

Writing Clearly: Grammar for Editing, 3E

by Janet Lane and Ellen Lange

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Answer Key

Unit 11

Pre-test: What Do You Already Know?

See page 353 of *Writing Clearly, Third Edition* for answers to the Pre-test.

Practice What You Have Learned (pages 248–250)

Exercise 1 (page 248)

- C* 1. *Correct*
- I* 2. Most of the students in Chemistry 1 have to study very hard.
- C* 3. *Correct*
- I* 4. At night, good street lighting is essential for safety.
- I* 5. If I have problems with my car, I take the bus to work.
- I* 6. Be sure that you study the night before the exam (OR an exam).
- C* 7. *Correct*
- I* 8. When there is a full moon, I like to walk down Beach Avenue.
- I* 9. In a dry state like California, water is a precious commodity for agriculture.
- I* 10. Although I like to write down my thoughts, I don't have time to write in a journal (OR my journal).

Exercise 2 (page 249)

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| learning | uncountable, not identified |
| dinner | set expression |
| simple math | uncountable; not identified |
| Chinese characters | plural; not identified |
| subtraction | uncountable; not identified |
| simple multiplication problems | plural; not identified |
| a genius | countable; not identified (one of many) |
| the simple fact | countable; identified |
| the correct answer | countable; identified |
| few distractions | plural; not identified |

| | |
|---------------|---|
| a television | countable; not identified (one of many) |
| video games | plural; not identified |
| China | singular name of country |
| playing games | uncountable; not identified |
| reading | uncountable; not identified |
| the teacher | countable; identified |
| school | uncountable; not identified |
| the learning | uncountable; identified |
| confidence | uncountable; not identified |
| a sense | countable; not identified (one of many) |

Exercise 3 (page 250)

My attitude toward English is negatively affecting my writing. I think the problem is that as a mathematics major, I love to spend time doing as much math as possible. Often my homework for math and other classes occupies most of the evening. As a result, I don't have much time or energy to devote to writing the essays required for my English class. In addition, I usually have trouble getting started. I waste time eating, listening to music, or even looking in the mirror instead of trying to work on the (OR my) paper which is due on the next day. Furthermore, I always have a negative feeling toward writing. Even before writing a paper, I assume that it will not turn out well. Because of this negative attitude, my grade in English is suffering.

Post-test: What Do You Know Now? (pages 251–252)

A (page 251)

1. In most countries, students who want to enter a university must pass a difficult entrance examination.
2. One of the advantages of learning a second language is the opportunity to learn more about another culture.
3. I am always very nervous about speaking in class; as a result, I am usually very quiet even when I know the correct answer.
4. Although there are many ways to improve your ability to speak English, the best way is to spend time with native speakers.
5. If you practice giving your next oral presentation in front of friends and family, it will help you give the presentation with confidence.

B (page 251)

1. It is a well-known fact that peeling onions can make people cry.
2. By going on the Internet, the student was able to get a definition of the term.
3. There are three editions of this book, but you need to buy the latest one for this class.
4. A few of the students who lived in the dorms this year chose to remain next year.
5. Do you want to put (X) sugar and cream in your coffee?
6. In many states, it is against the law to send (X) text messages while driving.
7. Before starting my paper, I need to write an outline.

8. In the United States, many people commute to work by car.

C (page 252)

Many people discover the discomfort of ~~the~~ traveling by air after experiencing their first case of ~~the~~ jet lag. This condition occurs when a (OR ~~the~~) traveler's brain releases neurochemicals according to the schedule of day and ~~a~~ night (light and dark) which was established at the traveler's previous geographical location. During these times, people find that their bodies don't respond the way that they did just the day before; simply falling asleep at night or ~~the~~ staying awake in the afternoon can be a struggle until their bodies learn to adjust to the new time zone. It would be possible to avoid jet lag if we could find a way (OR ways) to adjust our biological rhythms to the time zone at the destination before leaving home. However, ~~the~~ scientists have not yet found the answer to this problem.