

31. Near yonder copse, where once the garden smiled,
And still where many a garden flower grows wild,
There, where a few torn shrubs the place disclose,
The village preacher's modest mansion rose.
A man he was to all the country dear,
And passing rich with forty pounds a year.—*Goldsmith.*
32. As when upon a tranced summer night
Those green-robed senators of mighty woods,
Tall oaks, branch-charméd by the earnest stars,
Dream, and so dream all night without a stir,
Save from one gradual, solitary gust,
Which comes upon the silence, and dies off,
As if the ebbing air had but one wave:
So came these words, and went.—*Keats.*
33. When Freedom, from her mountain height,
Unfurled her standard to the air,
She tore the azure robe of night
And set the stars of glory there.
She mingled with its gorgeous dyes
The milky baldrick of the skies,
And striped its pure, celestial white,
With streakings of the morning light.—*Drake.*

RULES OF SYNTAX:

Rule I.—The subject of a proposition is in the nominative case.

Rule II.—A noun or pronoun, used as the predicate of a proposition, is in the nominative case.

Rule III.—A noun or pronoun, used to limit the meaning of a noun denoting a different person or thing, is in the possessive case.

Rule IV.—A noun or pronoun, used to limit the meaning of a noun or pronoun denoting the same person or thing, is in the same case.

Rule V.—A noun or pronoun, used independently, is in the nominative absolute case.

Rule VI.—The object of a transitive verb, in the active voice, or of its participles, is in the objective case.

Rule VII.—The object of a preposition is in the objective case.

Rule VIII.—Nouns denoting time, distance, measure, direction, or value, after verbs and adjectives, are in the objective case without a governing word.

Rule IX.—Pronouns must agree with their antecedents in person, gender, and number.

Rule X.—A pronoun, with two or more antecedents in the singular, connected by *and*, must be plural.

Rule XI.—A pronoun, with two or more antecedents in the singular, connected by *or* or *nor*, must be singular.

Rule XII.—An adjective or a participle belongs to some noun or pronoun.

Rule XIII.—A verb must agree with its subject in person and number.

Rule XIV.—A verb, with two or more subjects in the singular, connected by *and*, must be plural.

Rule XV.—A verb, with two or more subjects in the singular, connected by *or* or *nor*, must be singular.

Rule XVI.—An infinitive may be used as a noun in any case except the possessive.

Rule XVII.—An infinitive not used as a noun, depends upon the word it limits.

Rule XVIII.—Adverbs modify verbs, adjectives, participles, and adverbs.

Rule XIX.—A preposition shows the relation of its object to the word upon which the latter depends.

Rule XX.—Coördinate conjunctions join similar elements.

Rule XXI.—Subordinate conjunctions join dissimilar elements.

Rule XXII.—An interjection has no dependence upon other words.

213. SUBJECT-NOMINATIVE.

Rule I.—The subject of a proposition is in the nominative case.

Rem. 1.—Any thing that may be used as a noun, may be the subject; as, "A is a vowel;" "To lie is base;" "What time he took orders doth not appear."

Rem. 2.—The subject generally precedes the predicate, but is placed after it, or the first auxiliary, (1) When a wish is expressed by the potential; as, "May you prosper: (2) When *if* or *though*, denoting a supposition, is suppressed; as, "Had they been wise, they would have listened to me:" (3) When the verb is in the imperative mode, or is used interrogatively; as, "Rest ye;" "Why do you persist?"

Rem. 3.—The subject of the imperative mode is usually omitted; as, "Depart!" "Shut the door." It is also omitted after *while*, *when*, *if*, *though*, or *than*, when the verb is made one of the terms of a comparison; as, "He talks *while* [he is] writing;" "He is kind *when* [he is] sober;" "I will come, *if* [it be] possible;" "They are honest, *though* [they are] poor;" "He has more knowledge *than* [he has] wisdom."

EXERCISES.

