

Let's
Go
June 16

COMMAS WITH INTERRUPTING WORDS

Name:
Teacher:

Class:
Date:

Part One: Underline each interrupting word or phrase. Then, add commas around the interrupting word or phrase.

1. Are you sure Ellen that you can't come to my birthday party on Saturday?
2. The school cafeteria is painted royal blue my favorite color.
3. John's science study guide it seems was eaten by his dog.
4. Is it okay Dad if my best friend spends the night this weekend?
5. That new movie in my opinion is the best one I've seen in years.
6. Yesterday I rode the Goliath the world's tallest roller coaster.
7. Granny Smith our next-door neighbor is selling her house soon.
8. It is a porpoise not a dolphin in the middle of the ocean.
9. Your backwards somersault Lauren needs a little more practice.
10. Please Mom try to pick me up earlier from practice tomorrow.

Part Two: Write three (3) sentences using a different interrupting word or phrase.

in fact
after all

I believe
I think

it seems
for example

Sentence #1: _____

Sentence #2: _____

Sentence #3: _____



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COMMAS WITH INTERRUPTING WORDS KEY

Name:
Teacher:

Class:
Date:

Part One: Underline each interrupting word or phrase. Then, add commas around the interrupting word or phrase.

1. Are you sure, Ellen, that you can't come to my birthday party on Saturday?
2. The school cafeteria is painted royal blue, my favorite color.
3. John's science study guide, it seems, was eaten by his dog.
4. Is it okay, Dad, if my best friend spends the night this weekend?
5. That new movie, in my opinion, is the best one I've seen in years.
6. Yesterday I rode the Goliath, the world's tallest roller coaster.
7. Granny Smith, our next-door neighbor, is selling her house soon.
8. It is a porpoise, not a dolphin, in the middle of the ocean.
9. Your backwards somersault, Lauren, needs a little more practice.
10. Please, Mom, try to pick me up earlier from practice tomorrow.

Part Two: Write three (3) sentences using a different interrupting word or phrase.

in fact
after all

I believe
I think

it seems
for example

Sentence #1: _____

Sentence #2: _____

Sentence #3: _____



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Comma Placement & Usage 1

Name:
Teacher:

Class:
Date:

Directions: Place commas appropriately. Some sentences do not require a comma.

1. The candy store has shelves laden with hand-dipped chocolate truffles.
2. The thumbnail sized candies are made with different flavorings.
3. The flavorings include lemon strawberry and specially ordered flavorings.
4. The chocolate for the candies is derived from the fruits of cacao trees which look like apple trees.
5. Green leaves shaped like teardrops cover the trees' branches.
6. Pods which are shaped similar to footballs are textured like gourds and grow on the bottom of the trunks.
7. The humongous fruits require four to five months of growing time to mature.
8. Ripe fruits are opened and their seeds are extracted.
9. We have the Mayans to thank for the hot chocolate that we love.
10. They discovered the cacao trees in the rainforests of Mexico and Central America where the climate is great for growth.
11. Once discovered the trees were grown in the backyards of the tribes.
12. The natives pulverized the seeds into a paste.
13. Then they made a beverage that was similar to hot chocolate.
14. As word spread to different tribes about the delightful drink cacao seeds were adopted as currency.
15. Mayans drank cacao on a regular basis but the Aztecs reserved it for royalty and the upper classes.



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Comma Placement & Usage 1 KEY

Name:
Teacher:

Class:
Date:

Directions: Place commas appropriately. Some sentences do not require a comma.

1. The candy store has shelves laden with hand-dipped chocolate truffles.
2. The thumbnail sized candies are made with different flavorings. **NO COMMA**
3. The flavorings include lemon strawberry and specially ordered flavorings.
4. The chocolate for the candies is derived from the fruits of cacao trees which look like apple trees.
5. Green leaves shaped like teardrops cover the trees' branches.
6. Pods which are shaped similar to footballs are textured like gourds and grow on the bottom of the trunks.
7. The humongous fruits require four to five months of growing time to mature. **NO COMMA**
8. Ripe fruits are opened and their seeds are extracted.
9. We have the Mayans to thank for the hot chocolate that we love. **NO COMMA**
10. They discovered the cacao trees in the rainforests of Mexico and Central America where the climate is great for growth.
11. Once discovered the trees were grown in the backyards of the tribes.
12. The natives pulverized the seeds into a paste. **NO COMMA**
13. Then they made a beverage that was similar to hot chocolate.
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Sentence Structure 1

Name:
Teacher:

Class:
Date:

- I. Identify each of the following numbered items as a fragment (F), Run-on sentence (RO), comma splice (CS) or complete sentence (S).

