

## ACT English – Grade 9 Usage and Mechanics



1. Define and Know (D)
2. Recognize (R)
3. Apply automatically (A)

### Conventions of Usage (16%)

- Subject-verb agreement
- Principal parts of verbals
- Verb forms and verbals
- Pronouns

Objectives What Students Need to Know	Resources	Standards (ACT Scoring Range)
<p>✦ <b>Identify irregular verbs</b> (Present, <i>past</i> and <i>past participle</i> of irregular verbs (listed in the above order): choose, <i>chose</i>, <i>chosen</i>; do, <i>did</i>, <i>done</i>; go, <i>went</i>, <i>gone</i>)</p> <p>✦ <b>Form past and past participle of irregular verbs</b></p> <p>✦ <b>Identify comparative and superlative adjectives</b> (Positive, <i>comparative</i> and <i>superlative</i> adjectives (listed in the above order): big, <i>bigger</i>, <i>biggest</i>; good <i>better</i>, <i>best</i>)</p> <p>✦ <b>Form comparative and superlative adjectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revise writing to correct basic grammar and punctuation errors</li> <li>• Practice and understand correct usage of common homonyms (e.g., their/there, past/passed)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Strategies for Irregular Verbs:</b>  <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/esl/eslirrverb.html">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/esl/eslirrverb.html</a> (R)  <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/grammar/g_seqtense.html">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/grammar/g_seqtense.html</a> (D)  <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/grammar/g_tensec.html">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/grammar/g_tensec.html</a> (D, R)</p> <p><b>Strategies and Practice of Irregular Verbs:</b>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/verbs.htm#participle">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/verbs.htm#participle</a> (D)  <a href="http://www.ccc.commnet.edu/sensen/part1/two/index.html">http://www.ccc.commnet.edu/sensen/part1/two/index.html</a> (R, A)  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/cgi-shl/par2_quiz.pl/irregular_quiz.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/cgi-shl/par2_quiz.pl/irregular_quiz.htm</a> (A)</p> <p><b>Strategies for Comparative and Superlative Adjectives:</b>  <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/esl/esladjadv.html">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/esl/esladjadv.html</a> (D, R)  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/adjectives.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/adjectives.htm</a> (D, R, A)</p> <p><b>Podcast - Grammar Girl “Misplaced Modifiers”:</b>  <a href="http://grammar.quickanddirtytips.com/misplaced-modifiers.aspx">http://grammar.quickanddirtytips.com/misplaced-modifiers.aspx</a> (D, R, A)</p>	<p>Solve such basic grammatical problems as how to form the past and past participle of irregular verbs and how to form comparative and superlative adjectives (13-15)</p>

	<p><b>Online Quizzes - Irregular Verbs:</b>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/quizzes/irregular_verbs.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/quizzes/irregular_verbs.htm</a> (A)  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/quizzes/irregular_verbsII.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/quizzes/irregular_verbsII.htm</a> (A)  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/cgi-shl/par2_quiz.pl/irregular_quiz.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/cgi-shl/par2_quiz.pl/irregular_quiz.htm</a> (R, A)</p> <p><b>Irregular Verb Crosswords:</b>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/quizzes/cross/verbs.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/quizzes/cross/verbs.htm</a> (A)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Identify adjectives and adverbs</li> <li>✦ Usage of adjectives and adverbs</li> <li>✦ Identify subject and verb</li> <li>✦ Identify pronoun and antecedent</li> <li>✦ Ensure agreement of subject and verb</li> <li>✦ Ensure agreement of pronoun and antecedent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revise sentences to ensure that each verb agrees with its subject when there is some text between the two.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Strategies Adjectives and Adverbs:</b>  <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/esl/esladv.htm">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/esl/esladv.htm</a> (D, R)</p> <p><b>Exercise #1:</b>  <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/esl/PDFs/esladvEX1.pdf">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/esl/PDFs/esladvEX1.pdf</a> (D, R)</p> <p><b>Answer Key:</b>  <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/esl/esladvA1.html">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/esl/esladvA1.html</a></p> <p><b>Exercise #2:</b>  <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/esl/PDFs/esladvEX2.pdf">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/esl/PDFs/esladvEX2.pdf</a> (A)</p> <p><b>Answer Key:</b>  <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/esl/PDFs/esladvA2.pdf">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/esl/PDFs/esladvA2.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Strategies for Subject Verb Agreement:</b>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/sv_agr.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/sv_agr.htm</a> (D, R, A)</p> <p><b>Exercise:</b>  <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/grammar/g_tenseEX1.html">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/grammar/g_tenseEX1.html</a> (A)</p> <p><b>Answer Key:</b>  <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/grammar/g_tenseA1.html">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/grammar/g_tenseA1.html</a> (A)</p>	<p>Solve such grammatical problems as whether to use an adverb or adjective form, how to ensure straightforward subject-verb and pronoun-antecedent agreement, and which preposition to use in simple contexts.  (16-19)</p>

