



SHELL  
EDUCATION

PRACTICE - ASSESS - DIAGNOSE

Level

6

# 180 Days of LANGUAGE

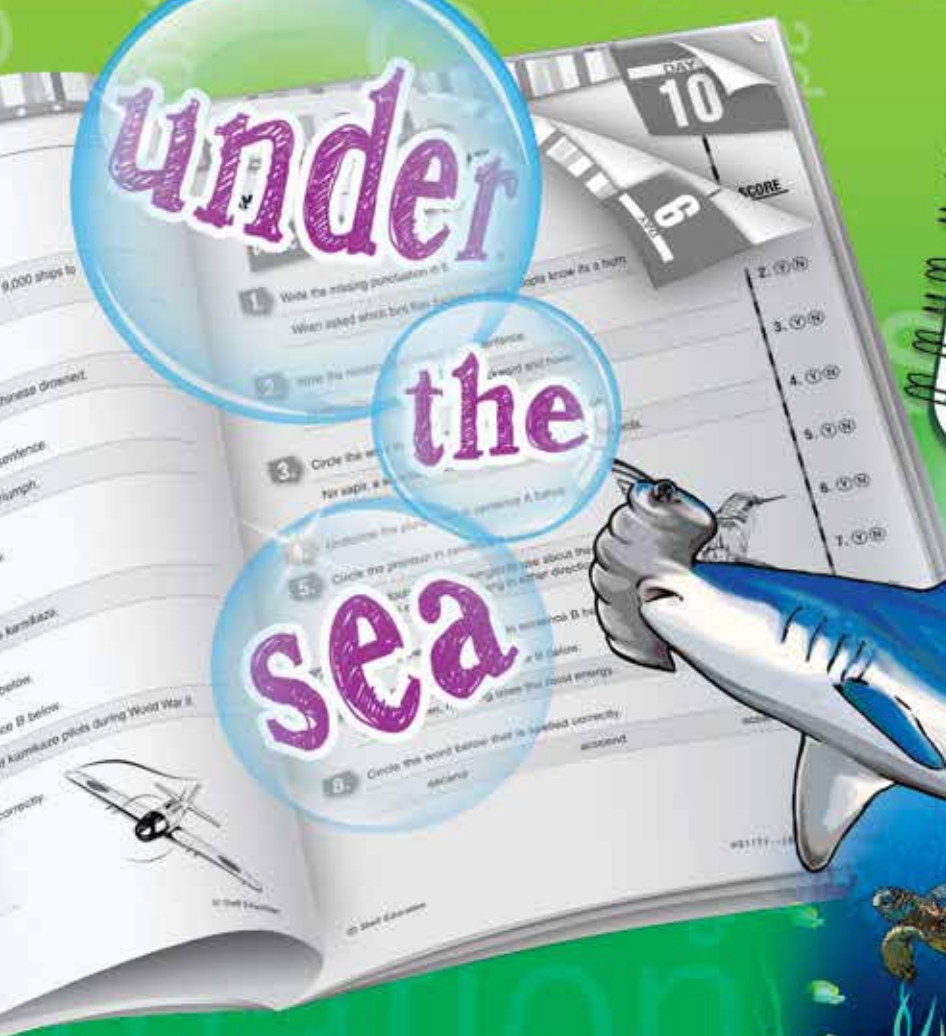
for Sixth Grade

comma  
exclamation points  
parts of speech  
verbs  
know

under

the

sea



Suzanne Barchers

PRACTICE - ASSESS - DIAGNOSE

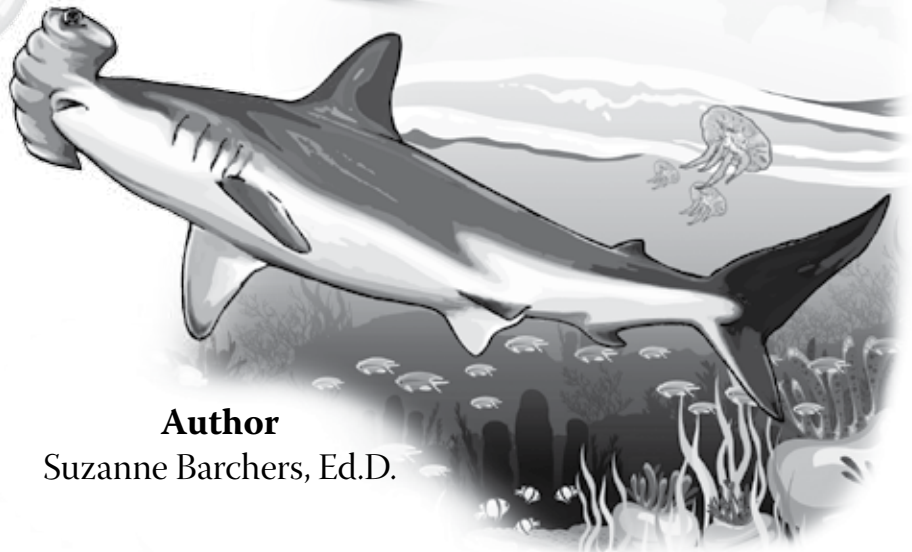
# 180 Days of LANGUAGE

for Sixth Grade

under

the

sea



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SHELL EDUCATION

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## INTRODUCTION AND RESEARCH

People who love the English language often lament the loss of grammar knowledge and the disappearance of systematic grammar instruction. We wince at emails with errors, such as when the noun *advice* is used instead of the verb *advise*. We may set aside a résumé with the incorrect placement of an apostrophe. And some of us pore (not pour) over entertaining punctuation guides such as *Eats, Shoots and Leaves* by Lynne Truss (2003). We chuckle over collections of bloopers such as *Anguished English: An Anthology of Accidental Assaults upon Our Language* by Richard Lederer (1987).

