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Using Language Well

SAMPLE

*English, Grammar, and Writing Points
from Spelling Wisdom*

by Sonya Shafer

Book 2
Student Book

Help your student grow in language arts skills through great literature!

Using Language Well is a companion to *Spelling Wisdom*, which contains wonderful excerpts from great literature, worthy poetry, beautiful Scripture, and powerful quotations. Now you can use those same great literary passages to teach English usage, punctuation, capitalization, grammar, and composition!

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- Keep interest and attention high through short lessons just twice a week.
- Confidently guide and evaluate your student's progress in composition with the helpful tips and practical tools in the *Teacher Guide & Answer Key*.



Book 2—Parts of Speech

Nouns • Pronouns • Adjectives • Verbs • Adverbs • Interjections • Articles •
Conjunctions • Prepositions

All *Using Language Well* books include English, grammar, and writing points.

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Using Language Well

Book Two

English, Grammar, and Writing Points
from *Spelling Wisdom, Book Two*

Student Book

by Sonya Shafer

Using Language Well, Book Two, Student Book: English, Grammar, and Writing Points from
Spelling Wisdom, Book Two
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Cover Design: John Shafer

ISBN 978-1-61634-314-9 printed
ISBN 978-1-61634-315-6 electronic download

Published by
Simply Charlotte Mason, LLC
930 New Hope Road #11-892
Lawrenceville, Georgia 30045
simplycharlottesmason.com

Printed by PrintLogic, Inc.
Monroe, Georgia, USA

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How to Use This Book

Using Language Well, Book Two, is designed to be used alongside *Spelling Wisdom, Book Two*. You will need both books.

Spelling Wisdom books and *Using Language Well* teacher books are non-consumable and can be reused. *Using Language Well* student books are consumable; you will need one per student and a notebook for dictation exercises.

We recommend doing two lessons per week. At that pace this book will last two years: Lessons 1–70 in the first year, Lessons 71–140 in the second.

Most lessons take only five or ten minutes to complete, plus the time spent to prepare for dictation.

Lesson 1

(from Exercise 1, A Book on Hand)

1. Read Exercise 1 in *Spelling Wisdom, Book 2*.
2. One particular word in that sentence is very important. It helps you get the same mental picture that the writer had in her mind when she wrote the sentence. That word is the name of a thing: *book*.

We call words that name things *nouns*. Think of five different nouns that, if used in that sentence instead of *book*, would change the whole mental picture.



Writing Point: Choose nouns carefully when you are writing to best communicate the picture you have in your head.

3. Prepare Exercise 1 for dictation by following these steps.
 - » Step One: Read the passage and identify which words you don't know how to spell yet.
 - » Step Two: Study those words. Look at them carefully until you can close your eyes and see them in your mind.
 - » Step Three: Look closely at the punctuation and capital letters. (Copy the exercise, if that will help you.)
 - » Step Four: When you are sure you know how to spell every single word in the exercise and are familiar with the punctuation and capitalization, ask your teacher to dictate it to you while you write it in a notebook.

Lesson 2

(from Exercise 2, Great Things)

1. Read Exercise 2 in *Spelling Wisdom, Book 2*.
2. Explain what a noun is.

3. Some nouns name things that you can actually see or hear, such as *book* or *music*; other nouns name things that you cannot see or hear, but you know they exist.

List five nouns from the exercise.

4. Prepare Exercise 2 for dictation by following these steps.
 - » Step One: Read the passage and identify which words you don't know how to spell yet.
 - » Step Two: Study those words. Look at them carefully until you can close your eyes and see them in your mind.
 - » Step Three: Look closely at the punctuation and capital letters. (Copy the exercise, if that will help you.)
 - » Step Four: When you are sure you know how to spell every single word in the exercise and are familiar with the punctuation and capitalization, ask your teacher to dictate it to you while you write it in your notebook.

Lesson 3

(from Exercise 3, Habits)

1. Read Exercise 3 in *Spelling Wisdom, Book 2*.
2. Define “assumed” in that context.

3. Think of a synonym for each of the words below. (Remember, a synonym is a word that means the same as another word.)

- strive _____
- flayed _____

4. How would you put the sentence in the exercise in your own words?

5. Prepare Exercise 3 for dictation by following these steps.

- » Step One: Read the passage and identify which words you don’t know how to spell yet.
- » Step Two: Study those words. Look at them carefully until you can close your eyes and see them in your mind.
- » Step Three: Look closely at the punctuation and capital letters. (Copy the exercise, if that will help you.)
- » Step Four: When you are sure you know how to spell every single word in the exercise and are familiar with the punctuation and capitalization, ask your teacher to dictate it to you while you write it in your notebook.

Lesson 4

(from Exercise 4, Responsibility)

1. Read Exercise 4 in *Spelling Wisdom, Book 2*.
2. A sentence can be divided into two main parts: the subject (that of which we speak) and the predicate (what we say about it). Divide the sentence from the exercise into its two main parts by drawing a line between the subject and the predicate.

You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today.

3. Study the exercise until you are prepared for dictation. Make sure you know how to spell all of the nouns.

Lesson 5

(from Exercise 5, On the Truth)

1. Read Exercise 5 in *Spelling Wisdom, Book 2*.
2. Tell what a noun is.

3. Find two nouns in this shortened sentence from the exercise and mark them by writing *N* above each.

Men occasionally stumble over the truth.

4. Study the exercise until you are prepared for dictation. Make sure you are completing all the steps.
 - » Step One: Read the passage and identify which words you don't know how to spell yet.
 - » Step Two: Study those words. Look at them carefully until you can close your eyes and see them in your mind.
 - » Step Three: Look closely at the punctuation and capital letters. (Copy the exercise, if that will help you.)
 - » Step Four: When you are sure you know how to spell every single word in the exercise and are familiar with the punctuation and capitalization, ask your teacher to dictate it to you while you write it in your notebook.

Lesson 6

(from Exercise 6, Ride On)

1. Read Exercise 6 in *Spelling Wisdom, Book 2*.
2. What do the terms *rough-shod* and *smooth-shod* mean? Do a little research and write your findings below.

3. Study the exercise until you are prepared for dictation. Don't forget the hyphens when you spell the two terms you researched.

Lesson 7

(from Exercise 7, You May Deceive)

1. Read Exercise 7 in *Spelling Wisdom, Book 2*.
2. Two nouns are repeated three times each in the exercise. What are they?

3. Why did Lincoln repeat those words, do you think? What kind of effect does the repetition have?

4. Study the exercise until you are prepared for dictation.

Lesson 8

(from Exercise 8, On Adversity)

1. Read Exercise 8 in *Spelling Wisdom, Book 2*.
2. Find two nouns in the first line of the exercise.

3. The second line contains the little word *it*. To what word in the first line does *it* refer?

It is a pronoun. A pronoun is a word that is used in place of a noun. You will find a short list of frequently used pronouns on page 149 in this book.

4. Study the exercise until you are prepared for dictation.