Printable Grammar and Punctuation Rules Reference Sheet

Complete worked example / separate answer key

Correct the following sentence: 'The dogs runs quickly and jumps over the fence.'

Answer: The dogs run quickly and jump over the fence.

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Original tasks 1, 2, 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 1

Correct the subject-verb agreement: 'The cat and the dog plays in the garden.'

Answer: The cat and the dog play in the garden.

Reason: The compound subject 'the cat and the dog' is plural, so the verb should be 'play' not 'plays'.

Check: Identify the subject as plural (two animals joined by 'and') and verify the verb does not end in -s in present tense.

Task 2

Add correct punctuation: 'Where is the library'

Answer: Where is the library?

Reason: The sentence is a direct question, so it requires a question mark at the end.

Check: Check that the sentence asks a question and ends with '?'.

Task 3

Fix the comma splice: 'I wanted to go for a walk, it was raining.'

Answer: I wanted to go for a walk, but it was raining. OR I wanted to go for a walk; it was raining.

Reason: Two independent clauses are joined by only a comma. Use a conjunction or semicolon to correct.

Check: Identify two independent clauses and ensure they are joined by a period, semicolon, or conjunction.

Task 4

Correct the apostrophe use: 'The dog's are barking loudly.'

Answer: The dogs are barking loudly.

Reason: The sentence means multiple dogs, so the plural noun 'dogs' does not need an apostrophe. The apostrophe is only for possession or contraction.

Check: Determine if the noun is plural (more than one dog) and remove the apostrophe if it is not showing possession or contraction.

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Task 1, Task 2, Task 3, Task 4 / Separate Answer Key

Answer key with answers, reasoning, and check methods for each exercise.

Exercise	Answer	Reasoning	Check method
1	The cat and the dog play in the garden.	The compound subject 'the cat and the dog' is plural, so the verb should be 'play' not 'plays'.	Identify the subject as plural (two animals joined by 'and') and verify the verb does not end in -s in present tense.
2	Where is the library?	The sentence is a direct question, so it requires a question mark at the end.	Check that the sentence asks a question and ends with '?'.
3	I wanted to go for a walk, but it was raining. OR I wanted to go for a walk; it was raining.	Two independent clauses are joined by only a comma. Use a conjunction or semicolon to correct.	Identify two independent clauses and ensure they are joined by a period, semicolon, or conjunction.
4	The dogs are barking loudly.	The sentence means multiple dogs, so the plural noun 'dogs' does not need an apostrophe. The apostrophe is only for possession or contraction.	Determine if the noun is plural (more than one dog) and remove the apostrophe if it is not showing possession or contraction.

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Worked example / Worked Example

Source worked example shown before the practice tasks.

Correct the following sentence: 'The dogs runs quickly and jumps over the fence.'

Answer: The dogs run quickly and jump over the fence.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Subject-verb agreement is correct in all sentences.
- [ ] Punctuation marks are used correctly at sentence ends.
- [ ] Commas are used appropriately in lists and after introductory phrases.
- [ ] Semicolons and colons are used correctly.
- [ ] Apostrophes are correct for possession and contractions.
- [ ] Quotation marks are used correctly for direct speech.
- [ ] The quick-check list is applied to identify and fix errors.

Reflection: What did you check, what did you change, and what will you try next?