	<p><b>Strategies for Adjectives:</b>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/quizzes/adjectives_quiz2.htm#">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/quizzes/adjectives_quiz2.htm#</a>  (A)</p> <p><b>Explanation of Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement:</b>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/pronouns.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/pronouns.htm</a> (D, R, A)</p>	
<p>✦ <b>Identify frequently confused pairs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure correct usage of frequently confused pairs.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Notorious Confusables Quizzes:</b>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/notorious.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/notorious.htm</a> (R, A)</p> <p><b>Exercise - Words That Sound Alike:</b>  <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/grammar/PDFs/g_spellhomoEX1.pdf">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/grammar/PDFs/g_spellhomoEX1.pdf</a> (A)</p> <p><b>Exercise - accept/except:</b>  <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/grammar/PDFs/g_spellprobEX1.pdf">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/grammar/PDFs/g_spellprobEX1.pdf</a> (A)</p> <p><b>Exercise - affect/effect:</b>  <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/grammar/PDFs/g_spellprobEX2.pdf">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/grammar/PDFs/g_spellprobEX2.pdf</a> (A)</p>	<p>Recognize and use the appropriate word in frequently confused pairs such as <i>there</i> and <i>their</i>, <i>past</i> and <i>passed</i>, and <i>led</i> and <i>lead</i> (16-19)</p>

**ACT English – Grade 9  
Usage and Mechanics**



1. Define and Know (D)
2. Recognize (R)
3. Apply automatically (A)

**Sentence Structure and Formation 24%**

- Sentence Fragments
  - Run-on sentences
  - Connectives
  - Modifiers
- Consistency and tense
  - Parallelism
  - Transitional words and phrases

Objectives What Students Need to Know	Resources	Standards (ACT Scoring Range)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Identify conjunctions</li> <li>✦ Identify simple clauses</li> <li>✦ Know options to join simple clauses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• revise writing to correct glaring shifts in verb tense or voice</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><i>Strategies for Conjunctions:</i>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/conjunctions.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/conjunctions.htm</a> (D, R)</p> <p><i>Labeling Conjunctions:</i>  <a href="http://www.dailygrammar.com/201to205.shtml">http://www.dailygrammar.com/201to205.shtml</a> (A)</p> <p><i>Strategies for Avoiding Primer Language:</i>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/primer.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/primer.htm</a> (R, A)</p>	<p>Use conjunctions or punctuation to join simple clauses (13-15)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Identify verbs and verb tenses</li> <li>✦ Identify simple clauses</li> </ul>	<p><i>Strategies for Consistency of Tense and Pronoun Reference:</i>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/consistency.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/consistency.htm</a> (R, A)</p> <p><i>Online Quiz – Verb Tense Consistency:</i>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/quizzes/chute.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/quizzes/chute.htm</a> (R, A)</p> <p><a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/cgi-shl/quiz.pl/consistency_quiz.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/cgi-shl/quiz.pl/consistency_quiz.htm</a> (A)</p>	<p>Revise shifts in verb tenses between simple clauses in a sentence or between simple adjoining sentences (16-19)</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ <b>Identify conjunctions</b></li> <li>✦ <b>Identify sentence fragments</b></li> <li>✦ <b>Identify fused sentences</b></li> <li>✦ <b>Know punctuation options for improving sentence flow</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• experiment with writing more sophisticated sentences; check to ensure verbs agree with subjects and modifiers don't dangle</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Rules for Comma Usage:</b>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/commas.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/commas.htm</a> (D, R, A)</p> <p><b>Explanation of Conjunctions:</b>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/conjunctions.htm#correlative_conjunctions">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/conjunctions.htm#correlative_conjunctions</a> (D, R)</p>	<p>Determine the need for punctuation and conjunctions to avoid awkward-sounding sentence fragments and fused sentences (16-19)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ <b>Identify verb tense, identify verb voice in context of the sentence</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Lesson - Choosing the Best Verb: An Active and Passive Voice Mini-Lesson:</b>  <a href="http://www.readwritethink.org/lessons/lesson_view.asp?id=280">http://www.readwritethink.org/lessons/lesson_view.asp?id=280</a> (D, R)</p> <p><b>Strategies for understanding The Passive Voice:</b>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/passive.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/passive.htm</a> (D, R)</p> <p><b>Online Quiz – Revising Passive Construction:</b>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/quizzes/passive_quiz.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/quizzes/passive_quiz.htm</a> (A)</p>	<p>Decide that appropriate verb tenses and voice by considering the meaning of the entire sentence (16-19)</p>