To be corrected, analyzed, and parsed:

1. Him and me study grammar. 2. I never saw larger horses than them are. 3. Me and John sit together. 4. Whom besides I do you suppose got a prize? 5. I am as tall as he, but she is taller than him. 6. Whom do you suppose has come to visit us? 7. We sorrow not as them that have no hope.

8. Thrice is he armed who hath his quarrel just; and him but naked, though locked up in steel, whose conscience with injustice is corrupted. 9. Who wants an orange?—Me. 10. No other pupil is so studious as her. 11. He is older than me. 12. I know not whom else are expected. 13. None of his companions is more beloved than him.

214. PREDICATE-NOMINATIVE.

Rule II.—A noun or pronoun, used as the predicate of a proposition, is in the nominative case.

Rem. 1.—The predicate-nominative denotes the same person or thing as the subject; and must agree with it in case, and usually in gender and number. It may be any thing that may be used as a noun; as, "That letter is B;" "To work is to pray;" "The command was, 'Storm the fort at daybreak.'"

Rem. 2.—In questions, and when the predicate is emphatically distinguished, the subject and predicate change places; as, "Who is that man?" "Are you the ticket agent?" "His pavilion round about him were dark waters and thick clouds of the sky."

Rem. 3.—The neuter pronoun *it*, as subject, may represent a noun or pronoun of any person, number, or gender, as predicate; as, "It is I;" "It was you;" "It is Sarah."

EXERCISES.

To be corrected, analyzed, and parsed:

1. It is me. 2. It was her and him who you saw. 3. If I were him, I would go to Europe. 4. Whom do you say they were? 5. I do not know whom they are?

6. It was not me nor him who played truant. 7. It is not them who are to blame. 8. I disbelieve it to be he. 9. I have no doubt of its being them.

215. POSSESSIVE CASE.

Rule III.—A noun or pronoun, used to limit the meaning of a noun denoting a different person or thing, is in the possessive case.

Rem. 1.—The possessive term is always an adjective element. It may limit a noun of any class or form; as, "*Our* houses;" "*O my* ducats!" "*Our* country's welfare;" "All *their* dearest hopes were blasted;" "*His* being a foreigner should not induce us to underrate him."

Rem. 2.—The relation of possession may be expressed by the preposition *of*, with the objective; as, "My friend's house" = The house *of* my friend. This form should be used when two or more nouns in the possessive would otherwise come together; as, "My friend's father's house" = The house *of* my friend's father.

Rem. 3.—The limited noun is sometimes omitted; as, "This house is the doctor's [house]." "We visited St. Paul's [church]." "This is a farm of my father's [farms]."

Rem. 4.—The limited noun need not be plural because the possessive is plural; as, "Their judgment is good;" "Our decision is made;" "The women's hope failed."

Rem. 5.—When a noun is put in apposition with a noun or pronoun in the possessive case, the sign may be omitted; as, "This was *Webster's* opinion, the most eminent lawyer in the country."

Rem. 6.—In some compound words, formed from the possessive and the word limited by it, both the hyphen and sign of possession are omitted; as, *hogshead*, *bridesmaid*.

EXERCISES.

To be corrected and parsed:

1. The boys story was believed. 2. He wore the knight's-templar's costume. 3. The goods were sent by the Merchants Union Express. 4. That book is his'n. 5. The Bishop's of Dublin's palace. 6. My fathers health is not good. 7. My book is larger than your's. 8. The mistake was the teacher, not the pupil's.

9. The general's aids horse was killed. 10. No one could prevent him escaping. 11. I purchased this at Penfields', the bookseller's. 12. Some people regret the King of France's, Louis XVI., being beheaded. 13. He bought a hog's head of sugar. 14. William's and Mary's reign was prosperous. 15. It was John, not Emma's fault.

216. APPPOSITION.

Rule IV.—A noun or pronoun, used to limit the meaning of a noun or pronoun denoting the same person or thing, is in the same case.

Rem. 1.—A noun may be in apposition with a sentence, and a sentence with a noun; as, "*I resolved to practice temperance—a resolution I have ever kept.*" "Remember Franklin's maxim: '*God helps them that help themselves.*'"

Rem. 2.—A noun in apposition sometimes precedes the noun it identifies; as, "*Child of the Sun*, refulgent *Summer*, comes."

