

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_



### The Emperor and the Artist



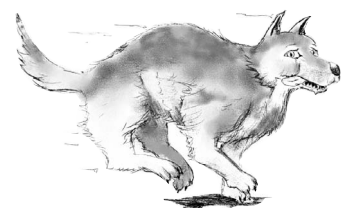
You are making progress! Answer the following questions. Fill in the blanks with words, letters or numbers as each question indicates. Check your answers from the Answer Key. Correct all errors, then complete your next goal.



#### FROM THE VIGNETTE

Complete the questions.

- The artist was able to produce a masterpiece in fifteen minutes because he: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (a) had studied and drawn the details from every angle  
 (b) had daydreamed about birds for years while thinking of the emperor’s reward  
 (c) both of the above
- Complete the following sentences: “To have an \_\_\_\_\_, strive for an excellent \_\_\_\_\_. Within that year, strive for an excellent \_\_\_\_\_, and within that month, strive for an excellent \_\_\_\_\_. Within the day, strive for an excellent \_\_\_\_\_.”
- “An excellent life is the sum of many excellent moments” means: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (a) if a person concentrates on completing well the small details of daily life, his entire life will be excellent  
 (b) to have an excellent life, do the small tasks quickly. Do not pay much attention to them because they will slow you down  
 (c) leave details to others and move on to greater things
- The main idea of the vignette is: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (a) being commissioned by an emperor or ruler makes a person wealthy and famous  
 (b) when a person gives attention to details and *strives* to perfect every aspect, he will achieve excellence for the whole project  
 (c) never make an emperor wait unless you have a really good reason



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**WORD POWER!**

**Multiple Choice: Choose the answers for the VOCABULARY words.**

5. A person who is *commissioned*: \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) will not be very responsible
- (b) has authority to complete a duty or task
- (c) makes a lot of money

6. An *easel* would most likely be found: \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) in the tool box of a garage mechanic
- (b) in the studio of an artist
- (c) next to an emperor's throne

7. To look at an *aspect* of something is to: \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) regard an object, idea or problem in a certain way
- (b) measure the quality of a work of art
- (c) inquire about the price

8. Part of the artist's \_\_\_\_\_ was his belief that each task should be completed well.

- (a) *easel*
- (b) *reign*
- (c) *philosophy*

9. *Rembrandt* was: \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) a philosopher who spoke about beliefs, truth and knowledge
- (b) a magnificent ruler in the 17th century
- (c) a Dutchman who lived during the 1600s (17th century)

**PARTS OF SPEECH**

**Fill in the blank: Write the correct answers.**

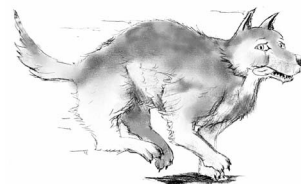
10. List the eight parts of speech:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

11. The parts of speech are the \_\_\_\_\_ of the English language.

12. Nouns name \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.



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**The italicized words are nouns. On the blank, write “person,” “place,” “thing” or “idea.”**

13. The *artist* became famous for his attention to detail. \_\_\_\_\_
14. The *studio* in which the artist worked was cramped and small. \_\_\_\_\_
15. The emperor’s *reign* lasted for over 50 years. \_\_\_\_\_
16. The emperor had *understanding* for the artist’s choice. \_\_\_\_\_
17. The *Emperor* of Japan commissioned a Japanese artist \_\_\_\_\_
18. to paint a particular species of *bird*. Months passed, \_\_\_\_\_
19. then *years*. Finally, the Emperor went to the artist’s studio \_\_\_\_\_
20. to ask for an explanation for his apparent lack of *motivation*. \_\_\_\_\_

**True or False: Write the correct answers for common and proper nouns.**

21. \_\_\_\_\_ Common nouns begin with small letters and name general persons, places, things and ideas.
22. \_\_\_\_\_ Proper nouns begin with capital letters and name specific persons, places, things and ideas.

**Write “common” or “proper.”**

23. The word *birds* is a \_\_\_\_\_ noun.
24. The word *Emperor* is a \_\_\_\_\_ noun.
25. The word *Japan* is a \_\_\_\_\_ noun.
26. The word *country* is a \_\_\_\_\_ noun.

**Fill in the blank: Write the correct answers for singular and plural nouns.**

27. Singular nouns name only \_\_\_\_\_ person, place, thing or idea.
28. Plural nouns name \_\_\_\_\_ persons, places, things or ideas.

**The underlined words in the sentences (29-46) are nouns. On each blank write “singular” or “plural.”**

- 29-46. The artist \_\_\_\_\_ opened cabinet \_\_\_\_\_ after cabinet \_\_\_\_\_ in his studio \_\_\_\_\_. He removed armloads \_\_\_\_\_ of drawings \_\_\_\_\_ of feathers, \_\_\_\_\_ tendons, \_\_\_\_\_ wings, \_\_\_\_\_ feet, \_\_\_\_\_ claws, \_\_\_\_\_ eyes, \_\_\_\_\_ beaks \_\_\_\_\_—virtually every aspect \_\_\_\_\_ of a bird, \_\_\_\_\_ from virtually every angle \_\_\_\_\_. He placed these silently before the Emperor \_\_\_\_\_, who nodded in understanding \_\_\_\_\_.

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**ALL TOGETHER!**

**Underline the correct answers using all of the information you learned in this lesson.**

47. The (common, proper) noun *Japan* is (singular, plural).
48. The (common, proper) noun *lives* is (singular, plural).
49. The word *excellence* is a (common, proper) noun, and is a/an (person, place, thing, idea).
50. Write the **Life Principle**: “ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.”



*You have made a good  
start to this course in  
English Grammar Skills.  
Continue to Lesson 2, and  
prepare to learn more about  
nouns.*

