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grammar, style, and proofreading exercises

**The Grammar Dog Guide to
Through the
Looking-Glass
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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THROUGH THE LOOKING-GLASS by Lewis Carroll – Grammar and Style
All exercises use sentences from the novel

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SAMPLE EXERCISES - THROUGH THE LOOKING-GLASS 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. And Alice got the Red Queen off the table, and set it up before the kitten as a model for it to imitate.

- ___ 2. Alice was very anxious to be of use, and, as the poor little Lily was nearly screaming herself into a fit, she hastily picked up the Queen and set her on the table by the side of her noisy little daughter.

- ___ 3. ‘Twas brillig, and the slithy toves did gyre and gimble in the wabe.

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. “How would you like to live in Looking-Glass House, Kitty?”

- ___ 2. She just kept the tips of her fingers on the handrail and floated gently down without even touching the stairs with her feet.

- ___ 3. So, resolutely turning her back upon the house, she set out once more down the path, determined to keep straight on till she got to the hill.

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

- ___ 1. “I wonder if the snow loves the trees and fields, that it kisses them so gently?”

- ___ 2. “I’m sure the woods look sleepy in the autumn, when the leaves are getting brown.”

- ___ 3. And certainly the glass was beginning to melt away, just like a bright silvery mist.

SAMPLE EXERCISES - THROUGH THE LOOKING-GLASS by Lewis Carroll

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. rules/punishment d. combat e. opposites f. dreams

- ___1. “That’s three faults, Kitty, and you’ve not been punished for any of them yet.”
- ___2. “Curtsey while you’re thinking what to say. It saves time.”
- ___3. “I’ve seen gardens, compared with which this would be a wilderness.”

EXERCISE 13

STYLE: LITERARY ANALYSIS – SELECTED PASSAGE 1

Read the following passage the first time through for meaning.

Alice didn’t like being criticized, so she began asking questions. “Aren’t you sometimes frightened at being planted out here, with nobody to take care of you?”
“There’s the tree in the middle,” said the Rose. “What else is it good for?”
“But what could it do, if any danger came?” Alice asked.
“It could bark,” said the Rose.
“It says ‘Bough-wough!’” cried a Daisy. “That’s why its branches are called boughs!”
“Didn’t you know that?” cried another Daisy. And here they all began shouting together, till the air seemed full of little shrill voices. “Silence, every one of you!” cried the Tiger-Lily, waving itself passionately from side to side, and trembling with excitement. “They know I can’t get at them!” it panted, bending its quivering head towards Alice, “or they wouldn’t dare to do it!”
“Never mind!” Alice said in a soothing tone, and, stooping down to the daisies, who were just beginning again, she whispered “If you don’t hold your tongues, I’ll pick you!”
There was silence in a moment, and several of the pink daisies turned white.
“That’s right!” said the Tiger-Lily. “The daisies are worst of all. When one speaks, they all begin together, and it’s enough to make one wither to hear the way they go on!”
“How is it you can all talk so nicely?” Alice said, hoping to get it into a better temper by a compliment. “I’ve been in many gardens before, but none of the flowers could talk.”
“Put your hand down, and feel the ground,” said the Tiger-Lily. “Then you’ll know why.”
Alice did so. “It’s very hard,” she said; “but I don’t see what that has to do with it.”
“In most gardens,” the Tiger-Lily said, “they make the beds too soft – so that the flowers are always asleep.” (Chapter II)

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 Alice didn’t like being criticized, so she began asking questions. “Aren’t you sometimes
- 2 frightened at being planted out here, with nobody to take care of you?”
- 3 “There’s the tree in the middle,” said the Rose. “What else is it good for?”

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4 “But what could it do, if any danger came?” Alice asked.

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10 get at them!” it panted, bending its quivering head towards Alice, “or they wouldn’t dare to do it!”

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19 Alice did so. “It’s very hard,” she said; “but I don’t see what that has to do with it.”

20 “In most gardens,” the Tiger-Lily said, “they make the beds too soft – so that the flowers

21 are always asleep.”

___ 1. The words *bark* and *bough-wough* in Lines 5 and 6 are examples of . . .
a. sarcasm b. pun c. analogy d. satire

___ 2. The use of *bough* and *boughs* in Line 6 is an example of ALL of the following EXCEPT . . .
a. humor b. wit c. sarcasm d. wordplay

___ 3. ALL of the following are used to develop tone EXCEPT . . .
a. dialogue b. personification c. humor d. rhetorical question