S-1a, Exercise 1, Elements of a Sentence (Subjects and Verbs)

Multiple Choice

In the following sentences, all **subjects** should be marked in boldface, and all verbs should be underlined, but in some of the sentences, these elements are not correctly marked. Select the answer that correctly identifies all of the subjects and verbs in the independent clause. If the original sentence is correct, select *c. No change*. As you choose your answer, don’t be misled by subjects or verbs that might appear in a phrase or subordinate clause.

1. The first **day** of spring break I slept until noon and then met some friends for pizza.

a. day; slept, met

b. I; slept, met

c. No change

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

2. Have you started working on the take-home **exam** that’s due on Wednesday?

a. you; working

b. you; have started

c. No change

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

3. **Issues** considered worthy of debate include health insurance and the environment.

a. Issues; include

b. health insurance, environment; include

c. No change

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

4. **Among** the famous natives of Arkansasis Bill Clinton, forty-second president of the United States.

a. Bill Clinton; is

b. famous; is

c. No change

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.* In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

5. After **Jake** sped away in his Mustang and left Sue alone at the party, she asked Jimmy

to give her a ride home.

a. Jake; sped, left

b. she; asked

c. No change

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

6. **Two** of the candidates who withdrew from the 2008 presidential race were John Edwards and Mitt Romney.

a. candidates; were

b. Two; withdrew

c. No change

ANS: c

REF: The correct answer is *c.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

7. **Where** are our tickets for the play that Colleen is directing?

a. Colleen; is

b. tickets; are

c. No change

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

8. Although **Carole and Jared** wanted to leave northern Minnesota in the winter, they decided not to move away from their elderly parents.

a. they; decided

b. Carole and Jared; leave

c. No change

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

9. **Monica** broiled the steaks and **Ginnie** made the salad while their husbands watched the football game.

a. Monica, Ginnie, husbands; broiled, made, watched

b. husbands; watched

c. No change

ANS: c

REF: The correct answer is *c.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

10. **It** is exhilarating and interesting to jog around my neighborhood park early in the morning.

a. to jog; is

b. exhilarating and interesting; is

c. No change

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

S-1a, Exercise 2, Elements of a Sentence (Clauses)

Multiple Choice

Indicate whether the italicized clause is an independent clause or a subordinate clause.

1. Although Louisiana takes its name from France’s King Louis XIV, *its nickname (Pelican State) has nothing to do with royalty.*

a. independent clause

b. subordinate clause

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

2. *In the morning, Juliana scrubbed the kitchen floor and vacuumed the carpet,* but later in the day she relaxed in the hammock, had a glass of lemonade, and read a good novel.

a. independent clause

b. subordinate clause

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

3. *Even though there are many ways to lose weight,* they all come down to two basic principles: eat less and exercise more.

a. independent clause

b. subordinate clause

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

4. When I was a child, we played outside all year round, *and my parents took us ice skating and camping and swimming,* whereas nowadays children are too often glued to TVs or video games.

a. independent clause

b. subordinate clause

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

5. *In the event that Congress passes the immigration bill,* what are the chances that the president will veto it?

a. independent clause

b. subordinate clause

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

6. Do you think Professor Sullivan will ask for detailed information about Woodrow Wilson on the final, *or do you think he’ll focus on World War I and the Treaty of Versailles?*

a. independent clause

b. subordinate clause

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

7. Dino and his wife Maria are finally empty-nesters *because their last child has gone off to college,* but the freedom is bittersweet because they miss having their children at home.

a. independent clause

b. subordinate clause

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

8. Su-ling longed to return to her homeland and see her mother and father; *at the same time, she cherished the life she had made with her husband and children in England.*

a. independent clause

b. subordinate clause

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

9. You must come to your brother’s graduation, *regardless of the anger you have toward him,* which is certainly justified.

a. independent clause

b. subordinate clause

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

10. The snowstorms came one after another, *yet the fires burned brightly in the cabin*, where Josie read Mark Twain’s novels to her favorite uncle.

a. independent clause

b. subordinate clause

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

S-1a, Exercise 3, Elements of a Sentence (Phrases)

Multiple Choice

In each of the following sentences, identify the italicized words as a prepositional, appositive, participial, gerund, or infinitive phrase.

1. France’s King Louis XIV, after whom Louisiana is named, lived *from 1638 until 1715.*

a. prepositional phrase

b. appositive phrase

c. participial phrase

d. gerund phrase

e. infinitive phrase

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

2. *Watching horse races at Pimlico Race Course and ball games at Camden Yards* are two favorite pastimes in Baltimore.

a. prepositional phrase

b. appositive phrase

c. participial phrase

d. gerund phrase

e. infinitive phrase

ANS: d

REF: The correct answer is *d.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

3. *Having sold more than 500 million records,* Elvis Presley was the most successful solo recording artist during his lifetime.

a. prepositional phrase

b. appositive phrase

c. participial phrase

d. gerund phrase

e. infinitive phrase

ANS: c

REF: The correct answer is *c.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

4. In the attic I discovered three photographs, *stained and grainy,* that showed my great-grandparents on their Midwestern farm.

a. prepositional phrase

b. appositive phrase

c. participial phrase

d. gerund phrase

e. infinitive phrase

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

5. *To shop until you drop* is a silly slogan to those who don’t like shopping or going to malls.

a. prepositional phrase

b. appositive phrase

c. participial phrase

d. gerund phrase

e. infinitive phrase

ANS: e

REF: The correct answer is *e.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

6. Christa, *longing to go to Spain for her junior year,* worked two part-time jobs and borrowed some money from her brother.

a. prepositional phrase

b. appositive phrase

c. participial phrase

d. gerund phrase

e. infinitive phrase

ANS: c

REF: The correct answer is *c.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

7. *Being a famous novelist* is one of my secret ambitions.

a. prepositional phrase

b. appositive phrase

c. participial phrase

d. gerund phrase

e. infinitive phrase

ANS: d

REF: The correct answer is *d.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

8. Maribeth, *her father’s favorite daughter,* never recovered from the untimely death of her sister.

a. prepositional phrase

b. appositive phrase

c. participial phrase

d. gerund phrase

e. infinitive phrase

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

9. In the plains states, we hope to have spring weather *by early April.*

a. prepositional phrase

b. appositive phrase

c. participial phrase

d. gerund phrase

e. infinitive phrase

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>

10. After thinking about the events of the past year, Randy realized that there should be only one major goal for him: *to have a happy and healthy life.*

a. prepositional phrase

b. appositive phrase

c. participial phrase

d. gerund phrase

e. infinitive phrase

ANS: e

REF: The correct answer is *e.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see S-1a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2_readings_handbook_ebook/welcome.asp?page=4>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see S-1a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/s-1a.html>