3.7 GCSE Exam Style Grammar Questions: Test Pack

about 15 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. This paper mixes grammar, punctuation, register, vocabulary and technical-accuracy questions in exam style, drawing together everything covered across the Year 10-11 grammar series. In this pack, where a dash is needed to mark off extra information in a sentence, it is printed as a hyphen with a space on each side (-), in line with house style.

1 Read each sentence below. For each part, state whether it is a simple, compound, complex or compound-complex sentence.

(a) 'The bell rang loudly.' **(1)**

(b) 'The bell rang loudly, and the students filed out of the hall.' **(1)**

(c) 'Although the bell rang loudly, several students carried on working.' **(1)**

(d) 'The bell rang loudly, and although several students carried on working, most filed out of the hall.' **(1)**

(e) 'The teacher and the technician tested the projector and the speakers.' **(1)**

(Total for Question 1 is 5 marks)

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2 Add the missing punctuation named in each part.

(a) Add a colon: 'The kit list was clear waterproofs, boots and a torch.' **(1)**

(b) Add the missing comma(s): 'The stall sold bread cheese and olives.' **(1)**

(c) Add a pair of dashes (-) to mark the extra information as parenthesis: 'The final whistle which nobody had expected so soon brought the game to an end.' **(1)**

(Total for Question 2 is 3 marks)

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3 Form a new word using the prefix or suffix named in each part.

(a) Add the prefix 'mis-' to 'understand' to make a word meaning 'to understand wrongly'. **(1)**

(b) Add the suffix '-ness' to 'kind' to make a noun. **(1)**

(c) Add the prefix 'inter-' to 'national' to make a word meaning 'between nations'. **(1)**

(Total for Question 3 is 3 marks)

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4 Identify and correct the punctuation error in this sentence: 'The whistle blew, the players stopped immediately.'

(Total for Question 4 is 2 marks)

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5 Here are eight statements about grammar and technical accuracy. Choose the FOUR statements that are TRUE.

A. A relative clause introduced by 'which' and marked off by a pair of commas usually adds extra, removable information (it is non-defining).

B. 'We was' is an accepted form of Standard English in formal writing.

C. Switching tense partway through a piece of narrative writing, with no clear reason, is a technical accuracy error.

D. A comma splice is the grammatically correct way to join two complete sentences.

E. The prefix 'sub-' generally means 'under' or 'below', as in 'submarine'.

F. A fronted subordinate clause should never be followed by a comma.

G. A rhetorical question is a technique used in persuasive writing to make the reader consider a point without expecting a literal answer.

H. An apostrophe should always be added before the 's' whenever a noun is simply made plural.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D
- ☐ E
- ☐ F
- ☐ G
- ☐ H

(Total for Question 5 is 4 marks)

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6 Rewrite this sentence in formal Standard English, suitable for a school report: 'yeah basically the results were sound and everyone was buzzing'

(Total for Question 6 is 3 marks)

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Mark scheme · 3.7 GCSE Exam Style Grammar Questions: Test Pack

Question 1

(a) simple sentence (cao) **B1**

(a) Answer: Simple sentence

(b) compound sentence (cao) **B1**

(b) Answer: Compound sentence

(c) complex sentence (cao) **B1**

(c) Answer: Complex sentence

(d) compound-complex sentence (cao) **B1**

(d) Answer: Compound-complex sentence

(e) simple sentence (cao) **B1**

(e) Answer: Simple sentence

Question 2

(a) colon placed immediately after 'clear', before the list, cao **B1**

(a) Answer: The kit list was clear: waterproofs, boots and a torch.

(b) comma correctly placed after 'bread', cao (a further comma after 'cheese', immediately before 'and', is also accepted as a stylistic choice) **B1**

(b) Answer: The stall sold bread, cheese and olives.

(c) both dashes correctly placed, immediately before 'which' and immediately after 'soon', cao **B1**

(c) Answer: The final whistle - which nobody had expected so soon - brought the game to an end.

Question 3

(a) misunderstand (cao) **B1**

(a) Answer: misunderstand

(b) kindness (cao) **B1**

(b) Answer: kindness

(c) international (cao) **B1**

(c) Answer: international

Question 4

identifies the comma splice joining two independent clauses **B1**

correct rewrite using a full stop, semicolon or coordinating conjunction, e.g. 'The whistle blew; the players stopped immediately.' or 'The whistle blew, and the players stopped immediately.' (oe) **B1**

Answer: The whistle blew; the players stopped immediately.

Question 5

A selected (true) **B1**

C selected (true) **B1**

E selected (true) **B1**

G selected (true) **B1**

Answer: A, C, E and G are true. B is false ('we was' is a non-standard dialect form; Standard English requires 'we were'); D is false (a comma splice is a punctuation error, not a correct join); F is false (a fronted subordinate clause is usually followed by a comma); H is false (a simple plural never takes an apostrophe).

Question 6

removes the informal discourse markers 'yeah' and 'basically' **B1**

replaces the informal/slang vocabulary (e.g. 'buzzing') with formal vocabulary, oe **B1**

resulting sentence is grammatically complete, accurately punctuated, and consistent in Standard English throughout, cao **B1**

Answer: The results were pleasing, and everyone was delighted.

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