

**A Remedial English Grammar for
Foreign Students**

by

Frederick T. Wood

ANSWERS TO EXERCISES

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PREFACE

This book of answers has been compiled for the assistance of teachers and of students working on their own. An answer has been provided for every question in the text-book, and where more than one is possible, the various alternatives have been given. Sometimes explanatory comments have been added, if it was felt that they would be helpful. Where the exercises ask the students to compose sentences to illustrate a particular usage or structure, or to give examples of his own, it would obviously be impracticable to give all the possibilities, for they are almost endless. In such cases suggested examples have been given for the convenience of those using the book, whether as students or as teachers, and a note to this effect has been placed at the top; but any that are correct should, of course, be accepted.

F. T. W.

ANSWERS

1. The articles

A. THE DEFINITE ARTICLE (*THE*)

EXERCISE 1 (p. 7)

- a* The box was made of wood.
- b* Some coins are made of silver and some of copper.
- c* The water in that stream is not suitable for drinking.
- d* Gold is found in Australia and South Africa.
- e* The meat that we had for dinner was tough.
- f* In Britain more people drink tea than coffee.
- g* When do you have breakfast?
- h* There is fish for dinner today.
- i* Are you attending the dinner tonight?
- j* Oranges are grown in Spain, South Africa, Brazil and Palestine.
- k* We wear clothes to keep us warm.
- l* Cars are not allowed to park here.
- m* The flowers in that vase are very beautiful.
- n* Let us have a game of cricket.
- o* She plays tennis very well.
- p* What are you having for lunch?
- q* The grass in that field is very green.
- r* Do you usually drink tea or coffee?
- s* Elephants are used in some countries to pull heavy loads.
- t* She thanked me for the present I gave her.

EXERCISE 2 (p. 8)

- a* In Austria the people speak German.
- b* English is spoken in many countries.
- c* The English have been a sea-faring people for many centuries.

- d* Can you speak French?
- e* The Italians are a very musical nation.
- f* Many great ships cross the Atlantic Ocean.
- g* India is a very large country in Asia.
- h* We arranged to meet outside Woolworth's.
- i* His uncle is manager of the Overseas Bank in this town.
- j* He came for an hour but stayed all the evening.

EXERCISE 3 (p. 8)

The teacher should, of course, accept any sentences which are correct according to the instructions given on pages 1 and 2 of the text-book. Four suitable examples for each word (two of the plain noun and two of the noun preceded by *the*) are given below.

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| AIR | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a</i> The tyres of motor-cars and bicycles are inflated with air.
We cannot live without air. <i>b</i> The air in the country is purer than that in the town.
Near the factory the air was laden with soot and smoke. |
| IRON | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a</i> Iron is one of the commonest of metals.
The large gates at the entrance to the building were made of iron. <i>b</i> The ore is heated in large furnaces in order to extract the iron from it.
The iron used in making these girders is of the finest quality. |
| RICE | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a</i> Much rice is grown in China.
In many eastern countries rice is an important part of people's diet. <i>b</i> The rice that I bought last week was the best that I have had for a long time.
Do not use the rice that is in that bag. |
| FLOUR | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a</i> The price of flour has almost doubled during the past five years.
Flour is used for making bread. <i>b</i> The flour we brought with us was insufficient for our needs. |

- Has the grocer sent the flour that I ordered?
- MEAT** *a* The doctor says that I am not to eat meat.
 Meat is sold by butchers.
 b The meat was so tough that we could not eat it.
 The meat sold by that butcher is of the best quality.
- WATER** *a* Water is scarce in this part of the country.
 Most plants will not grow without water.
 b Don't drink the water from that well; it is not pure.
 When the water boils I will make the tea.
- PAPER** *a* There was paper littered all over the floor.
 The parcel was wrapped in paper.
 b The paper in which the books were wrapped was badly torn.
 I have lost the paper on which I wrote down his address.
- GRAPES** *a* Wine is made from grapes.
 I am very fond of grapes, if they are sweet.
 b The grapes on that vine are the biggest I have ever seen.
 My mother thanks you for the grapes you sent her.
- HORSES** *a* In most European countries horses are not much used for transport today.
 In some countries horses are still used for ploughing.
 b The horses used by the police are very well trained.
 When we stayed at the farm the children liked to ride on the horses.
- BOYS** *a* Boys like playing games.
 Boys have large appetites.
 b The boys who broke the window had to pay for the damage.
 The teacher asked the boys to finish the exercise for homework.

