

PRACTICE WORK
IN ENGLISH

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KNIGHT'S PRACTICE WORK IN ENGLISH

For the First Year of High School

The book includes a review of grammar, a study of the use of words, sentence structure, and forms of discourse.

Refer to
pages

There are more than 2,000 sentences for drill work, 108 topics for theme work, outline making, and brief making, 246 sentences on punctuation work, 58 pages of models of forms of discourse, and 29 problems in letter writing.

Grammar

A thorough drill is given in the essentials of English Grammar. See the exercise on the principal parts of common irregular verbs such as *lie, lay; sit, set*, etc., etc.

34, 35

Abundant practice is given in punctuation.

84-104

Use of Words

The pupil is set to find the correct pronunciation of 170 common words frequently mispronounced. This will strengthen the "dictionary habit." The exercises on *Choice of Words* and *Figures of Speech* tend to develop a sense of correctness, propriety and beauty in using language.

104-106

107-113

113-118

Sentence Structure

The work of the first year high school pupils usually suffers from such common faults as lack of unity in the sentence, faulty construction with *and*, etc. A simple but effective way to overcome these faults is given. The pupil is trained to scan critically his own work and at the same time his memory of the correct form is deepened.

Refer to
pages

119, 120

The sentences in this book are not the arbitrary invention of the author, but are sentences spoken or written by pupils in the classroom; sentences with errors such as pupils, of the same age and ability as this book is intended for, are apt to make.

132-134

Letter Writing

Abundant practice is afforded in this most practical form of composition. The problems cover the writing of formal and informal notes and business letters, including answers to advertisements.

147-149

Forms of Discourse

A simple study of the four forms of discourse is provided for. The exercises are of two kinds:

- (1) The study of models to determine the characteristics of good Description, Narration, etc.

150, 164

- (2) The making of outlines and briefs.

163, 181

Character of the Exercises

Refer to
pages

The exercises are interesting because they can be easily understood by first-year pupils. The illustrative sentences and the models of the forms of discourse were drawn largely from students' themes or from literature with which the average first year high school student is familiar.

171

191

These exercises give special practice at the point of special difficulty; for example, special practice is given in correcting faulty sentence structure and in "Description," in overcoming the tendency to depend upon abstract and general terms instead of concrete and specific terms.

143

149

Examples of any one principle are numerous enough to clinch the teaching. The exercise on *Infinitives and Infinitive Phrases* contains 74 sentences; that on the *Colon* when used to precede an additional statement for explanation or illustration, contains 50 sentences. These two exercises are typical of the others.

69

95

The work is not hampered by explanation tending to eliminate the teacher. See the lesson on the *Use of Shall and Will* or on *Description*.

42, 149

PRICE, 60 CENTS

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PRACTICE WORK IN ENGLISH

SECTION I

GRAMMAR

ARTICLES

The articles are *a*, *an*, *the*.

Before a consonant sound use *a*, before a vowel sound, *an*.

Neither *a* nor *an* should be used before a class name.

Exercise 1. — *If an article is needed, use the proper form in the following blank places:*

1. Write on — first and — second line.
2. Write on — first and — second lines.
3. The word occurs frequently in — Old and — New Testament.
4. She advertised for — secretary and — companion.
5. — maple and — oak leaf are quite different.
6. Her one pet is — black and — white cow.
7. I never eat that sort of — pear.
8. What kind of — collar do you like best?
9. You will not wish to have the name of — rogue.
10. There are two officers in the club: — president, — secretary and treasurer.
11. Alfred Tennyson was given the title of — baron.
12. What kind of — maid are you looking for?
13. He has been ill with — measles.
14. Did you ever have — mumps?
15. He is a better athlete than — student.

NOUNS

Number

Compound nouns usually form their plurals by making plural the principal word. If the words in the compound are equally important, each is pluralized.

Some nouns of foreign origin have both a foreign and an English plural.

A few nouns have two plurals, differing in meaning.

Letters, figures, signs, and words regarded merely as things spoken or written form their plural by adding 's.

