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# GOOD GRAMMAR GLOSSARY 1

A. Complete the sentences. Fill in each blank with the correct term from the box.

verb    homonym    contraction    possessive    noun    singular    pronoun    plural

1. Instead of saying, "I will," we often say, "I'll." Two words join to create a \_\_\_\_\_.
2. *Fred, Florida, farm,* and *faith* are "naming" words. A word that names a person, place, or thing is a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. After Frieda ate fifteen figs, *she* fell ill. The word *she* replaces the noun *Frieda*. A word that substitutes for a noun is a \_\_\_\_\_.
4. A \_\_\_\_\_ word refers to more than one. If you have two *bosses*, you have more than one *boss*.
5. A \_\_\_\_\_ word refers to just one. "I see an *ant* on the table!"
6. *Run, jump, hit,* or *sing*—each word expresses an action. Words like *is* or *was* express what is or seems to be. Each *italicized* word is a \_\_\_\_\_.
7. *Your* and *you're* sound the same but are different words. The word *your* is a \_\_\_\_\_ of *you're*.
8. Is it *my* book or *Bill's*? It might be *Marci's* book! Each of the words in *italics* is \_\_\_\_\_. They all show ownership.

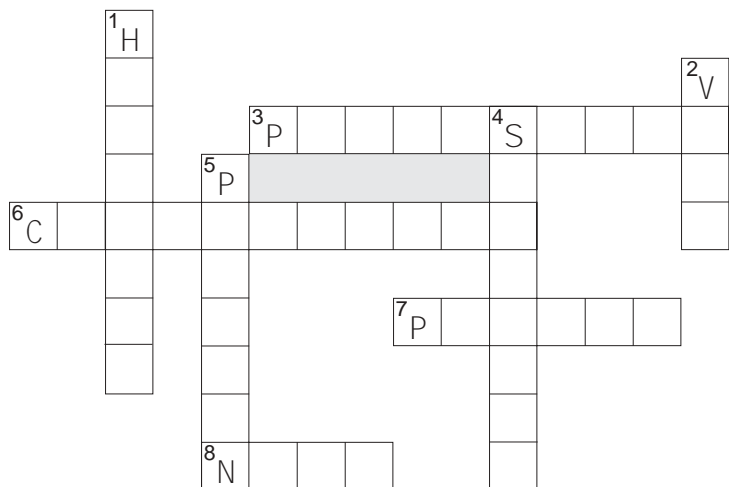
B. To complete the puzzle, match each boldface clue word with a word from the box.

**ACROSS**

3. the **baby's** booties
6. **it's, isn't,** or **I'm**
7. many **apples** or **cats**
8. **pizza, yo-yo, Denver,** or **government**

**DOWN**

1. **their, they're,** and **there**
2. **waddle, whisper, was,** or **wiggle**
4. one **apple** or **cat**
5. John loves **his** dog.




**EXCEPTIONAL ENGLISH: Are Group Nouns Singular or Plural?**

Certain words name a group of things. *Jury, team, herd, and band* are some examples. Group nouns are exceptional. Depending on how they're used, they can be either singular or plural.

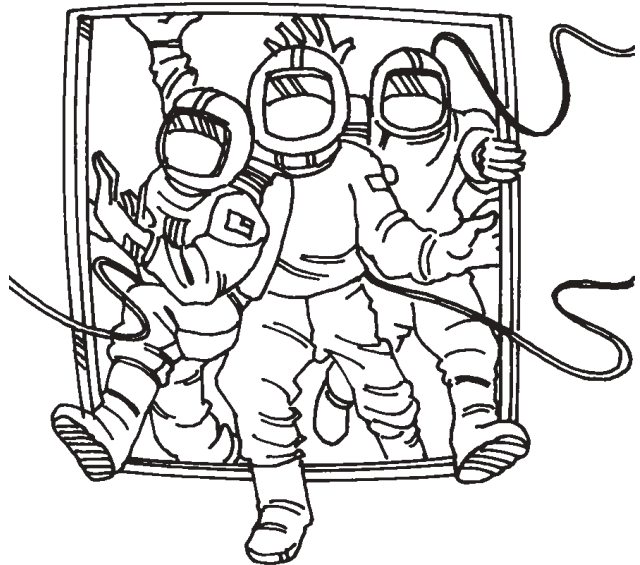
**GOOD GRAMMAR:**

The **jury** *is* meeting in the jury room. (singular—the jury as a single unit)

The **jury** *are* still debating their final verdict. (plural—the separate members of the jury)

A. Underline the group noun in each sentence. Then circle the correct verb form.

1. The crew normally ( enters / enter )  
the space capsule individually.
2. This wild buffalo herd ( is / are )  
the last one in the country.
3. Sadly, the herd ( is / are ) dying  
a few each month.
4. I'm glad the band ( is / are )  
playing lots of "golden oldies."
5. The committee of five ( is / are )  
in charge of the lunch menus.
6. The committee ( is / are )  
squabbling among themselves.
7. The team ( is / are ) on the court, and the game is about to begin.
8. The big crowd in the stadium ( is / are ) louder than usual.
9. ( Is / Are ) the choir going to be singing at tonight's concert?
10. The staff at most hotels ( is / are ) anxious to make all guests feel at home.