EXERCISE 4 (p. 9)

The words to be inserted are printed in italics.

My uncle lives in a large house built of *stone*. He works in the *local office* of *Barclays Bank*, which is situated in *East Street*. He goes there by *bus* every morning, and stays there all *day*. When he comes home in the *evening* he often feels tired. As soon as he gets in he has a cup of *coffee*, and after that he feels refreshed. When he has had a meal he sits down and reads the *newspaper* which he bought on his way home. When he has finished with the *newspaper* he will sit listening to the *wireless* or smoking. He sometimes smokes a pipe, but he prefers *cigarettes*.

EXERCISE 5 (p. 9)

- a He was found guilty of theft and sent to prison for six months.
- b My son will be old enough to go to school next May.
- c I must go to the school to see the headmaster.
- d My wife has gone to the hospital to visit a sick friend.
- e He is very ill, and has to go to hospital.
- f Mr Smith and his family generally go to church on Sunday morning.
- g John is ill, so he cannot go to school.
- h The vicar has gone to the church to inspect the damage done by the gale.
- i I feel tired, as I went to bed late last night.
- j In Britain many people do not go to business in Saturday morning.
- k I no longer go to the office on Saturdays.
- l I have not been to the cinema for several months.
- m Some of the visitors came by train, others by bus.
- n Are you going to India by sea, or by air?
- o We sail tomorrow on the *Dunbar Castle*.

B. THE INDEFINITE ARTICLE (*A* and *AN*)

EXERCISE 1 (p. 12)

- a An elephant is a very strong animal.
- b He had always hoped that his son would go to a university.
- c Italy is a European country.
- d I shall be back in less than an hour.

- e* Is there a hospital in this town?
- f* Everyone respects an honest person.
- g* By a united effort we may achieve success.
- h* I like to give a useful present.
- i* I understand he is to marry an heiress.
- j* An honour was conferred on him for his services to his country.
- k* We stayed at a hotel (*or* an hotel) in the centre of the town.
- l* It is a great honour to be invited to such a gathering.
- m* The door was opened by a servant.
- n* An honorary secretary is one who is not paid for his services.
- o* He was carrying a heavy load.
- p* There is an hourly service of buses in this route.
- q* A big dog dashed out of the gate.
- r* We shall come if we get an opportunity.
- s* That was not a very honest thing to do.
- t* The proposal was accepted by a unanimous vote.

EXERCISE 2 (p. 13)

- a* New York is a large city.
- b* Bernard Shaw was a famous English dramatist.
- c* Ice is frozen water.
- d* We have had a very tiring journey.
- e* I have never known such hot weather.
- f* Have you ever seen so tall a man as that?
- g* I have never heard such an absurd story.
- h* We shall get a longer holiday next year.
- i* It gives me pleasure to do it.
- j* He took great care over the work.
- k* My younger brother is a student.
- l* He hopes to become a teacher when he has finished his course.
- m* China is a very large country.
- n* John's ambition is to be an engineer.
- o* I have never been in so large a house before.

EXERCISE 3 (p. 13)

- a* We have only a few minutes to spare.

- b* Could you lend me a few books?
- c* He has many enemies, but few friends.
- d* Mr Brown was a man of few words.
- e* The ground is very dry, as there has been little rain for the past few months.
- f* A busy person has little time to spare.
- g* We will stay here for a little while.
- h* I have spent nearly all my money, and have only a little left.
- i* As the matter is outside our control, there is little we can do about it.
- j* You should be able to do the job if you have a little patience.

2. Agreement of verb and subject

EXERCISE 1 (p. 16)

- a* A new car costs a lot of money.
- b* Most things cost more now than they did a few years ago.
- c* Jet aeroplanes fly very fast.
- d* An aeroplane flies more quickly than a bird.
- e* The countryside looks very beautiful in spring.
- f* Those children look very healthy.
- g* One of the players comes from the same village as myself.
- h* In Britain many workers go to work in their own cars.
- i* All the pupils in our school learn English.
- j* The owner of that factory is very rich, and lives in a large house.
- k* One of the pupils in our class owns a motor cycle.
- l* Some people dislike travelling by sea, as it makes them seasick.
- m* The postman calls each morning with the letters.
- n* A snail moves very slowly.
- o* All the books on that shelf belong to me.
- p* Her aunt and uncle have a house in the country.
- q* Four ounces is the smallest quantity we sell.

- r Apple pie and custard is my favourite dish.
- s Ten miles is a long way to walk.
- t The tallest of the three boys lives next door to me.

