



## GRAMMAR EXERCISES 1.1 - 1.4

### 1.1 PARTS OF SPEECH: Decide on the part of speech for each of the words in **bold** in the following short passage:

- 1 It is exceedingly **difficult** to ascertain **precisely** what is meant by the word 'culture'. The word is commonly used to refer to **almost** anything connected **with** a person's **customary** behaviour when **considered** distinctive in form to **that** of a person from another **background**. The problem is that this definition begs **the** question. Is
- 5 it race that **determines** the difference in culture? Or is **it** nationhood? Certainly, there are noticeable cultural differences between citizens of **various** nations, **although** they may share **membership** of the same race. Is language **perhaps** the determinant of culture? Or class? After all, **even** within the same nation there are **extreme** differences **between** the lifestyle **and** language of the classes that **make up** a society, as well as
- 10 varying attitudes towards **acceptable** behaviour and manners. The problem appears to be that, on **closer** analysis, each and every one of **us** belongs to a unique culture, regardless of the **apparent** general culture into which **we** are categorised. It all depends on how narrowly the word is defined for **its** intended purpose. By **analysing** the word 'culture', anthropologists are **beginning** to accept that the word is much overworked.

- line 1 1. difficult .....
2. precisely .....
3. word .....
- line 2 4. almost .....
5. with .....
- line 3 6. customary .....
7. considered .....
8. that .....
- line 4 9. background .....
10. the .....
- line 5 11. determines .....
12. it .....
- line 6 13. various .....
14. although .....
- line 7 15. membership .....
16. perhaps .....
- line 8 17. even .....
18. extreme .....
- line 9 19. between .....
20. and .....
21. make up .....
- line 10 22. acceptable .....
- line 11 23. closer .....
24. us .....
25. a .....
- line 12 26. apparent .....
27. we .....
- line 13 28. its .....
29. analysing .....
- line 14 30. beginning .....

Choose between the following grammatical categories or parts of speech:

**noun**  
**pronoun**  
 - possessive pronoun  
**gerund**  
**adjective**  
**verb**  
 - past participle  
 - present participle  
**phrasal verb**  
**adverb**  
**preposition**  
**conjunction**  
**definite article**  
**indefinite article**

**1.2 UNFINISHED SENTENCES?:** Underline the **nouns** (or **noun phrases**) in the following part or whole sentences. Next, circle the **verbs**. Then, complete the sentences with either a **full-stop** if the sentence is already complete, or with **suitable words** of your own choice.

- a. Television, a recent invention, has changed the way in which we view the world
- b. The photographer who had the best photograph in the competition
- c. Few people know that the world's first feature film was made in Australia
- d. The film medium, which is an extremely difficult art form to learn, I think
- e. When studying a foreign language, students should follow a regular study plan
- f. Watching movies in English, a good way to increase your listening skills
- g. If you are earnest about improving your writing
- h. The essay, Writing Task 2, is perhaps the most difficult of all the IELTS test tasks
- i. Pronunciation of the language you are learning, always difficult for students
- j. These days you can find opportunities to practise your English almost everywhere in Europe
- k. One of the most remarkable sculptures in the world of art, Michelangelo's 'David'
- l. Although ballet is seldom appreciated, which is a pity
- m. One way of emphasizing what one says in a conversation, if the intent is to strongly suggest that what is being said is the truth, is to use open hand gestures
- n. Evaluation of an argument in an essay can only be successful when the rules of formal essay writing, committed to memory

**1.3 SUBJECT AND VERB AGREEMENT:** Check and correct the subject and verb agreement where necessary in the following sentences:

- a. The pen and the paper is on the desk.
- b. The box of chocolates are on the shelf.
- c. Every one of the students have practised very hard.
- d. The skill of understanding personal communications is crucial to good business.
- e. Not many people know the truth about the lifestyles of the rich and famous.
- f. The number of people who are mobile phone owners rise every year.
- g. It used to be thought that learning languages waste time.
- h. A great many success stories are due to hard work.
- i. She is taking the test twice because she believe it is best to have a trial run.
- j. In the '50s, the comedy team of Abbott and Costello were world famous.
- k. Every day there is another driver who lose his driving licence due to speed.
- l. None of the students sit at the back of the lecture theatre.
- m. No-one know exactly why economics are more important now than in the past.
- n. Neither of the debates were successful.

**1.4 TENSES:** Choose the correct words or phrases that are missing in the following sentences, paying attention to the correct tense required:

- i. Nobody believes that investment in telecommunications ..... lose money.
  - a) has ever
  - b) had ever
  - c) would ever
  - d) will ever
- ii. After ..... her lunch, the teacher began marking the essays.
  - a) finished
  - b) had finished
  - c) finishing
  - d) having finish
- iii. The student ..... very well in her first practical examination.
  - a) did
  - b) has done
  - c) had done
  - d) all of the above
- iv. It is hard to know why undergraduates ..... help with their assignments.
  - a) fail to seek
  - b) will not seek
  - c) are not seeking
  - d) all of the above
- v. Most of the general public ..... to see a live theatrical performance.
  - a) have ever been
  - b) have never been
  - c) are never wanting
  - d) all of the above
- vi. Sometimes it is necessary to be careful ..... the right date to sit for a test.
  - a) when choosing
  - b) when you will choose
  - c) when you have choose
  - d) when you chose
- vii. No-one who ..... visited the Sydney Opera House is likely to forget it.
  - a) will have
  - b) would have
  - c) had ever
  - d) has ever
- viii. If only the Prime Minister ..... his arts policy would lose him the election.
  - a) knows
  - b) had known
  - c) was knowing
  - d) could have knowing
- ix. If writing skills ..... so important, why do candidates not practise more regularly?
  - a) were
  - b) would be
  - c) are
  - d) all of the above
- x. The better universities ..... free classes to students with language problems.
  - a) offering
  - b) is offering
  - c) should have offer
  - d) offer
- xi. The student ..... studying at an institution when he had to return to his home country unexpectedly.
  - a) is considering
  - b) was considering
  - c) should consider
  - d) has considered
- xii. The businesswoman ..... dismissed because of her lack of politeness.
  - a) could be
  - b) could have been
  - c) will be
  - d) all of the above

(ANSWERS ON PAGE 113)