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grammar, style, and proofreading exercises

The Grammar Dog Guide to As You Like It by William Shakespeare

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

About Grammardog

Grammardog 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 Grammardog.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.

Grammardog'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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AS YOU LIKE IT by William Shakespeare – Grammar and Style
All exercises use sentences from the play.

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SAMPLE EXERCISES - AS YOU LIKE IT by William Shakespeare

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

o.p. = object of preposition

p.a. = predicate adjective

ACT I

- ___1. I am no villain. I am the youngest son of Sir Rowland de Boys.
- ___2. The spirit of my father grows strong in me, and I will no longer endure it.
- ___3. Therefore, allow me such exercises as may become a gentleman, or give me the poor allottery my father left me by testament.

EXERCISE 6 PHRASES

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

par = participial

ger = gerund

inf = infinitive

appos = appositive

prep = prepositional

ACT I

- ___1. This is it, Adam, that grieves me; and the spirit of my father, which I think is within me, begins to mutiny against this servitude.
- ___2. Yonder comes my master, your brother.
- ___3. You have trained me like a peasant, obscuring and hiding from me all gentlemanlike qualities.

EXERCISE 9 STYLE: FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

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

p = personification

s = simile

m = metaphor

h = hyperbole

ACT I

- ___1. Peradventure this is not Fortune's work neither, but Nature's, who perceiving our natural wits too dull to reason of such goddesses, hath sent this natural for our whetstone.
- ___2. . . . for always the dullness of the fool is the whetstone of the wits.
- ___3. Which he will put on us as pigeons feed their young.

SAMPLE EXERCISES - AS YOU LIKE IT by William Shakespeare

EXERCISE 12 STYLE: ALLUSIONS

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

a. history b. mythology c. religious d. literature e. folklore

ACT I

- ___ 1. They say he is already in the Forest of Arden, and a many merry men with him; and they live like the old Robin Hood of England.
- ___ 2. Now, Hercules be thy speed, young man!
- ___ 3. We still have slept together, rose at an instant, learned, played, eat together; and wheresoe'er we went, like Juno's swans, still we went coupled an inseparable.

EXERCISE 13 STYLE: LITERARY ANALYSIS – SELECTED PASSAGE 1

Read the following passage the first time through for meaning.

Duke Senior. Now, my co-mates and brothers in exile,
Hath not old custom make this life more sweet
Than that of painted pomp? Are not these woods
More free from peril than the envious court?
Here feel we but the penalty of Adam,
The seasons' difference; as, the icy fang
And churlish chiding of the winter's wind,
Which, when it bites an blows upon my body
Even till I shrink with cold, I smile, and say
"This is no flattery; these are counselors
That feelingly persuade me what I am."
Sweet are the uses of adversity,
Which, like the toad, ugly and venomous,
Wears yet a precious jewel in his head;
And this our life, exempt from public haunt,
Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks,
Sermons in stones, and good in everything:
I would not change it. (II, i, 1-18)

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 *Duke Senior.* Now, my co-mates and brothers in exile,
- 2 Hath not old custom make this life more sweet
- 3 Than that of painted pomp? Are not these woods
- 4 More free from peril than the envious court?

SAMPLE EXERCISES - AS YOU LIKE IT by William Shakespeare

- 5 Here feel we but the penalty of Adam,
6 The seasons' difference; as, the icy fang
7 And churlish chiding of the winter's wind,
8 Which, when it bites an blows upon my body
9 Even till I shrink with cold, I smile, and say
10 "This is no flattery; these are counselors
11 That feelingly persuade me what I am."
12 Sweet are the uses of adversity,
13 Which, like the toad, ugly and venomous,
14 Wears yet a precious jewel in his head;
15 And this our life, exempt from public haunt,
16 Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks,
17 Sermons in stones, and good in everything:
18 I would not change it.

- ___1. The underlined words in Lines 3, 7, and 8 are examples of . . .
a. assonance b. consonance c. alliteration d. rhyme
- ___2. Line 5 contains an example of . . .
a. metaphor b. simile c. personification d. allusion
- ___3. In Line 10, the word *counselors* refers to . . .
a. co-mates b. brothers c. wind d. woods