GRAMMAR POLICE: PUNCTUATION & WORD ORIGIN QUIZ

Do you spot typos from a mile away? Test your mastery of Oxford commas, homophones & etymology!

Editor Name: _____ **Publication:** _____ **Score: [___ / 12]**

Q1: The Oxford Comma Debate

Where does the Oxford comma properly belong in a series list?

A) Before the first item B) Immediately before coordinating conjunction
C) After the conjunction D) At the end of the sentence

*My Answer: [ ] * [ ] Correct (+1 Pt)*

Q2: Its vs It's Distinction

Which sentence uses the correct possessive form?

A) The dog wagged it's tail B) The dog wagged its tail
C) The dog wagged its' tail D) Its a wonderful day

*My Answer: [ ] * [ ] Correct (+1 Pt)*

Q3: Semicolon Usage

What is the primary role of a semicolon (;)?

A) Introduce a bullet list B) Connect two independent clauses
C) End a dramatic question D) Replace quotation marks

*My Answer: [ ] * [ ] Correct (+1 Pt)*

Q4: Affect vs Effect

Choose the correct word: 'The weather will _____ our travel plans.'

A) Affect (Verb) B) Effect (Noun)
C) Ineffect D) Affection

*My Answer: [ ] * [ ] Correct (+1 Pt)*

Q5: Fewer vs Less

Which phrase follows standard grammatical rules for countable nouns?

A) Less people attended B) Fewer people attended
C) Less items in cart D) Fewer water in cup

*My Answer: [ ] * [ ] Correct (+1 Pt)*

Q6: Dangling Modifier

Spot the sentence with a dangling modifier error:

A) Walking down the street, the trees were tall. B) She walked home.
C) After eating lunch, I worked. D) We drove to the coast.

*My Answer: [ ] * [ ] Correct (+1 Pt)*

Q7: Lie vs Lay

Which sentence correctly uses the intransitive verb 'lie'?

A) I am going to lay down for a nap. B) I am going to lie down for a nap.
C) Yesterday I layed in bed. D) Please lie the book on the desk.

*My Answer: [ ] * [ ] Correct (+1 Pt)*

Q8: Word Origin: Cliché

From which language and printing process did 'cliché' originate?

A) French printer's cast plate B) Latin legal term
C) Greek theater mask D) German metal stamp

*My Answer: [ ] * [ ] Correct (+1 Pt)*

Q9: Who vs Whom

Choose the correct form: 'To _____ should I send the invitation?'

A) Who B) Whom (Object of preposition)
C) Whoever D) Whomever

*My Answer: [ ] * [ ] Correct (+1 Pt)*

Q10: Tautology Detection

Which phrase is an unnecessary repetition (tautology)?

A) Free gift B) Unexpected surprise
C) PIN number D) All of the above!

*My Answer: [ ] * [ ] Correct (+1 Pt)*

Q11: Etymology of 'Salary'

What ancient Roman commodity was 'salary' historically linked to?

A) Olive Oil B) Gold coins
C) Salt (Salarium) D) Silk fabric

*My Answer: [ ] * [ ] Correct (+1 Pt)*

Q12: Portmanteau Words

What is a word formed by blending two words together called?

A) Acronym B) Portmanteau (e.g. Brunch)
C) Onomatopoeia D) Palindrome

*My Answer: [ ] * [ ] Correct (+1 Pt)*

CHIEF GRAMMAR INSPECTOR & EDITOR-IN-CHIEF CROWN

Trivia Champion: _____ | Score: [____ / 12]