- _____ 1. The movie *Double Jeopardy* is about a woman who is unjustly framed for murder.
- _____ 2. Because her husband fakes his own murder.
- _____ 3. The wife went to jail for six years, her son was taken away from her.
- _____ 4. But when she got out of jail.
- _____ 5. She went to find her husband she wanted to kill him in revenge for his framing her.
- _____ 6. She had already served time for the murder, and she couldn't be convicted twice.
- _____ 7. Illegal to be convicted of the same crime twice.
- _____ 8. Tommy Lee Jones is the parole officer in the movie, he chases the wife for days.
- _____ 9. Ashley Judd plays the role of the woman protected by the law of double jeopardy..
- _____ 10. She eventually finds her husband in New Orleans.

- II. If the following numbered item is correct, just write "C" on the line. If, however, the numbered item is a fragment, run-on sentence, or comma splice, then rewrite the sentence correctly.

1. Poetry is a very complex topic to study there are so many different types of poetry.

2. Poems always look so easy to write when you read them, they are deceptively simple.

3. When someone asks you to write a poem. It is hard to be clever with words.

4. Hardly anyone understands how difficult it is to write in rhymes.

5. No one writes sonnets anymore in high school, it is just too difficult.

- __S__1. The movie *Double Jeopardy* is about a woman who is unjustly framed for murder.
 __F__2. Because her husband fakes his own murder.
 __CS__3. The wife went to jail for six years, her son was taken away from her.
 __F__4. But when she got out of jail.
 __RO__5. She went to find her husband she wanted to kill him in revenge for his framing her.
 __S__6. She had already served time for the murder, and she couldn't be convicted twice.
 __F__7. Illegal to be convicted of the same crime twice.
 __CS__8. Tommy Lee Jones is the parole officer in the movie, he chases the wife for days.
 __S__9. Ashley Judd plays the role of the woman protected by the law of double jeopardy.
 __S__10. She eventually finds her husband in New Orleans.

I. **Correcting Sentence Errors:** If the following numbered item is correct, just write "C" on the line. If, however, the numbered item is a fragment, run-on sentence, or comma splice, then rewrite the sentence correctly. 4 pts each.

1. Poetry is a very complex topic to study there are so many different types of poetry.

Poetry is a very complex topic to study; there are so many different types of poetry.

2. Poems always look so easy to write when you read them, they are deceptively simple.

Poems always look so easy to write when you read them, but they are deceptively simple.

3. When someone asks you to write a poem. It is hard to be clever with words.

When someone asks you to write a poem, it is hard to be clever with words.

4. Hardly anyone understands how difficult it is to write in rhymes.

S

5. No one writes sonnets anymore in high school, it is just too difficult.

No one writes sonnets anymore in high school; it is just too difficult.

Word Meaning: Context Clues, Prefixes, and Suffixes

Name:
Teacher:

Class:
Date:

Directions: Context clues and word structures such as prefixes and suffixes often help a reader determine word meaning. Identify which is MOST helpful to determine the meaning of the underlined word in each sentence.

ITEM BANK:

Context Clues	Prefixes	Suffixes
---------------	----------	----------

1. Calista loved mythology because it was so interesting; especially Greek mythology.
2. Even though he was seventeen, Ragin was very immature when it came to school responsibilities.
3. I need a dependable car to drive to Oklahoma.
4. It is so frustrating to see the total lack of interest and concern our peers have for the recycling program. They couldn't care less. Such apathy!
5. Jadi could not believe that her sister was training so hard, until she learned that Sarah wants to be a triathlete.
6. Morgan knew the consequences would be unpleasant if she misbehaved.
7. She tried and tried, but was unable to erase the graffiti; so, Ms. Dixon was sure the student had used indelible ink.
8. Ted could not decide if he wanted to be a politician or a musician.
9. The hesitant referee said he would need to see the replay to make his decision.
10. Tonia is not a dishonest person.
11. When his new glasses came in, Milo was glad he had ordered transition lenses, ones that would change in bright sunlight.
12. You bet I'm frugal! I save half my paycheck and spend money VERY carefully. Economy is the name of the game.