B. Choose five of the following group nouns. On the back of this sheet, write a sentence using each noun you chose. Decide whether you are referring to a single unit or to separate group members. Make sure the noun and verb agree in number.

**GROUP NOUNS:** orchestra, audience, family, squad, club, flock, army, class

C. Scan a magazine, newspaper, letter, advertisement, or pamphlet. Find a sentence that contains a group noun. Copy the sentence on the back of this sheet. Underline the group noun and circle the verb.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_



**MORE PESKY VERB PAIRS: *Lie* or *Lay*, *Sit* or *Set***

**FAULTY GRAMMAR:** Before you *lay* down, please *lie* out tomorrow's clothes.

**GOOD GRAMMAR:** Before you *lie* down, please *lay* out tomorrow's clothes.

**GOOD GRAMMAR HINT:** *Lay* means "to place or put something somewhere."

*Lie* means "to recline."

A. Complete each sentence with *lie* or *lay*.

1. "If you feel dizzy, \_\_\_\_\_ down with your head flat," suggested the nurse.
2. "\_\_\_\_\_ the baby in her crib while we make dinner," my sister said.
3. "Relax," the dentist said, "and \_\_\_\_\_ back in the chair."
4. "When you finish your test," said the teacher, "\_\_\_\_\_ your paper on my desk."
5. "Don't \_\_\_\_\_ your sunglasses on the floor!" her mother scolded.
6. The clerk said, "Just \_\_\_\_\_ your money on the counter."
7. "Don't just \_\_\_\_\_ there! Get up and help me."
8. "Don't \_\_\_\_\_ that there! Put it back where it belongs."



**FAULTY GRAMMAR:** If you *set* at the wood table, don't *sit* a wet glass on it.

**GOOD GRAMMAR:** If you *sit* at the wood table, don't *set* a wet glass on it.

**GOOD GRAMMAR HINT:** The verbs *sit* and *set* are similar to *lie* and *lay*.

Use *set* when the sentence tells about "placing something on some surface." Use *sit* to talk about "a person taking a seat."

B. To complete each sentence, circle the correct verb.

1. "Where should I ( sit / set )?"  
Gabe asked the teacher.
2. "If you ( sit / set ) in the front  
row, you can see the board,"  
the teacher answered.
3. Gabe started to ( sit / set )  
down at a desk.
4. "No, no! Don't ( sit / set ) there!" Wendy  
exclaimed, jumping to her feet.
5. "That's where I always ( sit / set ) my  
backpack," she went on.
6. The teacher exclaimed, "Wendy, ( sit / set )  
down and ( sit / set ) your backpack  
somewhere else!"

**ON YOUR OWN!**

On the back of this sheet, draw a picture to show the meaning of *sit*. Write a caption explaining the picture. Then draw a picture that illustrates the meaning of *set* and write a caption. (Don't worry about your drawing skills. Even stick figures can get the point across.)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_



SENTENCE SENSE: Building a Sentence

A. Use each group of words in parentheses to write a complete sentence. Add more words to make your sentence interesting and unique. Make sure you use good grammar in your sentences.

1. ( Tyronne / buys / presents ) *Tyronne buys generous presents for all his nieces and nephews.*

2. ( Bonnie / Mary Ann / laughed ) \_\_\_\_\_

3. ( Cyril / shovel / dug ) \_\_\_\_\_

4. ( flames / burned / trees ) \_\_\_\_\_

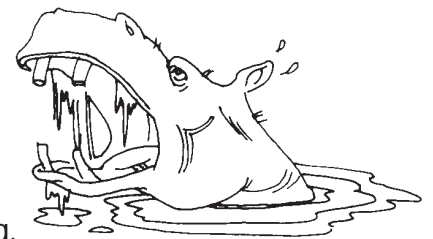
5. ( landed / jet / pilot ) \_\_\_\_\_

6. ( monster / Tammy / screamed ) \_\_\_\_\_

7. ( shark / ocean / swam ) \_\_\_\_\_

8. ( typed / computer / Sylvia ) \_\_\_\_\_

B. Select word groups from each column to create five complete sentences. You can add your own words, change word order, or revise some word groups. Just make sure to include a subject and a verb! Write your sentences on the back of this sheet.



EXAMPLE: A hippo in the zoo growled loudly and hungrily all night long.

COLUMN 1	COLUMN 2	COLUMN 3	COLUMN 4	COLUMN 5
<i>Who?</i>	<i>What?</i>	<i>Why?</i>	<i>When?</i>	<i>Where?</i>
The alligator	growled loudly	to get attention	at midnight	in Ireland
Four figure skaters	slithered	in anger	one winter	at the park
The teacher	rang	because of hunger	in 2050	on the train
Ms. McGee	danced gracefully	to celebrate	on a birthday	in the kitchen
A hippo	slept	from exhaustion	all night long	in the cafeteria
The telephone	spoke	due to a mistake	at dawn	in the zoo
The film	ended	from fright	in the middle	in the bedroom