Even though we worry about grammar, our students arrive at school with a complex set of grammar rules in place—albeit affected by the prevailing dialect (Hillocks and Smith 2003, 727). For example, while students may not be able to recite the rule for where to position an adjective, they know intuitively to say *the yellow flower* instead of *the flower yellow*. All this knowledge comes without formal instruction. Further, young people easily shift between articulating or writing traditional patterns of grammar and communicating complete sentences with startling efficiency: IDK (I don't know), and for the ultimate in brevity, K (okay).

So, if students speak fairly well and have already mastered a complex written shorthand, why study grammar? Researchers provide us with three sound reasons:

1. the insights it offers into the way the language works
2. its usefulness in mastering standard forms of English
3. its usefulness in improving composition skills (Hillocks and Smith 1991, 594)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTIONS**

Read and answer each question.

**SCORE**

1. (Y) (N)

1. Write the missing punctuation in the sentence.

.....  
If you own a cat, youve noticed that your cat has a lot of whiskers.  
.....

2. (Y) (N)

2. Write the missing punctuation in the sentence.

.....  
Its whiskers are attached to nerves which tell the cat when the whiskers touch something.  
.....

3. (Y) (N)

3. Circle the word that should be capitalized in the sentence.

.....  
You'd think those whiskers would have helped kilo, a fourteen-pound (6-kilogram) cat, know to stay out of a small pipe.  
.....

5. (Y) (N)

4. Underline the adverb in sentence A below.

6. (Y) (N)

5. Circle the verb in sentence A below.

.....  
**A** But the cat was firmly stuck in a five-inch (13-centimeter) pipe.  
.....

7. (Y) (N)

6. Underline the verb in sentence B below.

8. (Y) (N)

7. Circle the plural noun in sentence B below.

.....  
**B** Rescuers pulled it out by its tail!  
.....

\_\_\_ / 8

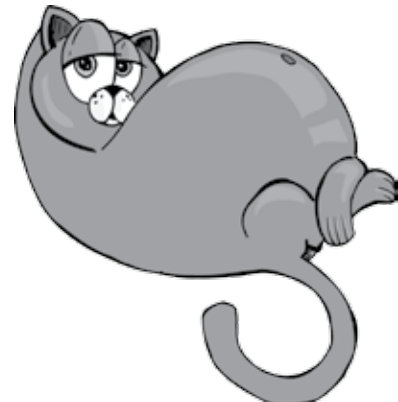
Total

8. Circle the word below that is spelled correctly.

.....  
acciddent

acciddent

accident



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTIONS**

Read and answer each question.

**SCORE**

1. Write the missing punctuation in the sentence.

Have you ever wondered how a fly can walk on the ceiling

1. (Y) (N)

2. Write the missing punctuation in the sentence.

After all gravity should make the fly fall down.

2. (Y) (N)

3. Circle the word that should be capitalized in the sentence.

A german research team found that each fly has two footpads with a sticky substance on each one.



3. (Y) (N)

4. Underline the adjectives in sentence A below.

A Those sticky footpads help them stick to the walls and ceiling.

4. (Y) (N)

5. Circle the prepositional phrase in sentence A below.

5. (Y) (N)

6. Underline the compound word in sentence B below.

6. (Y) (N)

7. Circle the conjunction in sentence B below.

B They twist or peel each footpad away as they walk along.

7. (Y) (N)

8. Circle the word below that is spelled correctly.

detach                      dettach                      deattach

8. (Y) (N)

\_\_\_ / 8

**Total**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTIONS**

Read and answer each question.

**SCORE**

1. (Y) (N)

1. Write the missing punctuation in the sentence.

.....  
 Genghis Khan, a great military leader led the Mongols against China.  
 .....

2. (Y) (N)

2. Write the missing punctuation in the sentence.

.....  
 During an attack in 1207 his army was stopped at a walled city.  
 .....

3. (Y) (N)

3. Circle the word that should be capitalized in the sentence.

.....  
 Khan told the people of volohai that he'd leave—if they'd send out 1,000 cats and  
 10,000 swallows.  
 .....

5. (Y) (N)

4. Underline the possessive nouns in sentence A below.

.....  
 (A) Khan's men tied bits of cloth on the animals' tails.  
 .....

6. (Y) (N)

5. Circle the verb in sentence A below.

.....  
 (B) They set the cloths on fire, and the frightened animals ran back to the city,  
 setting it on fire.  
 .....

