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The Emperor and the Artist



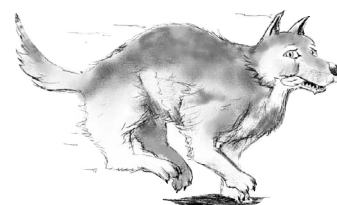
You are making progress! Answer the following questions. Fill in the blanks with words, letters or numbers as each question indicates. Check your answers from the Answer Key. Correct all errors, then complete your next goal.



FROM THE VIGNETTE

Complete the questions.

- The artist was able to produce a masterpiece in fifteen minutes because he: _____
 (a) had studied and drawn the details from every angle
 (b) had daydreamed about birds for years while thinking of the emperor’s reward
 (c) both of the above
- Complete the following sentences: “To have an _____, strive for an excellent _____. Within that year, strive for an excellent _____, and within that month, strive for an excellent _____. Within the day, strive for an excellent _____.”
- “An excellent life is the sum of many excellent moments” means: _____
 (a) if a person concentrates on completing well the small details of daily life, his entire life will be excellent
 (b) to have an excellent life, do the small tasks quickly. Do not pay much attention to them because they will slow you down
 (c) leave details to others and move on to greater things
- The main idea of the vignette is: _____
 (a) being commissioned by an emperor or ruler makes a person wealthy and famous
 (b) when a person gives attention to details and *strives* to perfect every aspect, he will achieve excellence for the whole project
 (c) never make an emperor wait unless you have a really good reason



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WORD POWER!

Multiple Choice: Choose the answers for the VOCABULARY words.

5. A person who is *commissioned*: _____

- (a) will not be very responsible
- (b) has authority to complete a duty or task
- (c) makes a lot of money

6. An *easel* would most likely be found: _____

- (a) in the tool box of a garage mechanic
- (b) in the studio of an artist
- (c) next to an emperor's throne

7. To look at an *aspect* of something is to: _____

- (a) regard an object, idea or problem in a certain way
- (b) measure the quality of a work of art
- (c) inquire about the price

8. Part of the artist's _____ was his belief that each task should be completed well.

- (a) *easel*
- (b) *reign*
- (c) *philosophy*

9. *Rembrandt* was: _____

- (a) a philosopher who spoke about beliefs, truth and knowledge
- (b) a magnificent ruler in the 17th century
- (c) a Dutchman who lived during the 1600s (17th century)

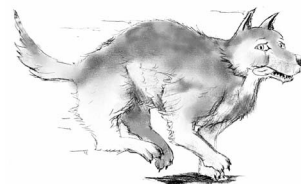
PARTS OF SPEECH

Fill in the blank: Write the correct answers.

10. List the eight parts of speech:

11. The parts of speech are the _____ of the English language.

12. Nouns name _____, _____, _____ and _____.



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The italicized words are nouns. On the blank, write “person,” “place,” “thing” or “idea.”

13. The *artist* became famous for his attention to detail. _____
14. The *studio* in which the artist worked was cramped and small. _____
15. The emperor’s *reign* lasted for over 50 years. _____
16. The emperor had *understanding* for the artist’s choice. _____
17. The *Emperor* of Japan commissioned a Japanese artist _____
18. to paint a particular species of *bird*. Months passed, _____
19. then *years*. Finally, the Emperor went to the artist’s studio _____
20. to ask for an explanation for his apparent lack of *motivation*. _____

True or False: Write the correct answers for common and proper nouns.

21. _____ Common nouns begin with small letters and name general persons, places, things and ideas.
22. _____ Proper nouns begin with capital letters and name specific persons, places, things and ideas.

Write “common” or “proper.”

23. The word *birds* is a _____ noun.
24. The word *Emperor* is a _____ noun.
25. The word *Japan* is a _____ noun.
26. The word *country* is a _____ noun.

Fill in the blank: Write the correct answers for singular and plural nouns.

27. Singular nouns name only _____ person, place, thing or idea.
28. Plural nouns name _____ persons, places, things or ideas.

The underlined words in the sentences (29-46) are nouns. On each blank write “singular” or “plural.”

- 29-46. The artist _____ opened cabinet _____ after cabinet _____ in his studio _____. He removed armloads _____ of drawings _____ of feathers, _____ tendons, _____ wings, _____ feet, _____ claws, _____ eyes, _____ beaks _____—virtually every aspect _____ of a bird, _____ from virtually every angle _____. He placed these silently before the Emperor _____, who nodded in understanding _____.

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ALL TOGETHER!

Underline the correct answers using all of the information you learned in this lesson.

47. The (common, proper) noun *Japan* is (singular, plural).
48. The (common, proper) noun *lives* is (singular, plural).
49. The word *excellence* is a (common, proper) noun, and is a/an (person, place, thing, idea).
50. Write the **Life Principle**: “ _____ ”



You have made a good start to this course in English Grammar Skills. Continue to Lesson 2, and prepare to learn more about nouns.

