

ZOO/BOT 4100 - Writing in the Biological Sciences
Exercise 5 (5 points)

Sentences

Name: _____

Subject-Verb Agreement: *Determine which sentences contain errors of subject-verb agreement and make corrections as needed.*

1. This collection of songs by several of my favorite singers were published in 1997.
2. The concerns related to UW's parking permit prices have been responsible for many invective letters in *The Branding Iron*.
3. Apparently the use of certain brands of tires on SUVs have been suspect in several fatal highway automobile accidents.
4. The English Department's grading policy regarding resumes and employment-related documents have resulted in consistent grading across sections of English 4010.
5. Joe's collection of empty beer bottles and Marlboro miles were really stunning.

Indefinite Pronoun and Antecedent Agreement: *Determine which sentences contain errors of pronoun-referent agreement and correct as needed.*

1. No one should have to leave their dorm room over Christmas holiday.
2. Everybody loves to have their back rubbed whenever the opportunity arises.
3. Each postal worker can master the types and costs of mail if they just study the post office's regulations.
4. Several students have expressed their appreciation for the convenience of having their grades available electronically through WyoWeb.
5. Each of the men has their own understanding of masculinity.

Prepositional Phrases

Revise these sentences to eliminate as many prepositional phrases as possible.

1. Plaque is an almost invisible, sticky film *of bacteria* that *in the case of all of us* continuously forms *throughout the day and night*.
2. Any dentist will tell you that controlling plaque *from forming* is the single most important step *to better oral health for people everywhere*.
3. Never be an investor *in something* you don't understand, or *in the dream of an artful salesperson of some product*.
4. Even though everyone is affected *by germs* almost every day, few people really understand the seriousness *of germs in their daily lives* or the importance *of controlling them*.
5. Figure out *for yourself* what you want to buy, and then shop *for a good bargain before making up your mind about your purchase*.
6. The work reported *in this study* is an investigation *of arranged marriage within the social context of the community in which it is arranged*.
7. It is a study *of a marital system* that is unusually complex, but no more than the social structure *of the country in which it functions*.

Passive Verbs

Revise these sentences to eliminate the passive verbs (You may need to create a fictional actor/agent who is doing the action.)

1. The football team *was led* onto the field by the cheerleading squad.
2. This year's cheerleading squad *was chosen* by a committee last spring.
3. Bill's apartment *was burglarized* last weekend.
4. A snowstorm *is predicted* for this weekend.
5. The election of the student body officers *will be held* on Tuesday.
6. The cities in the northeast *have been affected* by migration in recent years.
7. In the 1980s, taxpayers *were cheated* out of huge sums of money by managers of S&L institutions.
8. Trees *are expected* to grow about twenty inches in diameter by their eighth year.
9. If we can't make a profit this year, our whole enterprise *will have to be moved* to a new location.
10. Different flyfishing casts *can be learned* through practice.