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Word Meaning: Context Clues, Prefixes, and Suffixes KEY

Name:
Teacher:

Class:
Date:

Directions: Context clues and word structures such as prefixes and suffixes often help a reader determine word meaning. Identify which is MOST helpful to determine the meaning of the underlined word in each sentence.

ITEM BANK:

Context Clues

Prefixes

Suffixes

1. Calista loved mythology because it was so interesting; especially Greek mythology. **Suffixes**
2. Even though he was seventeen, Ragin was very immature when it came to school responsibilities. **Prefixes**
3. I need a dependable car to drive to Oklahoma. **Suffixes**
4. It is so frustrating to see the total lack of interest and concern our peers have for the recycling program. They couldn't care less. Such apathy! **Context Clues**
5. Jadi could not believe that her sister was training so hard, until she learned that Sarah wants to be a triathlete. **Prefixes**
6. Morgan knew the consequences would be unpleasant if she misbehaved. **Prefixes**
7. She tried and tried, but was unable to erase the graffiti; so, Ms. Dixon was sure the student had used indelible ink. **Context Clues**
8. Ted could not decide if he wanted to be a politician or a musician. **Suffixes**
9. The hesitant referee said he would need to see the replay to make his decision. **Prefixes**
10. Tonia is not a dishonest person. **Prefixes**
11. When his new glasses came in, Milo was glad he had ordered transition lenses, ones that would change in bright sunlight. **Context Clues**
12. You bet I'm frugal! I save half my paycheck and spend money VERY carefully. Economy is the name of the game. **Context Clues**



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Comma Placement 2

Name:

Class:

Teacher:

Date:

Directions: Place **LARGE** commas wherever they are necessary in the following sentences. If the sentence needs no commas, then simply leave it blank.

1. I'm going to give a nine week's exam but it won't be too hard.
2. Most students passed English 9 and others did not unfortunately.
3. It was a sunny hot humid day in July.
4. Ted wants a wristwatch an electric razor and a knife for Christmas.
5. Bob and Martha loved their tall stately Christmas tree.
6. Santa landed on the roof knocking off most of the accumulated snow.
7. To be honest I don't know why Santa leaves presents for children.
8. Spice Tea which is a great favorite this time of year is easy to make.
9. Celine Dion the greatest singer in the world is hosting *Saturday Night Live* this week.
10. A minister Al Green is also a well-known recording artist.
11. Well there's no arguing about a person's taste in music.
12. Lily the wife of Charles wanted to go to Tahiti.
13. Rose on the other hand wanted to go to Sri Lanka.
14. To those outside the house seemed deserted.
15. During the afternoon of the day of the game we made a big banner.
16. Purring the kitten curled up in my lap.
17. Sitting in a tree my little sister called down to us.
18. Until she arrived I thought that no one was coming to my party.
19. Although Joe seemed to be guilty he was truly an innocent man.
20. *The Shawshank Redemption* in my opinion is a great film.
21. Ronnie not Betty spent most of her time dating Archie.
22. My father's full name is Joe Bunyan Thompson Jr.
23. Emily and I were married on June 12 1999 in Brewton Alabama.
24. David intends to clean his house in January 2000.
25. Would you like to buy a donut Reggie?
26. You won't repeat that phrase will you?
27. We visited Miami and then we visited Montreal Canada.
28. This sentence I hope will help you with the definition of parenthetical expressions.
29. Edgar Allan Poe a well-known poet and short story writer wrote the poem "The Raven."
30. When I get to town I will finish my shopping.
31. His name is Jim Wright Jr. and he loves to play Uno.
32. She wanted a new dress for the prom but her mother didn't want her to go.

