Fix the Sentences

Name: _____

Find the problem and fix it

Each sentence has one kind of problem, which may need more than one fix (for example, commas in a list). Some sentences are already right: write "correct" for those. Rewrite the others on the line.

1. Rides the bus and meets a friend.

2. The paint was wet but the sign looked finished.

3. The gym was full so we practiced in the hall.

4. During the fire drill.

5. Running across the finish line.

6. When the dough rises we shape the rolls.

7. The pony walked in a circle, and the children clapped.

8. Measured the rainfall and graphed the results.

9. The timer buzzed the teams traded papers.

10. The ink smeared so Nia rewrote the caption.

11. Under the oak by the bike rack.

12. To protect the nesting birds.

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13. The diagrams of the water cycle on the board.

14. Jonah feeds the hens and collects the eggs.

15. Measured the stream depth and recorded the temperature.

16. The glue held the frame but the corner still lifted off the table.

17. The supply list includes clipboards headlamps and spare batteries.

18. Before the evening show, the crew tested every microphone

19. When the timer on the lab table buzzed.

20. When the auditorium lights dimmed the narrator walked to the taped mark.

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Answer key for grown-ups

1. Amina rides the bus and meets a friend. (Grade 3)

Rides and meets are related, but the sentence never says who. A name completes the idea.

2. The paint was wet, but the sign looked finished. (Grade 3)

These ideas contrast. Put a comma before but.

3. The gym was full, so we practiced in the hall. (Grade 3)

A full gym is the cause. Put a comma before so.

4. We walked quietly during the fire drill. (Grade 3)

During the fire drill tells when, but the words do not say who did what. Add the missing idea.

5. DeShawn was running across the finish line. (Grade 3)

The words never say who, and running needs a helping verb. Add a subject and a helping verb, such as "DeShawn was running."

6. When the dough rises, we shape the rolls. (Grade 3)

The when part comes first, so a comma belongs after rises.

7. correct (Grade 3)

This already joins two complete ideas with a comma and and. You can keep it.

8. The class measured the rainfall and graphed the results. (Grade 4)

The two jobs are related, but the sentence never says who did them. A subject completes the idea.

9. The timer buzzed, and the teams traded papers. (Grade 4)

A fused sentence needs a joiner. A comma and and make one compound sentence.

10. The ink smeared, so Nia rewrote the caption. (Grade 4)

So joins a cause to a result. Put a comma before so.

11. Under the oak by the bike rack, the class planted flowers. (Grade 4)

Under the oak by the bike rack tells where, but the sentence needs who and what happened.

12. The path is closed to protect the nesting birds. (Grade 4)

To protect the nesting birds tells why, but the sentence never says what is closed.

13. The diagrams of the water cycle are on the board. (Grade 4)

This names the diagrams but never says what they do. Are completes the idea.

14. correct (Grade 4)

The sentence names Jonah and joins two related chores. It is already complete, so you can keep it.

15. The survey team measured the stream depth and recorded the temperature. (Grade 5)

The two jobs are related, but the sentence never says who did them. A subject completes the idea.

16. The glue held the frame, but the corner still lifted off the table. (Grade 5)

Use a comma before but to join two complete ideas.

17. The supply list includes clipboards, headlamps, and spare batteries. (Grade 5)

Clipboards, headlamps, and spare batteries are three items. Separate them with commas, and put a comma before and.

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18. Before the evening show, the crew tested every microphone. (Grade 5)

The time phrase is already set off with a comma. The sentence still needs a period.

19. The students recorded the color when the timer on the lab table buzzed. (Grade 5)

When the timer buzzed is only a time clause. Add who did what.

20. When the auditorium lights dimmed, the narrator walked to the taped mark. (Grade 5)

When a when clause starts the sentence, a comma follows it.

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Keep going in the app

These sentences come from Sentence Trapeze, Grades 3 to 5.

In the app, Fix It mode shows one mistake at a time, explains why after each answer, and never marks a dialect as wrong.

Grades 1 and 2 are free to try. Grades 3 to 12 unlock once for $7.99, or all three apps for $14.99.

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