

## Check your ECCE Grammar Skills – Activity 2

### Key and Item Analysis

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#### Item (1)

**Item Difficulty:** Less challenging

My computer wasn't working fast enough for me, \_\_\_\_\_ I decided to buy a new one.

- A. because
- B. but
- C. so
- D. that

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:** The correct answer choice is C. The word 'so' signals that the second sentence is a logical consequence of the first sentence. The other three choices are wrong as they do not explain why the speaker bought a new computer.

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#### Item (2)

**Item Difficulty:** Less challenging

I wish you \_\_\_\_\_ so fast, you are making me nervous.

- A. could drive
- B. drove
- C. wouldn't drive
- D. won't drive

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:** The correct choice is C. Wish + would not is used to express dissatisfaction with a situation (driving so fast). Choices A (could drive) and B (drove) do not express dissatisfaction or make it clear why the speaker is made 'nervous'. All three choices cannot be followed by 'so' and Choice D is grammatically incorrect as 'wish' is not followed by future tense (won't drive).

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#### Item (3)

**Item Difficulty:** Moderate

The new headquarters \_\_\_\_\_ .

- A. are centrally located
- B. located centrally
- C. locates centrally
- D. is located centrally

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:** The correct answer choice is A. The sentence is missing a full verb and the word 'headquarters' (main office) is plural.

**Item (4)**

**Item Difficulty:** Moderate

I can't remember why \_\_\_\_\_ to talk to Mary.

- A. did I want
- B. do I want
- C. I wanted
- D. I have wanted

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:** The correct answer choice is C. Choices A (did I want) and B (do I want) incorrectly turn the statement into a question. Choice C (I wanted) makes it clear that the speaker wanted at some time in the past to talk to Mary and now has no idea of why he wanted to. Choice C also keeps the correct word order. Choice D (I have wanted) is not in the correct tense.

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**Item (5)**

**Item Difficulty:** Moderate

I suggested \_\_\_\_\_ to a Chinese restaurant, but no one liked the idea.

- A. for going
- B. going
- C. that go
- D. to go

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:** The correct answer choice is B. The verb suggest is followed by a gerund (going) or by a that-clause: The doctor suggests that I go on vacation.

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**Item (6)**

**Item Difficulty:** Moderate

\_\_\_\_\_ the fact that he was nervous, he managed to pass the test.

- A. Apart from
- B. Because of
- C. Despite
- D. Since

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:** The correct answer is C. 'Despite' (although) is used to signal contrast between two clauses (nervousness – passing the test). Choice A (apart from) is incorrect as the main clause is not an addition to the first clause. Choice B (because of) is incorrect as 'nervousness' would not cause someone to pass a test. Choice D is incorrect as it is ungrammatical.

**Item (7)**

**Item Difficulty:** Moderate

Susan was feeling so ill today that she \_\_\_\_\_ leave work early.

- A. had to
- B. has to
- C. must
- D. might

**Answer: A.**

**Explanation:** The correct answer choice is A. The sentence expresses something that has already taken place (was feeling) so the past tense is needed.

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**Item (8)**

**Item Difficulty:** Moderate

His parents had a great influence \_\_\_\_\_ him.

- A. in
- B. on
- C. to
- D. with

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:** The correct answer choice is B. The correct expression is to 'have an influence on something'. The other three choices make the sentence ungrammatical.

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**Item (9)**

**Item Difficulty:** Moderate

If he only stays for 3 days, we'll have \_\_\_\_\_ time to get the work done.

- A. fewer than
- B. many more
- C. more of the
- D. much less

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:** The correct answer choice is D as the word 'time' is uncountable and as such can come after 'less'. Choices A (fewer than) and B (many more) are incorrect as both 'fewer' and 'many' are used with countable nouns. Choice C is wrong as the conditional clause emphasizes the time period being only 3 days, implying that it is not enough, while 'more of the time' in the result clause suggests greater satisfaction with the period of time available.

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**Item (10)**

**Item Difficulty:** More challenging

The meeting \_\_\_\_\_ I was invited was interesting.

- A. that
- B. to that
- C. to which
- D. which

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:** The correct answer choice is C. One is invited 'to' a place or event. Thus, the sentence can be written as "The meeting I was invited to was interesting = The meeting to which I was invited was interesting". Choices A (that) and D (which) are incorrect as 'invited' would need to be followed by 'to'. Choice B (to that) makes the sentence grammatically incorrect as 'to which' is the correct expression.

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