1. I'm going to give a nine week's exam, but it won't be too hard.
2. Most students passed English 9, and others did not unfortunately.
3. It was a sunny, hot, humid day in July.
4. Ted wants a wristwatch, an electric razor, and a knife for Christmas.
5. Bob and Martha loved their tall, stately Christmas tree.
6. Santa landed on the roof knocking off most of the accumulated snow. NO COMMA
7. To be honest, I don't know why Santa leaves presents for children.
8. Spice Tea, which is a great favorite this time of year, is easy to make.
9. Celine Dion, the greatest singer in the world, is hosting *Saturday Night Live* this week.
10. A minister, Al Green, is also a well-known recording artist.
11. Well, there's no arguing about a person's taste in music.
12. Lily, the wife of Charles, wanted to go to Tahiti.
13. Rose, on the other hand, wanted to go to Sri Lanka.
14. To those outside the house seemed deserted. NO COMMA NEEDED
15. During the afternoon of the day of the game, we made a big banner.
16. Purring, the kitten curled up in my lap.
17. Sitting in a tree, my little sister called down to us.
18. Until she arrived, I thought that no one was coming to my party.
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22. My father's full name is Joe Bunyan Thompson, Jr.
23. Emily and I were married on June 12, 1999, in Brewton, Alabama.
24. David intends to clean his house in January 2000. NO COMMA NEEDED
25. Would you like to buy a donut, Reggie?
26. You won't repeat that phrase, will you?
27. We visited Miami, and then we visited Montreal, Canada.
28. This sentence, I hope, will help you with the definition of parenthetical expressions.
29. Edgar Allan Poe, a well-known poet and short story writer, wrote the poem "The Raven."
30. When I get to town, I will finish my shopping.
31. His name is Jim Wright, Jr. and he loves to play Uno.
32. No, I will not go to see *Toy Story 2* with you.
33. She wanted a new dress for the prom, but her mother didn't want her to go.

The Rise of Music Television

Bob Pittman pitched his outrageous concept to the boardroom of television executives. He wanted to devote one channel entirely to music videos, and he called it Music Television, or MTV. The twenty-seven-year-old watched some the directors roll their eyes at his suggestion, but he noticed one or two seemed interested. Regardless of the managers' reactions, Bob planned to go ahead with his new network, and he believed he knew what younger audiences wanted.

Warner Amex Satellite Entertainment Company (WASEC) liked Bob's weird idea of non-stop music on a screen. They spent lots of money and time on research to uncover what audiences wanted, and number one on the list was lots of music with few advertisements. Record companies agreed to provide free videos, which, in turn, generated sales for artists' songs. Researchers decided on three rotations for music videos: light, medium, or heavy. These were based on consumers' viewing habits and record companies' marketing strategies. Video jockeys, or VJs, acted like radio disc jockeys, and inserted information between long sets of clips.

For development of music videos, MTV founder Bob Pittman hired a creative team of employees. Great Britain became their model since many promotional music clips were already being used there, and most were short in length. MTV aimed for videos of full-length songs, which usually fell between three-to-five-minutes. They were promotional in nature and often featured artists and band members, and many were taped from live performances. Yet, some were lip-synched or pantomimed and were set in front of comical, elaborate props or were filmed in exotic locations. A few of the songs featured narrative storylines where musicians talked about their upcoming releases. Many of the videos were edgy and raw and tested televisions' boundaries and rules. Bob Pittman and his team were excited but nervous about the unveiling of MTV, and they believed their concept would modernize music.

On August 1, 1981, MTV became the first network channel that featured music videos. An image on the black television screen appeared of an astronaut, and, in his gloved hand, he held a flag imprinted with a large, block “M” and small, handwritten “TV”. As the American spaceman plunged the flag into the moon’s cratered surface, John Lack, MTV team member, announced, “Ladies and gentlemen, rock and roll!” Bob Pittman and several employees cheered as they gathered around the television and watched their dream come alive.

Anticipation for the new music channel was high, and unveiling parties were hosted in New Jersey, the first state to broadcast MTV. Hordes of people of all ages sat in front of television sets as the Buggles, an electronic, new-wave English group, flashed onto screens. An elementary-aged girl fiddled with the volume knob of an old, desktop radio as the black and white image of a male singer came into view. “Video Killed the Radio Star” blasted through television speakers, and Americans watched MTV. Next, “You Better Run” by Pat Benatar, a female icon of the 80s, played and was followed by artists such as Blondie and the J. Geils Band. All of a sudden, a new form of art captured television audiences, and “MTV became the new Top 40” that beat out radio stations. Ironically, “Video Killed the Radio Star” was a hit, and MTV took over radio and TV markets.

