

## COMPLETERS

### GUIDELINES FOR PRACTICE SENTENCES

1. Print this file and place the answer pages to the side.
2. Cover the answer pages with a sheet of paper, and slide the paper down as you complete each practice sentence.
3. Use colored markers and a highlighter to work on each practice sentence.

Feel free to write to me (dr\_ron@grammar-once-and-for-all.com) if you have any questions or problems.

### Directions

1. Color each subject of a finite verb **blue** and **highlight** the main word.
2. Color each finite verb **red** (both main verb and any auxiliary verbs). **Highlight** the main verb.
3. Color each completer of a finite verb **green** and **highlight** the main word.

**Bugs** **bug** **me**.

The latest fashion **rage** **will** **be** purple **pajamas**.

**Jacob**, **Brigid**, and **Angie** **were** **baking** **cookies** and **discussing** **ethics**.  
[The auxiliary verb, *were*, belongs to both of the main verbs, *baking* and *discussing*.]

**Completers: Practice Sentences 1 - 10**

1. I like piranhas
  
2. I just don't trust their motives.
  
3. The crocodile was round and firm and fully toothed.
  
4. The Mayflies have an exciting but very short flying act.
  
5. You can't call vulture food fast food.
  
6. The Mallard brothers have also run their own migration agency.
  
7. He has always loved crocodile massages and cobra concerts.
  
8. Urban dwellers go to flea circuses for cultural uplift.
  
9. Your Squirrels have often gone crazy for no reason
  
10. There's a flea on your knee.

**Completers: Practice Sentences 11 – 18**

11. She studied crocodile psychology in Vienna, Ontario, but learned very little about gorillas.

12. Squeezy has been a great reader and a great writher.

13. Keep your kisses! I'm marrying a different princess!

14. This week the flock is giving the new migration goggles a final test.

15. With those eyes, you could be a great snake charmer.

16. People like you do not deserve pet cobras.

17. The blue witch should give Barfy one more chance.

18. Now the frog and the fleas are both sadder and wiser.

**Completers: Answers to Practice Sentences 1 - 10**

1. **I like piranhas**
2. **I just don't trust their motives.**
3. **The crocodile was round and firm and fully toothed.**
4. **The Mayflies have an exciting but very short flying act.**
5. **You can't call vulture food fast food.**  
[Vulture food and fast food are the double completers of *can't call*.]
6. **The Mallard brothers have also run their own migration agency.**
7. **He has always loved crocodile massages and cobra concerts.**
8. **Urban dwellers go to flea circuses for cultural uplift.**  
[There's no completer in this sentence—there's no answer for "Urban dwellers go **whom or what**? The phrases *to flea circuses* and *for cultural uplift* are modifiers: they tell "where" urban dwellers go and "why" they go.]
9. **Your squirrels have often gone crazy for no reason.**
10. **There's a flea on your knee.**  
[There's no completer in this sentence: *flea* is the subject of *is*, contracted here to 's. *There* is a "dummy" subject, used for the sake of sentence rhythm—it would feel awkward to say, "A flea is on your knee."]

**Completers: Answers to Practice Sentences 11 - 18**

11. **She studied** crocodile **psychology** in Vienna, Ontario, but **learned** very **little** about gorillas. [Studied *and* learned are coordinate finite verbs; they have the same subject, *she*, but each has its own completer.]

12. **Squeezy** has **been** a great **reader** and a great **writher**.

13. **Keep** your **kisses**! I'm **marrying** a different **princess**!

14. This week **the flock** is **giving** the new migration **goggles** a final **test**.  
[*The new migration goggles* and *a final test* are double completers of *is giving*.]

15. With those eyes, **you** could **be** a great snake **charmer**.

16. **People** like you do not **deserve** pet **cobras**.

17. The blue **witch** should **give** **Barfy** one more **chance**.  
[*Barfy* and *one more chance* are double completers of *should give*.]

18. Now **the frog** and **the fleas** are both **sadder** and **wiser**. [Two coordinate subjects, one linking verb, and two coordinate completers.]