EXERCISE 2 (p. 16)

- a There are many rooms in that large hotel.
- b There are several pages missing from this book.
- c If you want some sugar, there is some in that basin.
- d There are eleven players in a football team.
- e There is nothing to be afraid of.
- f There is a cause for everything.
- g There are no lamps in this street.
- h There are several bookshops in our town.
- i There is little hope of his coming now.
- j There is a fierce dog in that yard.

EXERCISE 3 (p. 17)

- a There was a thunderstorm last night.
- b There was much damage done to the crops.
- c There were several people in the room.
- d There was an accident here last week.
- e There were many fine paintings at the exhibition.

3. Nouns: singular or plural? Some special cases

EXERCISE 1 (p. 19)

- a All the food has been eaten.
- b A large crowd is expected at the football match.
- c These shoes are almost worn out.
- d A pair of gloves has been found in the hall.
- e Good cutlery is expensive.
- f A great number of people have visited the exhibition.

- g* A lot of money needs to be spent on repairs to the house.
- h* Most of the houses in this street have been built within the last twenty years.
- i* Most of the money has now been spent.
- j* Ill news travels fast.
- k* These scissors need sharpening.
- l* All the luggage has now been inspected by the customs officials.
- m* A lot of these apples are bad.
- n* A lot of time has been wasted.
- o* Good advice is not always heeded.

EXERCISE 2 (p. 19)

In some of the sentences in this exercise other verbs, or other tenses, than those given in the answers below would also be suitable. The teacher should, of course, accept any suitable verb, but he must make sure that the *number* is correct.

- a* The people waiting for the train were getting impatient.
- b* Mathematics is his weakest subject.
- c* There is plenty of time before the bus leaves.
- d* There are plenty of books on that subject.
- e* Most of the candidates have passed their examination.
- f* The food we took with us was insufficient.
- g* His trousers were covered with mud.
- h* The whole herd of cattle is to be sold. ('Has to be sold' or 'was to be sold' would also be acceptable.)
- i* A pair of trousers was hanging over the chair.
- j* Warm clothing is necessary in cold climates.
- k* All the furniture in the house is old-fashioned.
- l* Most of the land in this part of the country is uncultivated.
- m* A pair of spectacles was lying on the table.
- n* The stationery has been ordered, but has not yet been delivered.
- o* An epidemic of measles has broken out in the district.

4. The partitive use of *of*

EXERCISES (p. 21)

1. One of his friends has been injured in a railway accident.
2. We have now heard most of the evidence. (*The majority* would be incorrect because it refers to numbers, and can therefore be used only of things that are countable.)
3. I have decided to sell some of my furniture. (*Several* would be incorrect because it must be followed by a plural noun, and *furniture*, is a collective singular.)
4. One of the climbers was injured in a fall. (*Was* is needed because the subject is *one*.)
5. Some of the luggage has not yet arrived. (*Luggage*, like *furniture*, is a collective singular; therefore a singular verb is needed.)
6. Several of my friends have been to Britain.
7. One of the books had several pages missing.
8. Much of the money has now been spent. (*Much* is needed because the reference is to amount, not to number.)
9. Most of the visitors were strangers to me.
10. Most of the time was spent looking round the shops. (A singular verb is necessary because in this sentence *most* refers to amount; it is only when the reference is to number that it takes a plural verb.)
11. Each of the pupils was given two exercise books. (The subject is *each*, which is singular.)
12. Some of the fruit has been damaged by the frost. (*Fruit* is a singular collective noun; *some* therefore denotes amount, and is likewise singular. Consequently it must take a singular verb.)
13. Much of what he says is untrue.
14. One of the elephants escaped from the circus.
15. One of the players was injured.

5. Concord of nouns, pronouns, and possessive adjectives (third person)

EXERCISE 1 (p. 25)

- a* John has returned the book which you lent him.
- b* You must write your essays more carefully.
- c* The dog followed its master wherever he went.
- d* The children have gone for a holiday with their parents.
- e* Mary has misplaced her handbag.
- f* Could you please lend me your dictionary?
- g* He spoke so softly that we could not hear him.
- h* We offered to help them in their difficulty.
- i* It was very kind of your father to give us a lift in his car.
- j* Those girls are very fond of their dog.