Media outlets praised Bob Pittman and his team members as more cable companies signed deals with MTV to carry the network. By 1983, the channel branched into California and New York. Music videos became more sophisticated, which cost more money. Also, viewers wanted better and bigger productions. Record companies began to see MTV as their primary marketing tool to boost requests on radios and sales in stores. Some bands, such as Duran Duran and U2, became famous due to MTV while Madonna and Michael Jackson noticed its influence on record sales. In the cable network channel’s opening years, Peter Gabriel and Prince also used MTV to promote their careers and music.

Two music video models, Alicia Silverstone and Tawny Kitaen, starred in Hollywood films. Then, music videos became longer, and audiences wanted even more from MTV, so *MTV Music Awards* honored the best artists, directors, and writers. Suddenly, Robert Pittman departed from his beloved project, and the channel changed its format.

In 1986, MTV separated slots of time by genres, for example: dance, heavy metal, and rap. Specialty shows such as *Club MTV*, *Headbangers' Ball*, and *Yo! MTV Raps* appeared instead of music videos, and the programs featured video jockeys, who quickly became superstars, like comedian Adam Sandler and talk show host Jon Stewart. Suddenly, MTV broadcasted its own versions of news and soap operas, and reality shows, like *The Osbournes*, soared in popularity. Executives added *The Hills*, *Laguna Beach*, and *Newlyweds: Nick and Jessica*. Johnny Knoxville opened the door for MTV to break into outlandish stunts, and shows that went beyond the imaginable caught the attention of teens. Disclaimers warned viewers “not to try this at home” as bicycle wrecks, car crashes, and skateboarding stunts resulted in broken bones and bruised egos. Surprisingly, MTV executives branched out even further and created Video Hits 1, or VH1.

VH1 was designed for older adults and yuppies, who listened to softer rock, and the musical content was considered too tame for MTV audiences. The channel struggled at first to gain viewers, so more popular rock was added, which increased its popularity. It also featured decade pieces that highlighted fads, fashions, and music of the timer periods. Soon, it competed hardily with its parent channel, MTV, and it beat out other music channels, like Black Entertainment TV (BET) and Country Music TV (CMT). VH1 and MTV continued to attract viewers while other television networks played catch-up. In 1987, MTV Europe was launched, and four years later Asia got on board followed by MTV Latino in 1993.

Bob Pittman's idea that linked music and television changed the entertainment industry. Its impact altered marketing strategies for the recording industry and helped artists become stars. Music videos and reality shows aired on MTV pushed network rules to their limits with their crazy antics and sensual displays. Yet, try to imagine television and music without MTV, the channel that introduced the world to music videos.

Commonly Confused Words 2

Name:
Teacher:

Class:
Date:

Directions: Circle the word that correctly completes each of the following sentences:

1. I'm going to give you a (piece / peace) of my mind if you don't stop talking.
2. (Your / You're) not the only one around here who is bored, buster.
3. I have (all ready / already) told you thirty times to turn around in that seat.
4. He wanted a job, so he went to see the (personal / personnel) department.
5. I don't know (whether / weather) or not I'll go to Blood Drive.
6. When the sun (rises / raises), I've usually been up for an hour already.
7. Will you shut up and (sit / set) down before someone gets hurt?
8. He (lays / lies) down on the bed when he starts to get a migraine headache.
9. I don't know where Ms.Fowler wanted me to (lay / lie) these handouts.
10. This new student should make an interesting (addition / edition) to our classroom.
11. I don't know who (chose / choose) our mascot to be the Aardvarks, but they weren't smart.
12. The criminal was sentenced to (capital /capitol) punishment for his heinous crime.
13. The governor fell down the steps of the (Capital / Capitol) building in Montgomery.
14. I have been by his house (every day / everyday), and he's never home.
15. Doctors can (heel / heal) you of your ailments if you are willing to cooperate.
16. The student was (board / bored) by Mr.Thompson's endless droning.
17. The UFO remained (stationary / stationery) for over thirty minutes over our house.
18. He paid her a generous (complement / compliment) on her dress, and she blushed.
19. Whenever (there / their) is trouble, the Lone Ranger appears.
20. Everyone went to the Pep Rally (except / accept) Seymour.
21. The child's seatbelt was too (lose / loose) and wasn't safe.
22. I met the (principle / principal) in the hallway of AHS yesterday.
23. The song (effected / affected) me so deeply that I wept openly.
24. (Who's / Whose) the wiseguy who painted my computer screen black?
25. Mr.Thompson is older (than / then) his wife by two years.