7. (Y) (N)

6. Underline the adjectives in sentence B below.

.....  
 (B) They set the cloths on fire, and the frightened animals ran back to the city,  
 setting it on fire.  
 .....

8. (Y) (N)

7. Circle the pronoun in sentence B below.

.....  
 (B) They set the cloths on fire, and the frightened animals ran back to the city,  
 setting it on fire.  
 .....

\_\_\_ / 8

**Total**

8. Circle the word below that is spelled correctly.

feirceness

ferceness

fierceness

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTIONS**

Read and answer each question.

**SCORE**

1. Write the missing punctuation in the sentence.

Laika, which means "barker" in Russian, was a stray dog.

1. (Y) (N)

2. Write the missing punctuation in the sentence.

However, on November 3, 1957 Laika became famous.

2. (Y) (N)

3. Circle the word that should be capitalized in the sentence.

She was placed into a rocket called sputnik 2 and launched into space.

3. (Y) (N)

4. Underline the preposition in sentence A below.

A No one knows if she lived for a few hours or a few days.

4. (Y) (N)

5. Circle the conjunctions in sentence A below.

B However, Laika proved that life in a space ship was possible.

5. (Y) (N)

6. Underline the verbs in sentence B below.

7. Circle the proper noun in sentence B below.

6. (Y) (N)

8. Circle the word below that is spelled correctly.

perish

perrish

pearish

7. (Y) (N)

8. (Y) (N)

\_\_\_ / 8

Total





NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTIONS**

Read and answer each question.

**SCORE**

1. (Y) (N)

1. Write the missing punctuation in the sentence.

Do you consider yourself a shoegazer

2. (Y) (N)

2. Write the missing punctuation in the sentence.

If you like rock bands you might know what *shoegazing* means.

3. (Y) (N)

3. Circle the word that should be capitalized in the sentence.

The word came from the United kingdom in the 1980s.

5. (Y) (N)

4. Underline the complete predicate in sentence A below.

6. (Y) (N)

5. Circle the possessive pronoun in sentence A below.

(A) Guitar players in rock bands seemed to simply stare at their feet.

7. (Y) (N)

6. Underline the complete subject in sentence B below.

8. (Y) (N)

7. Circle the prepositional phrase in sentence B below.

(B) Shoegaze music is still enjoyed by many rock band fans.

\_\_\_ / 8

Total

8. Circle the word below that is spelled correctly.

deliverry

dellivery

delivery

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTIONS**

Read and answer each question.

**SCORE**

1. Write the missing punctuation in the sentence.

.....  
Do you know what it means when someone says, "jump the shark"  
.....

1. (Y) (N)

2. Write the missing punctuation in the sentence.

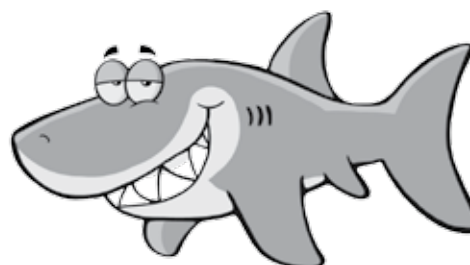
.....  
Its a reference to a television series called *Happy Days*.  
.....

2. (Y) (N)

3. Circle the word that should be capitalized in the sentence.

.....  
In one episode, fonzie jumps over a shark while waterskiing.  
.....

3. (Y) (N)



4. (Y) (N)

4. Underline the verb in sentence A below.

.....

5. (Y) (N)

5. Circle the adverb in sentence A below.

.....  
**A** After that scene, the show went steadily downhill.  
.....

6. (Y) (N)

6. Underline the plural noun in sentence B below.

.....

7. (Y) (N)

7. Circle the adjectives in sentence B below.

.....  
**B** Therefore, all shows that start to decline have "jumped the shark."  
.....

8. (Y) (N)

8. Circle the word below that is spelled correctly.

.....  
judgmeant                      jugement                      judgment  
.....

\_\_\_ / 8

**Total**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTIONS**

Read and answer each question.

**SCORE**

1. (Y) (N)

1. Write the missing punctuation in the sentence.

Kublai Khan (grandson of Genghis Khan led a fleet of 9,000 ships to conquer Japan.

2. (Y) (N)

2. Write the missing punctuation in the sentence.

A typhoon suddenly came up and thousands of Khan's men drowned.

3. (Y) (N)

3. Circle the word that should be capitalized in the sentence.

The japanese credited a "divine wind" for the triumph.

4. (Y) (N)

4. Underline the linking verb in sentence A below.

5. (Y) (N)

5. Circle the article in sentence A below.

(A) In Japan, the word for "divine wind" is *kamikaze*.

7. (Y) (N)

6. Underline the helping verb in sentence B below.

8. (Y) (N)

7. Circle the prepositional phrase in sentence B below.

(B) Japanese fighter pilots were called kamikaze pilots during World War II.

\_\_\_ / 8

Total

8. Circle the word below that is spelled correctly.

anceint

ancient

aincipal

