>I asked</em>, the second part of the quote begins with a lower case letter. &lt;br&gt;“I’m on a diet,” Sheila said, “so I’ll pass on the cake.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Quote Within a Quote</strong></td>
<td>Use single quotation marks when a quote appears inside a quote. That is, open and close the main quote with double quotation marks, and enclose any quote that appears within the main quote with single quotation marks. &lt;br&gt;Taylor asked Vincent, “When you say ‘all in,’ do you mean you are betting everything?” &lt;br&gt;“I hate it when the only advice I get from my mom is ‘Do your best,’” said Eunice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Partial Quotes</strong></td>
<td>If a direct quote is only a phrase or partial quote, do not set it off with commas. &lt;br&gt;My voice teacher always reminds me “practice makes perfect.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Indirect Quotes</strong></td>
<td>Do not use quotation marks when a person’s exact words are not being repeated. &lt;br&gt;Jonathan said that he would never go back to that restaurant. (Jonathan’s exact words are not being quoted.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Glossary of Essential Terms

Acronym – An acronym is an abbreviation made up of the first letter or first sounds of several words. An acronym is usually pronounced as a word like NASA (for National Aeronautical and Space Administration) or RAM (for random access memory). See FANBOYS below. (An initialism is a type of abbreviation in which each of the letters is pronounced separately like NBA or AFL-CIO.)

Adjective – An adjective is a word that modifies (describes) a noun or pronoun [Example: The determined candidate stayed up the night before the election, making phone calls to people whose votes he needed.].

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: The distraught mother ran through the store, frantically calling her son’s name.].

Adverbial Clause – An adverbial clause functions as an adverb. Since it is a clause, it has a subject and a predicate. It modifies a verb [Example: “All human beings should learn before they die what they are running from, and to, and why.” (James Thurber)]. There are also adverbial phrases that modify verbs [Example: Now I’d like you to sing with gusto. OR The woman who lives next door has far too many cats than is normal.].

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: The football players were excused from the last two periods on Friday because they had an away game. Note: In this sentence the pronoun “they” refers to the noun “football players;” therefore, its antecedent is “football players.”].

Apostrophe (’) – An apostrophe is used within a word to show possession [Example: Abraham Lincoln’s legacy is of saving the Union and freeing the slaves], to indicate that one or more letters have been left out of a word [Example: shouldn’t instead of should not], or to make plural forms of letters, numbers, and symbols [Examples: Please underline all !’s and ?’s in your partner’s paper. I’ll only give A’s to those who used these punctuation marks correctly]. (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: “Me and My Bobby McGee,” a song performed by Janis Joplin, topped the U.S. singles chart in 1971.”].
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Collins Writing Program℠

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**Rules with:**

- Daily Quick-Fix Sentences
- Tip Sheets for Additional Rules
- Glossary of Essential Terms

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