1. I'm going to give you a (piece / peace) of my mind if you don't stop talking.
2. (Your / You're) not the only one around here who is bored, buster.
3. I have (all ready / already) told you thirty times to turn around in that seat.
4. He wanted a job, so he went to see the (personal / personnel) department.
5. I don't know (whether / weather) or not I'll go to Blood Drive.
6. When the sun (rises / raises), I've usually been up for an hour already.
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10. This new student should make an interesting (addition / edition) to our classroom.
11. I don't know who (chose / choose) our mascot to be the Aardvarks, but they weren't smart.
12. The criminal was sentenced to (capital / capitol) punishment for his heinous crime.
13. The governor fell down the steps of the (Capital / Capitol) building in Montgomery.
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24. (Who's / Whose) the wiseguy who painted my computer screen black?
25. Mr.Thompson is older (than / then) his wife by two years.

Word Matching 2

Name:

Class:

Teacher:

Date:

Directions: Select the word that means the same or nearly the same as the underlined word(s)

1. The Spanish explorers arrived before the Pilgrims.
A. prolonged B. overtook C. preceded D. traversed
2. Mr. and Mrs. Davis lived in Mexico for ten years.
A. a sheaf B. an era C. a decade D. an epoch
3. Our garden thrived in the warm weather.
A. endowed B. transformed C. gambled D. flourished
4. The child's crying disturbed her mother.
A. underscored B. agitated C. impeded D. undermined
5. The flower seeds began to grow after the spring rain.
A. germinated B. inaugurated C. supplanted D. degenerated
6. The two governments agreed to negotiate a treaty.
A. partition B. pact C. proviso D. constitution
7. The two small companies combined to form a larger and more powerful one.
A. merged B. segregated C. entwined D. stunted
8. The boys chewed noisily on the potato chips.
A. munched B. mauled C. maimed D. mated
9. Helen is a very hard-working student.
A. incessant B. tiresome C. formidable D. diligent
10. Nancy has a pleasing personality; she is _____.
A. pathetic B. partisan C. congenial D. contemptuous



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11. The old lady was always complaining about the children's running across her grass.
A. grumbling B. murmuring C. berating D. exclaiming
12. Oliver Twist was a very poor person.
A. miser B. mercenary C. pauper D. poacher
13. The naughty children made fun of the old man on the park bench.
A. decried B. derided C. deterred D. demurred
14. A large rock fell down the side of the mountain.
A. canyon B. boulder C. burden D. crater
15. Everyone engaged in selling must have a license.
A. orators B. auditors C. vendors D. debtors
16. When someone stepped on the dog's tail, he cried out in pain.
A. gulped B. flipped C. yelped D. purred
17. Because the driver was unaware of the new traffic laws, the policeman was lenient.
A. obstinate B. ignorant C. intricate D. adjacent
18. The students had adequate time to make up the test.
A. ample B. feeble C. audible D. some
19. The candidate is quite sure that he will win the election.
A. curt B. compulsory C. confident D. contaminated
20. He turned his car sharply in order to avoid hitting the child.
A. swerved B. scurried C. scattered D. severed

Word Matching 2 Key

Name:
Teacher:

Class:
Date:

Directions: Select the word that means the same or nearly the same as the underlined word(s)

- | | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. C | 4. B | 7. A | 10. C | 13. B | 16. C | 19. C |
| 2. C | 5. A | 8. A | 11. A | 14. B | 17. B | 20. A |
| 3. D | 6. B | 9. D | 12. C | 15. C | 18. A | |