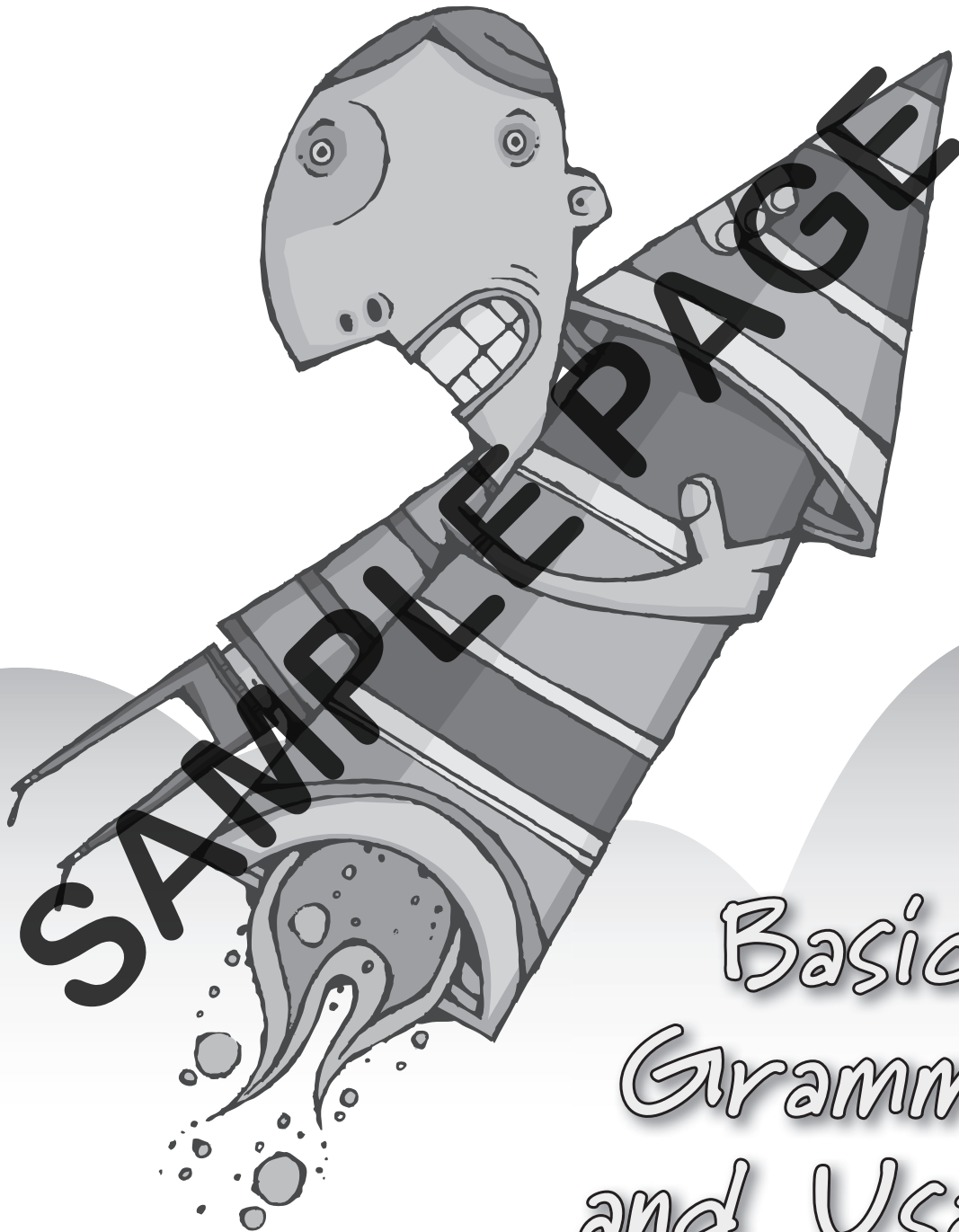


85 Lesson Launchers



Basic
Grammar
and Usage

SAMPLE PAGE

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WALCH  **EDUCATION**[®]

Introduction

Walch Education's *85 Lesson Launchers* series is a wonderful way to turn extra classroom minutes into valuable learning time. Use the 85 quick activities at the beginning of class to focus students on instruction; near the end of class to make good use of transitional time; in the middle of class to shift gears between lessons—or whenever you have minutes that now go unused. *85 Lesson Launchers* are a natural lead-in to more in-depth activities.

85 Lesson Launchers are easy to use. Simply photocopy the day's activity and distribute it. Or, make a transparency of the activity and project it on the board. Use the activities for extra credit points or to check your students' skills as they are acquired and built over time.

85 Lesson Launchers are a convenient and useful supplement to your regular class lessons. Make every minute count!

SAMPLE PAGE



Find the Nouns

A **noun** is a word that names a person, a place, a thing, or an idea.

Examples:

doctor (person)	beach (place)	apple (thing)	happiness (idea)
--------------------------	------------------------	------------------------	---------------------------

Underline the nouns in the following sentences.

1. Lily jumped over the puddle.
2. Anthony likes to play hockey.
3. Mrs. Mason read a book to our class.
4. George Washington was our first president.
5. The United States is a nice place to live.
6. My dad bought me a new ball.
7. Casey was sad when she spilled her milk.
8. John reads the newspaper every day.
9. Sophie watches the stars at night.
10. Australia is a beautiful country.



A Helping of Verbs

Some verbs **help** other verbs. **Helping verbs** never stand alone.

Example: Molly **must** work today.

In this sentence, the word **work** is the main verb. The main verb tells us the action of the sentence. The word **must** is the helping verb. It works together with the main verb.

