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grammar, style, and proofreading exercises

**The Grammar Dog Guide to
The Taming of
the Shrew
by William Shakespeare**

**All exercises use sentences from the play.
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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THE TAMING OF THE SHREW by William Shakespeare – Grammar and Style
All exercises use sentences from the play.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Exercise 1	--	Parts of Speech <i>20 multiple choice questions</i> 3
Exercise 2	--	Proofreading: Spelling, Capitalization, Punctuation <i>12 multiple choice questions</i> 5
Exercise 3	--	Proofreading: Spelling, Capitalization, Punctuation <i>12 multiple choice questions</i> 6
Exercise 4	--	Simple, Compound, Complex Sentences <i>20 multiple choice questions</i> 7
Exercise 5	--	Complements <i>20 multiple choice questions on direct objects, predicate nominatives, predicate adjectives, indirect objects, and objects of prepositions</i> 9
Exercise 6	--	Phrases <i>20 multiple choice questions on prepositional, appositive, gerund, infinitive, and participial phrases</i>	... 11
Exercise 7	--	Verbals: Gerunds, Infinitives, and Participles <i>20 multiple choice questions</i>	... 13
Exercise 8	--	Clauses <i>20 multiple choice questions</i>	... 15

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Exercise 9 --	Style: Figurative Language <i>20 multiple choice questions on metaphor, simile, personification, onomatopoeia, and hyperbole</i>	... 17
Exercise 10 --	Style: Poetic Devices <i>20 multiple choice questions on assonance, consonance, alliteration, repetition, and rhyme</i>	... 19
Exercise 11 --	Style: Sensory Imagery <i>20 multiple choice questions</i>	... 21
Exercise 12 --	Style: Allusions <i>20 multiple choice questions on allusions to history, mythology, religion, literature, and craziness/foolishness</i>	... 23
Exercise 13 --	Style: Literary Analysis – Selected Passage 1 <i>6 multiple choice questions</i>	... 25
Exercise 14 --	Style: Literary Analysis – Selected Passage 2 <i>6 multiple choice questions</i>	... 27
Exercise 15 --	Style: Literary Analysis – Selected Passage 3 <i>6 multiple choice questions</i>	... 29
Exercise 16 --	Style: Literary Analysis – Selected Passage 4 <i>6 multiple choice questions</i>	... 31
Answer Key -	Exercises 1-16	... 33
Glossary --	Definitions of Terms Used in Literary Analysis	... 35

SAMPLE EXERCISES - THE TAMING OF THE SHREW 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

INDUCTION/ACT I

- ___1. She was the fairest creature in the world; and yet she is inferior to none.
- ___2. That wench is stark mad or wonderful forward.
- ___3. Sorry am I that our good will effects Bianca's grief.

EXERCISE 6 PHRASES

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

par = participial *ger* = gerund *inf* = infinitive *appos* = appositive *prep* = prepositional

INDUCTION/ACT I

- ___1. Ask Marian Hacket, the fat alewife of Wincot, if she know me not.
- ___2. Thou has a lady far more beautiful than any woman in this waning age.
- ___3. But art thou not advis'd he took some care to get her cunning schoolmasters to instruct her?

EXERCISE 9 STYLE: FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

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

p = personification

s = simile

m = metaphor

o = onomatopoeia

h = hyperbole

INDUCTION/ACT I

- ___1. Your honour's players, hearing your amendment, are come to play a pleasant comedy; for so your doctors hold it very meet, seeing too much sadness hath congeal'd your blood and melancholy is the nurse of frenzy.
- ___2. . . . she moves me not, or not removes, at least, affection's edge in me, were she as rough as are the swelling Adriatic seas.
- ___3. Have I not heard the sea, puff'd up with winds, rage like an angry boar chafed with sweat?

SAMPLE EXERCISES - THE TAMING OF THE SHREW by William Shakespeare

EXERCISE 12 STYLE: ALLUSIONS AND SYMBOLS

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

a. history b. mythology c. religion d. literature e. craziness/foolishness

INDUCTION/ACT I

- ___ 1. Dost thou love pictures? We will fetch thee straight Adonis painted by a running brook . . .
- ___ 2. We'll show thee Io as she was a maid, and how she was beguiled and surpris'd, as lively painted as the deed was done.
- ___ 3. Or Daphne roaming through a thorny wood, scratching her legs that one shall swear she bleeds, and at that sight shall sad Apollo weep . . .

EXERCISE 13 STYLE: LITERARY ANALYSIS – SELECTED PASSAGE 1

Read the following passage the first time through for meaning.

Petruchio. Why, that is nothing! for I tell you father,
I am as peremptory as she proud-minded;
And where two raging fires meet together,
They do consume the thing that feeds their fury.
Though little fire grows great with little wind,
Yet extreme gusts will blow out fire and all.
So I to her, and so she yields to me,
For I am rough and woo not like a babe.
Baptista. Well mayst thou woo and happy be thy speed!
But be thou arm'd for some unhappy words.
Petruchio. Ay, to the proof, as mountains are for winds,
That shake not, though they blow perpetually. (II, I, 128-139)

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 *Petruchio.* Why, that is nothing! for I tell you father,
- 2 I am as peremptory as she proud-minded;
- 3 And where two raging fires meet together,
- 4 They do consume the thing that feeds their fury.
- 5 Though little fire grows great with little wind,
- 6 Yet extreme gusts will blow out fire and all.

SAMPLE EXERCISES - THE TAMING OF THE SHREW by William Shakespeare

7 So I to her, and so she yields to me,

8 For I am rough and woo not like a babe.

9 *Baptista*. Well mayst thou woo and happy be thy speed!

10 But be thou arm'd for some unhappy words.

11 *Petruchio*. Ay, to the proof, as mountains are for winds,

12 That shake not, though they blow perpetually. (II, I, 128-139)

- ___1. **The underlined words in Lines 4 and 5 are examples of . . .**
a. assonance b. consonance c. alliteration d. rhyme
- ___2. **The PREDOMINANT form of comparison used in the passage is . . .**
a. euphemism b. allegory c. anecdote d. analogy
- ___3. **The woman mentioned in the passage is compared to ALL of the following EXCEPT . . .**
a. fire b. wind c. mountain