EXERCISE 2 (p. 25)

- a* The little boy was crying because he had lost his mother.
- b* Joan is two years older than her brother.
- c* The two children were waiting for their father to return.
- d* Mr Smith has taken his wife to the seaside in the hope that it will improve her health.
- e* The manager asked the visitors into his office.
- f* The faithful dog kept guard over its injured master.
- g* Mary and her two brothers have gone to visit their aunt.
- h* Peter spent all his week's pocket money on a birthday present for his sister.
- i* The headmistress interviewed the pupils one by one in her study.
- j* He is very proud of his daughter's success in her examination.
- k* Two women had their handbags stolen during the showing of the film.
- l* She told me that her necklace was a present from her husband.
- m* No-one likes his word to be doubted.
- n* The stray kitten was found by a policeman and restored to its mistress.

- o* All the guests signed their names in the visitors' book which the manager kept in his office.

EXERCISE 3 (p. 26)

- a* Have you seen my pen anywhere?
- b* I saw a pen lying on the table, but I don't think it was yours.
- c* Your car is bigger than ours.
- d* That hat is Susan's, but this one is mine.
- e* We sat under the shade of a tree and ate our sandwiches.
- f* They should not have spent that money, as it was not theirs.
- g* Those children are very fond of their dog.
- h* While I was on my holiday I met a friend of yours.
- i* We should always be careful in the choice of our friends.
- j* Mary declared that the book was not hers. She would have recognised it if it had been, for she had written her name on the fly-leaf.

6. The possessive adjective or the definite article with nouns denoting parts of the body

EXERCISES (p. 27)

1. If you know the answer, put up your hand.
2. When she fell off her bicycle she injured her arm.
3. The stone struck him on the knee.
4. As he went to kick the ball, he slipped, and twisted his ankle.
5. He gave me a dig in the ribs.
6. Sheila is suffering from a cold in the head.
7. I have cut my finger on a piece of glass.
8. The dog was wagging its tail.
9. The policeman grabbed the thief by the arm.

10. Reading in a poor light may injure the eyes.
11. Excessive smoking is thought to cause cancer of the lung.
12. The intruder could not be recognised, as he had a mask over his face.
13. You should always give your mind to the work you are doing.
14. Reading broadens the mind.
15. There are some people who write with their left hand. (*The left hand would also be correct.*)
16. The mother was carrying a baby in her arms.
17. He was struck on the head by a piece of falling masonry.
18. It has been said that great thoughts arise from the heart, but emerge from the head.
19. Unless you have something sensible to say, you had better hold your tongue.
20. The porter was carrying a heavy burden on his back.

7. Confusion of adjectives and adverbs

A. ADJECTIVAL COMPLEMENTS

EXERCISE 1 (p. 29)

- a The weather has turned very warm.
- b At the sound of my voice he turned round quickly.
- c She seems very happy in her new job.
- d We shall have to make haste, for time is growing short.
- e This kind of tree grows very slowly.
- f Mary's dress looks very pretty.
- g If you feel cold, come nearer the fire.
- h His new novel is due to appear shortly.
- i The signature on the letter appears quite genuine.
- j It feels very hot in this room.
- k The speaker congratulated the prize-winners warmly on their success.
- l Her story sounds true.
- m He turned angrily upon his accusers.

- n* The weather will remain cold for the next few days.
- o* The crowd became very excited when the winning goal was scored.
- p* She looked carefully through all the papers in her desk.
- q* This room smells strongly of tobacco smoke.
- r* That soup smells very appetising.
- s* Our new neighbours seem very pleasant.
- t* He was very brave to tackle the intruder single-handed.

EXERCISE 2 (p. 30)

The following are some suggested sentences, though the teacher should, of course, accept any that are correct. Four are given for each verb, two with an adverb and two with an adjectival complement.

- GO**
 - a* The old man went slowly down the road.
I will go carefully through these papers.
 - b* The milk has gone sour.
His face went red with anger.
- COME**
 - a* The news of his illness came unexpectedly.
The bus came suddenly to a standstill.
 - b* However much she washed it, the garment would not come clean.
On examining the bicycle he found that one of the wheels had come loose.
- TURN**
 - a* The sails of the windmill turned slowly round.
He put a little oil on the handle, to make it turn easily.
 - b* After a bright start the day turned dull.
When people get old their hair turns grey.
- APPEAR**
 - a* The flowers appeared earlier than usual this year.
The local newspaper appears daily.
 - b* The house appeared uninhabited.
The poor girl appeared frightened.
- GROW**
 - a* Weeds seem to grow quickly in my garden.
The business has grown considerably during the past year or so.
 - b* Just before the storm the sky grew dark.
We soon grow tired of doing nothing.
- FEEL**
 - a* Do you feel the pain very severely?