Common Helping Verbs

is	are	was	am	were	been
shall	will	would	did	must	can
may	have	had	has	do	should

Read the following sentences. Write the helping verb on the line.

1. You should see this spider! _____
2. Janet was sleeping when the phone rang. _____
3. Mason will sneeze if he gets near that cat. _____
4. Michael has seen that movie ten times! _____
5. You may walk to the store if you take Carl with you. _____
6. I shall read this chapter of the book. _____

Now, write two of your own sentences using helping verbs.

7. _____
8. _____



What Will Happen?

Present tense verbs tell us what is happening now. **Future tense verbs** tell us what **will** happen. Most verbs are changed to the future tense by adding **will** in front of the verb. If there is an **s** on the end of the verb, drop it when you make the verb into the future tense.

Examples: I **play** the flute in the school band. (**present**)
I **will play** the flute in the school band. (**future**)
Damien **plays** hockey. (**present**)
Damien **will play** hockey. (**future**)

Change the following verbs from present tense to future tense. Write the new sentence on the line.

1. The bird sings.

2. Jade colors in her coloring book.

3. John washes his new car.

4. Our cat meows.

5. I hit the tennis ball.

6. Derek sails in a little sailboat.

7. The dog eats his food.

8. Carrie swims in the swimming pool.



Make It Plural!

You know that some verbs are **singular** and some are **plural**. One easy way to make a singular verb into a plural verb is by dropping the **s** at the end of the verb.

Examples: Janie **reads** all the time.
(The singular form of the verb has an **s**.)
Students **read** all the time.
(The plural form does not have an **s**.)


Read the following sentences. Change each verb in **bold** letters from singular to plural. Write the plural form of the verb on the line.

1. Kate **plays** tennis every Thursday. _____
2. Paul **eats** hot dogs for lunch every day. _____
3. My cat **sleeps** on my bed. _____
4. Kim's bird **talks** to her! _____
5. Mr. Cobbett **writes** on the chalkboard during class. _____
6. Our dog **swims** in the lake. _____
7. Susie **walks** to school. _____
8. Thomas always **listens** during class. _____
9. That cake **looks** delicious! _____
10. My hair **grows** really fast. _____



Adverbs Versus Adjectives

Read the following sentences. Write if the word in **bold** letters is an adjective or an adverb. Then, draw an arrow from the word in **bold** to the word that it describes or modifies. The first one has been done for you.

1. Don't talk so **loudly**.  adverb
2. The bat flew **silently** above our heads. _____
3. Sarah plays the piano **really** well. _____
4. **The** play was very entertaining. _____
5. I walk **faster** if I wear my sneakers. _____
6. Shannon splashed **cold** water on her face. _____
7. Our school is located in a **really** old building. _____
8. **Some** people are allergic to bees. _____
9. Have you ever seen an octopus? _____
10. That grass is really tall! _____
11. The sea was **choppy** after the storm. _____
12. Do you like watching **scary** movies? _____
13. We whispered **very** quietly. _____
14. He is a really **good** baseball player. _____
15. Please don't squeeze my hand so **tightly**. _____



Name That Conjunction!

A **conjunction** connects a word or group of words with another word or group of words. Some conjunctions are used in pairs.

Conjunction Pairs

either, or

both, and

neither, nor

whether, or

Read the following sentences. Circle the conjunctions. The first one has been done for you.

1. (Neither) Jason (nor) Sue likes to watch television.
2. He was both the brightest student in the class and the nicest.
3. Would you please either quiet down, or stop talking?
4. I don't know whether I want to ski or snowboard.
5. Samantha is both sweet and talented.
6. Neither Jose nor Ralph is going to the park.
7. Whether Louis visits or not, we will go on a bike ride.
8. Both Jackie and I play basketball.



Let's Talk About You

Names of particular people and places need to be **capitalized**. Answer the following questions. Don't forget to capitalize your answers when necessary.

1. Where do you live? _____

2. What is the name of one family member? _____

3. What is the name of a favorite pet? _____

4. What are the names of your three favorite cities? _____

5. Who is your favorite actor? _____

6. What is the name of a favorite storybook character? _____

7. What is the name of a favorite relative? _____

8. Where does this relative live? _____

SAMPLE PAGE



Choose the Punctuation

If a sentence is a **statement**, write a period at the end. (.)

If a sentence asks a **question**, write a question mark at the end. (?)

If a sentence **shows** a lot of **feeling** or **emotion**, write an exclamation point at the end. (!)

Write three sentences for each end mark. Examples have been done for you.

Periods

1. Summer is my favorite time of year.

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Question marks

5. Do you like summer better than winter?

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

Exclamation points

9. That is the best summer vacation I have ever had!

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____



Compound Commas

A **compound sentence** has two independent clauses. An **independent clause** can stand alone as a sentence. Sometimes two independent clauses are joined together with a **conjunction**.

Examples: Winnie asked to watch television. Her mother said no.
Winnie asked to watch television, **but** her mother said no.
(When these two independent clauses are joined with a conjunction, such as **but**, a comma is placed between the two clauses.)

Common Conjunctions

and, but, or, nor, for, if, yet, so, because

Read the following sentences. All of the sentences are compound. Add a comma to the correct place in each sentence.

1. You said you wanted to go ice skating yet you don't know how to skate!
2. My mother reminds me to wear a helmet but I always remember anyway.
3. I asked him to a movie and he said that he would go.
4. Do you want to go swimming or would you rather build a sand castle?
5. Mrs. Johnson said I could pick the flowers but they had already died.
6. The mall was closed so we went out to dinner instead.
7. Lily asked for a video game and her dad said she could get one.
8. I'd like you to go with us but you said that you were not interested.

