

ZOO/BOT 4100 - Writing in the Biological Sciences
Exercise 6 (5 points)
Sentences

Name _____

1. Make editorial marks in the following passage to improve its conciseness, clarity and grammar. Correct any misspellings, slang and incorrect punctuation.

Before their was a National Elk Refuge in jackson hole, the elk used to do their migration on an annual basis from the Tetons in the summertime to the Green River valley in the wintertime. They would do their movement down the Snake River canyon to Hoback Junction: and then go east until they got to the place, where the Green River comes out of the mountains. They would hang out there until May then move to the calving grounds. There three most important foods in winter were bitterbrush willows and sage. In June after the calves were three weeks old, they did their migration back to jackson hole and then into the mountains for another summer.

2. Correct the punctuation and spelling in the following passage. Make no other changes or corrections.

It is commonly excepted that the way the ecosystem repairs it's self is by moving compounds from water to soil and back again (Miller 1992). Global climactic warming as poorly as we understand it has the potential to change the atmosphere so much that ecosystems can not repair theirselves any longer (Smith 1997). If warming continues at the current rate, the ice caps will melt which will cause sea level to rise by 2 m by 2050. This rise will be disastrous, coastal cities will be inundated (Miller 1992; Smith 1997).

3. Correct the following passage for multiple noun modifiers, weak verbs, and passive voice. Considerable rewriting will be needed here, but do not change the meaning of the passage.

The Yellowstone grizzly bear habitat use study was done by the team of four federal biologists, led by me. Radio-collars were put on 15 Wyoming cub bears and 12 Montana cub bears, and tracking was done from trucks and airplanes. It was found that 19 of the 27 bears hibernated outside Yellowstone National Park. Of those that hibernated inside the park, most got under rocks or stumps, and one went under the porch of a log cabin.

4. Rewrite the passage to correct punctuation errors, grammar and non-parallel constructions; remove contractions and multiple noun modifiers; and strengthen verbs. Smooth awkward passages. Do not completely rewrite or change the passage's meaning.

The killer whale (*Orcinus orca*) is the largest predator in the sea's, if you don't include the ones that filter feed plankton, which are technically preying on little animals.

Preliminary surveys of Puget Sound killer whale pods in Washington has shown that they are more numerous than 20 years ago, but that they carry high loads of PCBs in their livers. That is because of all the factories along the edge of the shores of Puget Sound, which was established in the last 30 years. These factories refine ore, make cars and rubber products, and of course the famous Boeing airplane plant. The fact that there are so many more whales may mean that PCBs is not as toxic to whales as people knowledgeable about the subject once thought. We may be looking at a situation where whales are doing just fine, regardless of the tiny amounts of PCBs in the water. People and whales have the appearance of getting along just fine.