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grammar, style, and proofreading exercises

**The Grammar Dog Guide to
Alice's Adventures
in Wonderland
by Lewis Carroll**

**All exercises use sentences from the novel.
Includes over 250 multiple choice questions.**

About Gramwardog

Gramwardog was founded in 2001 by Mary Jane McKinney, a high school English teacher and dedicated grammarian. She and other experienced English teachers in both high school and college regard grammar and style as the key to unlocking the essence of an author.

Their philosophy, that grammar and literature are best understood when learned together, led to the formation of Gramwardog.com, a means of sharing knowledge about the structure and patterns of language unique to specific authors. These patterns are what make a great book *a great book*. The arduous task of analyzing works for grammar and style has yielded a unique product, guaranteed to enlighten the reader of literary classics.

Gramwardog's strategy is to put the author's words under the microscope. The result yields an increased appreciation of the art of writing and awareness of the importance and power of language.



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ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND by Lewis Carroll – Grammar and Style
All exercises use sentences from the novel

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SAMPLE EXERCISES - ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND by Lewis Carroll

EXERCISE 5 COMPLEMENTS

Identify the complements in the following sentences. Label the underlined words:

d.o. = direct object i.o. = indirect object p.n. = predicate nominative p.a. = predicate adjective
o.p. = object of preposition

- ___ 1. Alice opened the door and found that it led into a small passage, not much larger than a rat hole.
- ___ 2. It was all very well to say “Drink me,” but the wise little Alice was not going to do that in a hurry.
- ___ 3. She ate a little bit, and said anxiously to herself “Which way? Which way?”, holding her hand on the top of her head to feel which way it was growing.

EXERCISE 6 PHRASES

Identify the phrases in the following sentences. Label the underlined words:

par = participle ger = gerund inf = infinitive appos = appositive prep = preposition

- ___ 1. Alice was beginning to get very tired of sitting by her sister on the bank, and of having nothing to do.
- ___ 2. Either the well was very deep, or she fell very slowly, for she had plenty of time as she went down to look about her, and to wonder what was going to happen next.
- ___ 3. She took down a jar from one of the shelves as she passed: it was labeled “ORANGE MARMALADE,” but to her great disappointment it was empty.

EXERCISE 9 STYLE: FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

Identify the figurative language in the following sentences. Label the underlined words:

p = personification m = metaphor s = simile o = onomatopoeia h = hyperbole

- ___ 1. And ever, as the story drained the wells of fancy dry, and faintly strove that weary one to put the subject by . . .
- ___ 2. A childish story take, and, with a gentle hand, lay it where Childhood's dreams are twined in Memory's mystic band, like pilgrim's wither'd wreath of flowers plucked in a far-off land.
- ___ 3. . . she was walking hand in hand with Dinah, and was saying to her, very earnestly, “Now, Dinah, tell me the truth: did you ever eat a bat?”, when suddenly, thump! thump! down she came upon a heap of sticks . . .

SAMPLE EXERCISES - ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND

EXERCISE 12

STYLE: ALLUSIONS AND SYMBOLS

Identify the type of allusion used in the following sentences. Label the underlined words:

a. time b. mathematics c. literature d. law/crime/punishment e. play/toys/games

- ___ 1. But, when the Rabbit actually took a watch out of its waistcoat pocket, and looked at it, and then hurried on, Alice started to her feet, for it flashed across her mind that she had never before seen a rabbit with either a waistcoat pocket, or a watch to take out of it . . .
- ___ 2. “I must be getting somewhere near the centre of the earth. Let me see: that would be four thousand miles down, I think –”
- ___ 3. “Let me see: four times five is twelve, and four times six is thirteen, and four times seven is – oh dear! I shall never get to twenty at that rate!”

EXERCISE 14

STYLE: LITERARY ANALYSIS – SELECTED PASSAGE 2

Read the following passage the first time through for meaning.

“How fond she is of finding morals in things!” Alice thought to herself.
“I dare say you’re wondering why I don’t put my arm round your waist,” the Duchess said, after a pause: “the reason is, that I’m doubtful about the temper of your flamingo. Shall I try the experiment?”
“He might bite,” Alice cautiously replied, not feeling at all anxious to have the experiment tried.
“Very true,” said the Duchess: “flamingoes and mustard both bite. And the moral of that is – ‘Birds of a feather flock together.’”
“Only mustard isn’t a bird,” Alice remarked.
“Right, as usual,” said the Duchess: “what a clear way you have of putting things!”
“It’s a mineral, I think,” said Alice.
“Of course it is,” said the Duchess, who seemed ready to agree to everything that Alice said: “there’s a large mustard-mine near here. And the moral of that is – ‘The more there is of mine, the less there is of yours.’”
“Oh, I know!” exclaimed Alice, who had not attended to this last remark. “It’s a vegetable. It doesn’t look like one, but it is.”
“I quite agree with you,” said the Duchess; “and the moral of that is – ‘Be what you would seem to be’-- or, if you’d like it put more simply – ‘Never imagine yourself not to be otherwise than what it might appear to others that what you were or might have been was not otherwise than what you had been would have appeared to them to be otherwise.’” (Chapter XIV)

Read the passage a second time, marking figurative language, sensory imagery, poetic devices, and any other patterns of diction and rhetoric, then answer the questions below.

- 1 “How fond she is of finding morals in things!” Alice thought to herself.
- 2 “I dare say you’re wondering why I don’t put my arm round your waist,” the Duchess said, after a
- 3 pause: “the reason is, that I’m doubtful about the temper of your flamingo. Shall I try the experiment?”

SAMPLE EXERCISES - ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND

- 4 “He might bite,” Alice cautiously replied, not feeling at all anxious to have the experiment tried.
- 5 “Very true,” said the Duchess: “flamingoes and mustard both bite. And the moral of that is –
- 6 ‘Birds of a feather flock together.’”
- 7 “Only mustard isn’t a bird,” Alice remarked.
- 8 “Right, as usual,” said the Duchess: “what a clear way you have of putting things!”
- 9 “It’s a mineral, I think,” said Alice.
- 10 “Of course it is,” said the Duchess, who seemed ready to agree to everything that Alice said: “there’s
- 11 a large mustard-mine near here. And the moral of that is – ‘The more there is of mine, the less there
- 12 is of yours.’”
- 13 “Oh, I know!” exclaimed Alice, who had not attended to this last remark. “It’s a vegetable. It doesn’t
- 14 look like one, but it is.”
- 15 “I quite agree with you,” said the Duchess; “and the moral of that is – ‘Be what you would seem to be’--
- 16 or, if you’d like it put more simply – ‘Never imagine yourself not to be otherwise than what it might
- 17 appear to others that what you were or might have been was not otherwise than what you had been
- 18 would have appeared to them to be otherwise.’” (Chapter IX)

- ____1. ALL of the following descriptions are parallel in function EXCEPT . . .
- a. *Birds of a feather flock together.* (Line 6)
 - b. *There’s a large mustard-mine near here.* (Line 10-11)
 - c. *The more there is of mine, the less there is of yours.* (Line 11-12)
 - d. *Be what you would seem to be.* (Line 15)
- ____2. ALL of the following devices are used to develop tone EXCEPT . . .
- a. dialogue b. humor c. dramatic irony d. absurdity
- ____3. The phrase *if you’d like it put more simply* in Line 16 is an example of . . .
- a. euphemism b. analogy c. anecdote d. irony