

Following Directions 2

Say, “Some of these directions make sense; some of them don’t. Listen carefully to each direction. If it makes sense, raise your hand.”

1. Give me the window. *(no)*
2. Don’t walk on the grass. *(yes)*
3. Jump over the building. *(no)*
4. Please hang up your jacket. *(yes)*
5. Put the milk in the stove. *(no)*
6. Help me carry the school. *(no)*
7. Count to 20 as fast as you can. *(yes)*
8. Draw a picture on the moon. *(no)*
9. Wash your hands before you eat. *(yes)*
10. Take your backpack home. *(yes)*
11. Ride your bike in the lake. *(no)*
12. Play the piano with your hair. *(no)*
13. Stand on your head under the table. *(no)*
14. Tell me your phone number. *(yes)*
15. Throw your foot in the trash. *(no)*
16. Wipe your muddy boots on the mat. *(yes)*
17. Read the first two chapters in this book. *(yes)*
18. Open the floor. *(no)*
19. Brush your teeth with ketchup. *(no)*
20. Turn the computer off when you are finished. *(yes)*

Paraphrasing 8

Say, “When you say something in your own words, you have to get the basic information correct. Listen carefully to each of these instructions. Decide what is the single most important piece of information you need to remember. Then use as few words as possible to state the important information.”

(Note: Answers provided are examples only. Your students' answers will vary.)

1. The bus will leave at exactly 8:00. If you aren't at the school at that time, you will be left behind. *(bus will leave at 8:00)*
2. That store is only open on weekdays. If you try to go there on Saturday or Sunday, it will be closed. *(only open on weekdays)*
3. If you don't follow my instructions, you could get very sick. Remember to take just one pill every morning. *(take one pill every morning)*
4. I'd be glad to let you use my computer. Just promise me that if something goes wrong, you won't try to fix it. *(don't try to fix anything that goes wrong)*
5. Listen carefully so you don't do more work than you need to. Open your math book to page 122. Do only the odd numbered problems for tomorrow. *(do only odd numbered problems on page 122)*
6. You can have ice cream after you finish your homework, not before. I think I bought your favorite flavor. You like chocolate, don't you? *(can have ice cream after homework)*
7. Make sure you bring \$13 for the field trip. The money is for the bus and for lunch. If you don't bring money, you won't get to eat lunch. *(bring \$13 for field trip)*
8. The last time someone borrowed my hair dryer they broke it. It's important that you turn it off before you unplug it. If you don't, it will blow a fuse and won't work. *(turn it off before you unplug it)*
9. I need you to run to the store for me. I need a one-liter bottle of corn oil. Make sure you get corn oil — not vegetable, sunflower, or canola oil. *(need a one-liter bottle of corn oil)*
10. I can't say this enough times. Don't ever copy any files onto my computer. You might have a virus on your disk. If it gets into my machine, I'll have big problems. *(don't copy files onto my computer)*

Identifying Details 6

Say, “Listen carefully to each sentence. Then tell me who or what the pronoun refers to.”

1. A compass rose is found on a map. *It* shows you the four main directions – north, south, east, and west. What is *it*? (*compass rose*)
2. Oceans are large bodies of salt water. *They* cover over half of the Earth’s surface. What are *they*? (*oceans*)
3. Soil conservation is very important to farmers. *They* know *they* must have rich topsoil to grow food. That is why *they* have learned different ways to protect the topsoil. Who are *they*? (*farmers*)
4. Sometimes farmers plant rows of trees along the sides of their fields. These trees slow down the wind so *it* doesn’t blow the topsoil away. What is *it*? (*wind*)
5. Computers have become a very important part of our lives. Most businesses would not be able to operate without *them*. What are *them*? (*computers*)
6. A cowboy is a man who works on a ranch. *He* takes care of the cattle. Who is *he*? (*cowboy*)
7. Pioneer families traveled west on the Oregon Trail. Most of *them* were heading West to claim land for their homes and farms. Who are *them*? (*pioneer families*)
8. John Chapman lived in the late 1700s. Many people called *him* Johnny Appleseed because he planted apple trees everywhere he went. Who is *him*? (*John Chapman*)
9. When Samantha Smith was just eleven years old, *she* sent a letter to the leader of the Soviet Union. Samantha told the leader *she* was frightened of nuclear war. Who is *she*? (*Samantha Smith*)
10. When the leader of the Soviet Union received Samantha’s letter, he invited *her* to visit the Soviet Union. Who is *her*? (*Samantha Smith*)
11. Bayou is an odd-sounding word. *It* is a stream that moves slowly through a swampy area. What is *it*? (*bayou*)
12. My grandmother and I took a trip to Egypt. While *we* were there, *we* went to see the pyramids. Who are *we*? (*my grandmother and I*)
13. Robert said, “*I* am going to make a donation to the Red Cross. It’s an organization that helps a lot of people!” Who is *I*? (*Robert*)
14. I am a descendent of Matthew Thornton. *He* was one of the men who signed the Declaration of Independence. Who is *he*? (*Matthew Thornton*)

Grammar 3

Say, “The subject of a sentence tells who or what the sentence is about. Listen carefully. Tell me the complete subject for each sentence I say.”

(Note: For students who can easily identify the complete subject, revise the directions above so that your students identify the simple subject (the noun), shown here in boldfaced type.)

1. *(The last **bus**)* has already left the school.
2. *(Jon’s youngest **sister**)* broke her leg in-line skating.
3. *(The bake **sale**)* was a huge success!
4. *(A pig’s **tail**)* is short and curly.
5. *(Jillian’s soccer **team**)* won the game last night.
6. *(Many beautiful **flowers**)* grow in Hawaii.
7. *(My next-door **neighbor**)* raked the leaves in his yard.
8. *(Mr. Truman’s science **experiments**)* are fun to do!
9. *(That newspaper **article**)* contains many opinions.
10. *(An interesting **character in the story**)* is Mrs. Puffindorf.
11. *(My oldest **brother**)* makes dinner once a week.
12. *(Some female **turtles**)* lay at least a hundred eggs at a time.
13. *(A dry desert **climate**)* is typical of many Southwestern states.
14. Since last year, *(Abby’s curly **hair**)* has grown three inches.
15. *(**Farmers in California**)* grow most of the food that people in the U.S. eat.
16. After June 1st, *(the city **pool**)* will open at 8:00 a.m.
17. *(Some **students**)* chose to plant flowers for extra credit in science.
18. One lazy afternoon, *(several hungry **ants**)* interrupted our picnic.
19. *(The girls’ basketball **team**)* will meet in the gym after school.
20. Of the three routes home, *(the old gravel **road**)* is usually the fastest.
21. For the holidays, *(our entire **family**)* will be going to Texas.
22. Because of the storm, *(many **homes and businesses**)* were without power.
23. *(A large amount of **rainfall**)* can cause the Mississippi River to flood.
24. During the 1800s, *(many **pioneers**)* traveled to the far West.
25. While you were gone, *(the new **principal**)* visited our classroom.