## ACT English – Grade 9

### Usage and Mechanics



1. Define and Know (D)
2. Recognize (R)
3. Apply automatically (A)

#### Conventions and Punctuation 13%

- Commas
- Semicolon
- Colon
- Hyphen
- Apostrophe
- Dash
- Question marks
- Exclamation point
- Quotation marks
- Parentheses

Objectives What Students Need to Know	Resources	Standards (ACT Scoring Range)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Parts of speech</li> <li>✦ Parts of a sentence</li> <li>✦ Comma usage                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• practice using punctuation correctly in simple sentences (e.g., “He ran, jumped, and swam.”)</li> <li>• check for and correct unnecessary commas</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><i>Power Point – Diagramming Sentences:</i>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/ppt/diagrams.pps">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/ppt/diagrams.pps</a> (D, R)</p> <p><i>Lesson - Manipulating Sentences to Reinforce Grammar Skills:</i>  <a href="http://www.readwritethink.org/lessons/lesson_view.asp?id=248">http://www.readwritethink.org/lessons/lesson_view.asp?id=248</a> (R, A)</p>	<p>Delete commas that create basic sense problems (e.g., between verb and direct object) (13-15)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Punctuation, commas for items in a series</li> <li>✦ Identify clause</li> <li>✦ Identify coordinating conjunction</li> <li>✦ Punctuation in quotations</li> <li>✦ Identify compound adjective</li> <li>✦ Punctuation usage                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• use commas to set off parenthetical phrases</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><i>Power Point - The English House of Commas:</i>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/ppt/commas.pps">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/ppt/commas.pps</a> (D, R)</p> <p><i>12 Rules for Commas:</i>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/commas.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/commas.htm</a> (D, R, A)</p> <p><i>Online Quiz – Quiz on Commas:</i>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/quizzes/comma_quiz.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/quizzes/comma_quiz.htm</a> (A)</p>	<p>Provide appropriate punctuation in straightforward situations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• items in a series</li> <li>• clauses with coordinate conjunctions</li> <li>• punctuation in quotations</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Online Quiz – What Happened to the News?:</b>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/quizzes/commas_fillin.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/quizzes/commas_fillin.htm</a> (A)</p> <p><b>Online Quiz – Using Commas with Coordinating Conjunctions:</b>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/quizzes/nova/nova1.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/quizzes/nova/nova1.htm</a> (A)</p> <p><b>Explanation of Quotation Marks:</b>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/marks/quotation.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/marks/quotation.htm</a> (D, R, A)</p> <p><b>Online Quiz – Quiz on Using Quotation Marks:</b>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/quizzes/quotes_quiz.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/quizzes/quotes_quiz.htm</a> (A)</p> <p><b>Explanation of The Hyphen:</b>  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/marks/hyphen.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/marks/hyphen.htm</a> (D, R, A)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>hyphenate a compound adjective that comes before the noun it modifies (16-19)</li> </ul>
<p>✦ <b>Appropriate comma usage for sentence flow</b></p>	<p><b>General Websites for Comma Help:</b>  <a href="http://www.grammarbook.com/default.asp">http://www.grammarbook.com/default.asp</a> (D, R, A)  <a href="http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/index.htm">http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/index.htm</a> (D, R)  <a href="http://ace.acadiau.ca/english/grammar/intro.htm">http://ace.acadiau.ca/english/grammar/intro.htm</a> (D, R)</p> <p><b>General Comma Practice:</b>  <a href="http://www.dailygrammar.com/341to345.shtml">http://www.dailygrammar.com/341to345.shtml</a> (A)  <a href="http://www.dailygrammar.com/346to350.shtml">http://www.dailygrammar.com/346to350.shtml</a> (A)  <a href="http://www.dailygrammar.com/351to355.shtml">http://www.dailygrammar.com/351to355.shtml</a> (A)  <a href="http://www.dailygrammar.com/356to360.shtml">http://www.dailygrammar.com/356to360.shtml</a> (A)</p> <p><b>Exercise #1:</b>  <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/grammar/g_commaEX1.html">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/grammar/g_commaEX1.html</a> (A)</p> <p><b>Exercise #2:</b>  <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/grammar/g_commaEX2.html">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/grammar/g_commaEX2.html</a> (A)</p> <p><b>Exercise #3:</b>  <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/grammar/g_commaEX3.htm">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/grammar/g_commaEX3.htm</a> (A)</p>	<p>Delete commas that disturb the sentence flow (e.g., between modifier and modified element) (16-19)</p>

	<p><b>Exercise #4:</b>  <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/grammar/g_commaEX4.html">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/grammar/g_commaEX4.html</a> (A)</p> <p><b>Exercise #5:</b>  <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/grammar/g_commaEX5.html">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/grammar/g_commaEX5.html</a> (A)</p>	
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