Some nouns are not used in the plural number.

Some nouns are used only in the plural; and some are plural in form, but singular in meaning, and vice versa.

A name used with a title may pluralize either the name or the title.

Exercise 2. — *If possible, pluralize the following:*

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. calf | 16. alley | 31. minister-pleni- |
| 2. loaf | 17. essay | potentiary |
| 3. leaf | 18. reply | 32. German |
| 4. memento | 19. volcano | 33. Frenchman |
| 5. quarto | 20. potato | 34. Norman |
| 6. negro | 21. mosquito | 35. Norwegian |
| 7. half | 22. commander-in-chief | 36. Finn |
| 8. beef | 23. forget-me-not | 37. Mussulman |
| 9. wife | 24. father-in-law | 38. talisman |
| 10. supply | 25. canto | 39. pailful |
| 11. enemy | 26. piano | 40. spoonful |
| 12. ally | 27. solo | 41. cupful |
| 13. folio | 28. ox-cart | 42. tablespoonful |
| 14. man-servant | 29. hanger-on | 43. teaspoonful |
| 15. courtyard | 30. aid-de-camp | 44. alumnus |

45. alumna	67. virtue	89. index
46. mathematics	68. temperance	90. brother
47. athletics	69. water	91. fish
48. links	70. patience	92. penny
49. scissors	71. coffee	93. staff
50. ashes	72. milk	94. 1
51. trousers	73. Miss Partridge	95. 7
52. proceeds	74. Mr. Pratt	96. + (sign of addition)
53. assets	75. oasis	97. — (sign of subtraction)
54. tongs	76. parenthesis	
55. Dr. Raymond	77. Mary	98. and
56. knight-templar	78. John	99. but
57. lord-justice	79. Brown	100. physics
58. court-martial	80. Curtis	101. deer
59. bacterium	81. politics	102. sheep
60. genus	82. Mrs. Mercer	103. pickerel
61. phenomenon	83. window-pane	104. grouse
62. stratum	84. general-in-chief	105. snipe
63. datum	85. knight-errant	106. measles
64. thesis	86. glass	107. mumps
65. goodness	87. memorandum	108. handful
66. vice	88. die	109. means

Gender

Nouns which are usually considered of neuter gender may become masculine or feminine.

Inferior animals and sometimes infants are spoken of as neuter.

Exercise 3. — *Give the gender of the following nouns and name the corresponding gender form:*

1. actor	5. duke	8. ewe	11. sultana
2. goose	6. heroine	9. empress	12. duck
3. nun	7. king	10. witch	13. czar
4. lion			

Justify the use of the italicized pronouns in the following sentences:

1. The hen gathered *its* brood under *its* wing.
2. "Look," said the engineer, as he pointed to his new engine, "isn't *she* a beauty?"
3. With all sail spread, the *Judith* seemed likely to distance *her* competitors.
4. The baby lies quietly in *its* cradle.
5. Dandy, my collie, *who* came to me from Scotland, is my stanch watchman.
6. The horse *which* I bought a year ago has become my daily companion. He and I have many an early morning dash into the country.
7. The grasshopper laughed at the ant for *her* plodding.
8. And oft *her* (the Moon) head she bowed,
Stooping through a fleecy cloud.
9. The North Wind said to Diamond, "*I* don't really drown people; *I* only carry them away to the back of the North Wind."
10. When Southwest Wind came back to Treasure Valley that night, *he* left *his* card on the kitchen table.
11. "Welcome, O Wind of the East," he cried, "*thou*, too, art lonely and sad!"
12. Great Britain boasts that the sun never sets on *her* domains.
13. Massachusetts is proud of *her* sons.

Case

Exercise 4. — *In the following sentences find the appositive and predicate nouns and explain their case. The predicate noun modifying the direct object is sometimes called the object complement.*

1. The driver's name was William Simmons.
2. The steamer, in appearance an enormously magnified insect, wriggled up the bay to her destination, the long straggling city.

