

Presentation Exercise: Grammar Preview 1(Nouns/Adjectives)

True or False. All of the following are types of nouns: objects, people, animals, ideas, names, places, times, qualities, categories, and groups.

Fill in the Blank. English nouns are often preceded by one of two _____.

Multiple Choice. _____ are small words used with a noun that act like weak forms of “this” or “some.”

A. Adverbs

C. Prepositions

B. Articles

D. Conjunctions

True or False. The vast majority of nouns in English can be pluralized with -s.

Fill in the Blank. Nouns can be replaced with _____ like “he, she, it, they,” or their objective equivalents “him, her, it, them.”

Circle the nouns in the following sentences:

1. Rome conquered the world.
2. The Rome of the late Republic was a dangerous place.
3. Who would have guessed that the Romans would eventually rule the countries around their land?

Circle the nouns in the following paragraph:

Originally a population living in Italy on the edge of civilization, the Romans spent centuries conquering their neighbors. Though they did not seem to have the makings of greatness, through innovations in government and technology, they rose to supremacy over the people around the area they inhabited.

Fill in the Blank. Adjectives at heart are _____.

Circle the adjectives in the following list.

Yellow

Man

Mind

The

Loving

Doctor

Old

Best

Neurologist

True or False. Adjectives can have articles in front of them.

Fill in the Blanks. Adjectives are usually paired with a _____ except when they are used as _____.

True or False. Adjectives answer questions like “what sort of?” or “which one?”

Multiple Choice. You most often find what kind of word right after an adjective?

A. Verb

C. Adverb

B. Article

D. Noun

Circle the nouns and underline the adjectives in the following sentences:

1. The classical Romans conquered the Mediterranean world.
2. Would sensible people back in ancient times have ever guessed that the tiny Roman state would one day rule the whole Italian peninsula?

Circle the nouns and underline the adjectives in the following paragraphs:

The early Romans ousted foreign kings and established a representative government led by executive officers and a legislative assembly of elders called the Senate. This state was not as democratic as it seems, because the only people who got a permanent seat in the Roman Senate had great wealth.

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Extended families of aristocratic extraction called *gentes* maintained absolute control over Rome throughout its early "Republican" history, a situation that lasted a half millennium until two such families, the Julians and the Claudians, established themselves as sole rulers in the first century, giving rise to the Roman "Empire."

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Instead, they spent their energy waging violent war with other peoples. They gained a reputation as tenacious fighters and developed an impressive system of warfare for a nation their size. They also had a powerful weapon, the legion, a battle formation quite complex for its age and requiring considerable time to learn.

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Most battles in the days when Rome was young were fought in long, haphazard lines. The Thebans and later Alexander the Great had brought greater order to military formation, but their contributions consisted of simple innovations, stacking a line at one end or creating a huge block of men.

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The Roman legion employed a flexible arrangement of men who were organized into sub-groups which could be moved as independent units about the battlefield. This design and the dedication

of the Romans to physical might were important contributing factors in making them the conquerors of the Mediterranean world.

The greatest triumph the early Romans achieved was the defeat of Carthage, a rival trading empire in North Africa. This conflict, actually a series of conflicts called the "Punic Wars," was to a large extent fought at sea, forcing the Romans to develop a full navy for the first time in their history.

Greek philosophers, poets and playwrights flooded into Rome and began teaching ways of life foreign to the rustic Romans. The invasion of new types of learning led to a cultural crisis in Rome, whether to stand by their traditional, time-tested, conservative "Roman" *mores* or to take up new, exotic, dangerous and delightful "Greek" habits.

As time passed, the Romans came to see the Greeks as corrupters who wished to spoil them with outlandish pleasures and with all their oriental double-talk undermine the simple virtues that had once made Rome great. Thus, the fabric of Roman society began to unravel and fray.

Worse yet, these ideological struggles in the 100's BCE boiled over into military conflicts in the next century. For the first time in their history, Roman met Roman on the battlefield, and the outcome was nothing less than the destruction of the Republic and the establishment of a more peaceful but at heart autocratic empire.