

# 7 Sneaky Grammar Rules Worksheet

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## Instructions:

Complete the exercises for each grammar rule by filling in the blanks with the correct answers. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

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## 1. Subject-Verb Agreement with Collective Nouns

Choose the correct verb form in each sentence:

1. The team \_\_\_\_\_ (has/have) chosen their new captain.
  2. The jury \_\_\_\_\_ (was/were) divided in their opinions.
  3. The family \_\_\_\_\_ (travels/travel) together every summer.
  4. The staff \_\_\_\_\_ (is/are) hosting a meeting to discuss the changes.
  5. The band \_\_\_\_\_ (plays/play) at various venues across the city.
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## 2. Dangling Modifiers

Rewrite the sentences to correct the dangling modifiers:

1. Hoping to impress the judges, the cake \_\_\_\_\_ (collapsed/was collapsed) during the competition.
2. After completing the project, the deadline \_\_\_\_\_ (was extended/extended).
3. While cleaning the attic, a spider \_\_\_\_\_ (scared/scared me).
4. Rushing to catch the bus, my bag \_\_\_\_\_ (was left/left) on the sidewalk.

5. Walking through the museum, the paintings \_\_\_\_\_  
(amazed/amazed me).

### 3. Misplaced Modifiers

*Fix the misplaced modifiers in these sentences:*

1. Only she \_\_\_\_\_ (can speak/can only speak) three languages fluently.
  2. We \_\_\_\_\_ (almost finished/finished almost) all of the tasks before lunch.
  3. He \_\_\_\_\_ (just read/read just) the introduction of the book.
  4. They \_\_\_\_\_ (quickly finished/finished quickly) the project with the new software.
  5. The cat \_\_\_\_\_ (nearly knocked/knocked nearly) everything off the table.
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### 4. Who vs. Whom

*Fill in the blanks with "who" or "whom":*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (Who/Whom) do you think will win the election?
  2. The woman \_\_\_\_\_ (who/whom) lives next door is a doctor.
  3. \_\_\_\_\_ (Who/Whom) should we call for a recommendation?
  4. The person \_\_\_\_\_ (who/whom) they hired is very experienced.
  5. \_\_\_\_\_ (Who/Whom) did they choose to lead the team?
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## 5. Lie vs. Lay

*Fill in the blanks with the correct form of "lie" or "lay":*

1. I usually \_\_\_\_\_ (lie/lay) down after lunch for a short rest.
  2. He \_\_\_\_\_ (lay/laid) the tools on the workbench yesterday.
  3. The cat \_\_\_\_\_ (lies/lays) in the sun every morning.
  4. She has \_\_\_\_\_ (lain/laid) on that beach many times before.
  5. Please \_\_\_\_\_ (lie/lay) the papers on my desk when you're done.
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## 6. Less vs. Fewer

*Choose the correct word in each sentence:*

1. There were \_\_\_\_\_ (fewer/less) interruptions today than yesterday.
  2. We have \_\_\_\_\_ (fewer/less) sugar left than I thought.
  3. The store has \_\_\_\_\_ (fewer/less) products in stock this week.
  4. There's \_\_\_\_\_ (fewer/less) traffic on Sundays.
  5. She bought \_\_\_\_\_ (fewer/less) than ten items at the market.
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## 7. Me vs. I

*Fill in the blanks with "me" or "I":*

1. Between you and \_\_\_\_\_ (me/I), the secret is safe.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (Me/I) and my brother are going fishing this weekend.
3. The teacher praised Sarah and \_\_\_\_\_ (me/I) for our project.
4. Can you help \_\_\_\_\_ (me/I) with this assignment?
5. \_\_\_\_\_ (Me/I) and John have been friends for years.

# Answer Key

## 1. Subject-Verb Agreement:

5. has
6. were
7. travels
8. is
9. play

## 2. Dangling Modifiers:

5. Hoping to impress the judges, I watched as the cake collapsed during the competition.
6. After completing the project, I found that the deadline was extended.
7. While I was cleaning the attic, a spider scared me.
8. Rushing to catch the bus, I left my bag on the sidewalk.
9. Walking through the museum, I was amazed by the paintings.

## 3. Misplaced Modifiers:

5. She can speak only three languages fluently.
6. We finished almost all of the tasks before lunch.
7. He read just the introduction of the book.
8. They quickly finished the project with the new software.
9. The cat knocked nearly everything off the table.

## 4. Who vs. Whom:

5. Who
6. Who
7. Whom
8. Whom

9. Whom

**5. Lie vs. Lay:**

- 5. lie
- 6. laid
- 7. lies
- 8. lain
- 9. lay

**6. Less vs. Fewer:**

- 5. fewer
- 6. less
- 7. fewer
- 8. less
- 9. fewer

**7. Me vs. I:**

- 5. me
- 6. I
- 7. me
- 8. me
- 9. I

## 7 Sneaky Grammar Rules: Definition & Rules Overview

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### 1. Subject-Verb Agreement with Collective Nouns

**Definition:** Collective nouns refer to groups of people or things, like "team" or "family," and can cause confusion when deciding whether to use singular or plural verbs.

**Rule:** Use a singular verb when the group acts as one unit; use a plural verb when individuals within the group act separately.

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### 2. Dangling Modifiers

**Definition:** Dangling modifiers are descriptive words or phrases that do not clearly connect to the subject they are meant to modify, leading to unclear or awkward sentences.

**Rule:** Place the modifier next to the subject it's meant to describe.

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### 3. Misplaced Modifiers

**Definition:** Misplaced modifiers are descriptive words, phrases, or clauses that are incorrectly separated from the word they modify, causing confusion or altering the intended meaning.

**Rule:** Place modifiers directly before or after the word they modify.

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#### 4. Who vs. Whom

**Definition:** "Who" and "whom" are pronouns that often get confused; "who" refers to the subject, and "whom" refers to the object of a sentence.

**Rule:** Use "who" for the subject and "whom" for the object.

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#### 5. Lie vs. Lay

**Definition:** "Lie" and "lay" are verbs that often get mixed up; "lie" means to recline without an object, while "lay" means to place something down and requires an object.

**Rule:** Use "lie" when there's no object; use "lay" when there is an object.

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#### 6. Less vs. Fewer

**Definition:** "Less" and "fewer" are used to describe quantities but differ in their application depending on whether the noun is countable or uncountable.

**Rule:** Use "fewer" for countable nouns and "less" for uncountable nouns.

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#### 7. Me vs. I

**Definition:** "Me" and "I" are pronouns that can cause confusion in compound subjects or objects; "I" is used as a subject, and "me" is used as an object.

**Rule:** Use "I" for subjects and "me" for objects.