

Diction Exercise 6

Following the examples from the EN102 diction list, make up original sentences for diction items 51-60. Write in your neatest penmanship, and make sure each sentence is written in Standard English.

51. LET, LEAVE

Do not use *let* for *leave*. *Let* means to allow or permit; *leave* means to depart or to cause to stay.

Correct: _____

Correct: _____

Correct: _____

52. LEARN, TEACH

Learn means to acquire knowledge.

Correct: _____

Teach means to impart knowledge.

Correct: _____

53. LIKE

The word *like* is a perfectly good English word, and it is correctly used in sentences like this:

Correct: _____

Correct: _____

The word *like* is used incorrectly when it is used to mean 'said' in the popular culture.

54. LOOSE, LOSE

Errors concerning this particular set of words can be attributed to the misspellings of them rather than to the confusion of their meanings. The word *loose* is often used as an adjective and indicates freeness from strict attachments, and the word *lose* is a verb and indicates loss.

Example: _____

Example: _____

55. MAYBE, MAY BE

The correct use of this set of words is based on how you form them. By forming *maybe* as one word, you indicate its usage as an adverb. By separating the word into *may* and *be*, the set becomes a verb phrase.

Example: _____

Example: _____

56. MEDIA, PHENOMENA

These are plural forms and should be used with plural verbs. The singular is *medium* and *phenomenon*.

Correct: _____

57. MYSELF

Myself has two correct uses:

It is a reflexive pronoun that should only be used as an object referring back to the subject *I*.

Correct: _____

It is an intensive pronoun that can be used to show emphasis.

Correct: _____

58. MRS., MISS, MS.

Mrs. is a title referring to a married woman.

Correct: _____

Miss is a title referring to a girl or an unmarried woman.

Correct: _____

Ms. is a title commonly used when the marital status of a woman is unknown or when the distinction between a married and an unmarried woman is purposely avoided. . The title of *Ms.* was put forward by the women's liberation movement in an effort to indicate that marriage and marital status were unimportant; therefore, from the Christian point of view, we avoid this abbreviation. Instead, seek to find the woman's marital status. If you cannot find it, use just her name.

Use: _____

59. PRECEDE, PROCEED

These two words sound similar but have very different meanings.

Precede is a verb which means to come before.

Correct: _____

Proceed is a verb which means to go on or move forward.

Correct: _____

60. PRETTY

The word *pretty*, when used as an adverb, indicates to some extent. This word can be overused, and it is often better to use a different adverb.

Better: _____