3. Medusa was the only mortal Gorgon.
4. John Ramsdell was chosen president of the society.
5. The society made John Ramsdell president.
6. The father of the Custom House, the patriarch of this little squad of officials, was a certain Inspector.
7. The Inspector was a man of fourscore years.
8. *Mark Twain* was Samuel Clemens's pen name.
9. The President appointed Lowell Minister to the Court of St. James.
10. James Russell Lowell was made minister at the Court of Spain, an office which gave him many literary opportunities.
11. Reciprocity with Canada has been a much discussed question.
12. The objective point of the trip was Washington, the national capital.
13. The tour was to end at Washington, the national capital.
14. They decided to make Washington, the national capital, the objective point of the trip.
15. The General, this man's father, was a violent, dictatorial man, a man who never brooked opposition.
16. What he needed was a war.
17. Colonel Miles, the officer who was directing the assault, seemed a reckless individual.
18. This city seems to me a luxurious, overgrown hothouse.
19. Dwight Avenue is no longer a fashionable promenade, a promenade flashing with bright gowns.
20. That most dangerous of gifts, the seeing of two sides of a quarrel, had been given him.
21. If he takes the least alarm in that quarter, we are lost men.
22. Each maintained his opinion with obstinacy, obstinacy that was provoking to the bystanders.
23. Whosoever thou art, it is discourteous in thee to disturb my thoughts.

24. This was a joyful intimation to the stranger, and he demanded of the guide who and what he was.

25. The mansion of Cedric differed from the Norman buildings, which had become the universal style of architecture.

26. For about one quarter of the length of the apartment the floor was raised by a step; and this space was the dais, a sort of platform occupied by persons of distinction.

27. "Prior," said the Templar, "you are a man of gallantry, an expert in all the arts of love."

28. Of her beauty you shall soon be judge.

29. His dress was a tunic of forest green, furred at the throat and cuffs.

30. A cloak, a mantle of coarse black serge, enveloped his body.

31. Descending from the dais, the elevated part of the hall, he awaited their approach.

32. "Vows," said the Abbot, "must be unloosed, worthy Franklin; vows are the cords which bind the sacrifice!"

33. Aphrodite, laughter-loving Aphrodite, was the goddess of love and beauty.

34. Odysseus carefully steered his way between Scylla and Charybdis, the rock and the whirlpool.

35. When Polyphemus was questioning Odysseus, crafty Odysseus, he answered, "My name is Noman."

36. Our cities are a wilderness of spinning wheels.

37. Our harbors are a forest of merchant ships.

38. It is the land of promise, teeming with everything of which his childhood had heard.

39. I looked down from my giddy height on the monsters of the deep at their uncouth gambols: shoals of porpoises, the grampus, or the ravenous shark.

40. Sometimes a distant sail would be another theme of idle speculation.

41. A fine day, a day with a tranquil sea and a favoring breeze, was the end of all dismal reflections.

42. Peter was the most ancient inhabitant of the village and made everybody one of his audience.

43. It was affirmed that the great Hendrick Hudson, the first discoverer of the river and country, kept a kind of vigil there every twenty years.

44. Surely this was his native village, which he had left but a day before.

45. The opinions of this junto were completely controlled by Nicholas Vedder, a patriarch of the village and landlord of the inn.

46. A sharp tongue is the only edge tool that grows keener with constant use.

47. His son Rip, an urchin begotten in his own likeness, promised to inherit the habits, with the old clothes, of his father.

48. Rip Van Winkle was one of those happy mortals who would rather starve on a penny than work for a pound.

49. The great error in Rip's composition was an insuperable aversion to all kinds of labor.

50. The old gentleman was the only one really attentive to the service.

51. My father is a devotee of the old school and prides himself upon keeping up something of the old English hospitality, a hospitality rarely met with in these modern days.

52. My father made Chesterfield his textbook.

53. He was a brisk little man, with a nose shaped like the bill of a parrot and a face with a dry bloom on it, a bloom like a frost-bitten leaf in autumn.

54. He was a kind of hanger-on, a resident of the village.

55. Make me one of thy henchmen.

56. He was a favorite among his cousins, the Misses Robinson.

57. The events of the previous day seemed a dream.

58. Mr. Bracebridge had constructed a song from a poem of his favorite author, Herrick.

59. We were escorted by a number of dogs, that seemed loungers

about the establishment, the last of which was of a race that had been a favorite in the family time out of mind.

60. I am her kinsman, I,

Give me to right her wrong.

61. High on the top were those three Queens, the friends
Of Arthur, who should help him at his need.

62. Then Gareth, "We be tillers of the soil."

63. Then came in hall the messengers of Mark,
A name of evil savor in the land.

64. There sat the lifelong creature of the house,
Loyal, the dumb old servitor, on deck.

65. Ye know me then, that wicked one who broke
The vast design and purpose of the King.

66. It seems as if the discovery of making fire by friction were a rather difficult and unlikely thing upon which to fall by accident.

67. He told us they were fire sticks, and by his further explanation showed us that they were really a bow-drill.

68. The bow-drill is the property of the medicine man, that remarkable member of the tribe.

69. When one of those methods of making fire is the bow-drill, we find it the sacred method.

70. In this form it remains the needfire in Europe at the present time.

71. There can be no question that it was the woman left at home to tend the fire who was the first agriculturist.

72. Woman was the basket-maker; it was she that devised pottery.

73. The first and simplest agricultural tool was a sharpened stick for digging up roots.

74. The first threshing must have been a very simple thing.

75. The *kitchen-midden* of Denmark is a heap of refuse, the mark of the camping site of old-time people.

76. They chose Mr. Robinson vice-chairman.

77. These honest gentlemen were all stout men and true and lived in the forest by their wits.

78. "I am a stranger," said he, "but a true man and one who loves knowledge."

79. The benighted stranger groped his way in what seemed an interminable and inky cave, with a rugged floor.

80. He chattered about battles and sieges, subjects new to Gerard; and he was one of those who could make any subject an interesting story.

81. Our travelers at nightfall reached a village, a very small village, but it was a promise of shelter.

82. These three towns proved types.

83. It was a clear night; and soon the man revealed the end of the wood at no great distance, a pleasant sight, for they knew the town must be near.

84. The pretended merchants were no merchants at all, but soldiers of more than one nation, soldiers in the pay of the archbishop.

85. Father Anselm was a venerable monk, a figure with an ample head, and a face all dignity and love.

86. The duke proclaimed the English king the first captain of the age.

87. He offended the parish by calling the adored vicar comrade.

88. A simple nature myth may become a saint legend or an epic poem.

89. The innovator must be a man of influence.

90. A third important primitive method of working stone was drilling.

91. A common mode of chipping stone was the percussion method — free blows with the hammerstone, held in the hand.

92. The men sent have been men bred to labor, choice men.

93. The Virginia colonists were planters by nature, planters who had been taught to believe that agriculture was far more respectable than commercial and manufacturing pursuits.

94. In the early days of the colonies corn was made a legal tender for debt.

95. Mr. Harvey was made chairman by the board, the official council.

96. They used the nickname, "Bud," a name given him when a child.

97. The name given this vessel, the first vessel that set sail upon Lake Erie, was the *Griffin*.

98. The record is a flattering one, a good one with which to close this account.

99. Our forefathers were not men who were willing to be always dwellers in log cabins.

100. The building was afterward used as a manufactory for worsted hose and metal buttons.

101. That great aid to the spread of printed information, the copyright, was first applied in 1672, when John Usher was given the privilege, as a bookseller, to publish a revised edition of the laws of the colony.

102. Bradford was appointed printer to the government.

103. All these causes made literary enterprises dubious undertakings.

Nouns used independently by direct address (vocative case), or independently (absolutely) with a participle, or independently by pleonasm, are in the nominative case.

Exercise 5. — *In the following sentences find such nouns and state their use:*

1. John Halifax, thou hast been of great service to me this night.

2. Is there nothing that thou canst think of, Phineas, that would please the lad?

3. Thou too, sail on, O ship of State,
Sail on, O Union, strong and great.