Rem. 3.—Though a noun or pronoun usually agrees with the noun it identifies, in *number* and *gender*, it is not necessary that it agree with it in any thing else than *case*; as, "*My lunch—fried oysters and crackers—was soon eaten.*"

Rem. 4.—When possessives are in apposition, the sign of possession is used only with the one next to the noun limited by the entire possessive term; as, "Peter the *Hermil's* eloquence."

Rem. 5.—Sometimes the noun in apposition is separated from the limited noun by *as*, denoting *rank, office, or capacity*; as, "Mr. Jones, as my attorney, sold the land;" "My son sails as *supercargo*." Equivalent terms are sometimes introduced by *or*; as, "The *puma*, or American *lion*, is found in South America."

Rem. 6.—A noun or pronoun repeated for emphasis, or for the purpose of arresting and fixing the attention, is frequently an appositive; as, "There was another tap at the door—a smart, potential tap;" "He, *he* alone, can do this." A compound personal pronoun is also sometimes in apposition with a simple personal pronoun which precedes it; as, "I, *myself*, told you so."

EXERCISES.

To be corrected, analyzed, and parsed:

1. Will you discard me; I who have always been your friend? 2. What was the General; him you wished to see? 3. I bought it of Mrs. Wilson; she who keeps the milliner's shop. 4. Ira Jacobs, him who you punished, was not to be blamed. 5. Whom shall we praise?—They who do their duty. 6. My watch was lost near Wilkins's, the blacksmith's.

7. They are the lovely, them in whom unite
Youth's fleeting charms, with virtue's lovely light.

217. NOMINATIVE ABSOLUTE CASE.

Rule V.—A noun or pronoun, used independently, is in the nominative absolute case.

Rem. 1.—For the five forms of the absolute case, see Sec. 33.

Rem. 2.—The nominative absolute with a participle is generally equivalent to an adverbial clause, commencing with *if, because, since, when, or while*; as, "*He being rich*, they feared his influence" = They feared his influence *because he was rich*. "*The sun being risen*, we pursued our journey" = *When the sun had risen*, we pursued our journey.

Rem. 3.—In mottoes and abbreviated sayings, and frequently in exclamations, nouns in the nominative absolute case seem to have relation to something understood; as, "Laird's Bloom of Youth" = *Use Laird's Bloom of Youth*; "Confidence" (a motto) = *This is a token of confidence*; "A rat! a rat!" = *There is a rat*. It is better, however, to recognize the nominative absolute case as a distinct use of a noun, than to destroy the force of an expression by supplying an awkward ellipsis.

EXERCISES.

Examples to be parsed:

1. Soldier, rest! thy warfare o'er. 2. "Stop! the hat!" he exclaims. 3. Our fathers, where are they? 4. My being a child was a plea for my admission. 5. The north and the south, thou hast created them. 6. John, James, and Henry, they are my scholars. 7. O Nelly Gray! O Nelly Gray! 8. "The Moon and the Stars—A Fable." 9. PROBLEM III.—To construct a mean proportional between two given lines

218. OBJECTIVE CASE.

Rule VI.—The object of a transitive verb, in the active voice, or of its participles, is in the objective case.

Rem. 1.—The natural order of arrangement is, *subject—verb—object*; but in poetry, or when it is made emphatic, the object precedes the subject; as, "*Myself* I can not save;" "*Silver and gold* have I none." To avoid ambiguity, the natural order should be observed when the subject and object are both nouns. Say, "Alexander conquered Darius," not "Alexander Darius conquered." A relative or interrogative pronoun is placed at the head of its clause; as, "I am he *whom* you seek;" "*Whom* shall I invite?"

Rem. 2.—The object may be a participial noun, a phrase, or a clause; as, "I like *running and jumping* better than *studying*;" "He hopes *to succeed*;" "'Our armies swore terribly in Flanders,' cried my Uncle Toby."

Rem. 3.—A phrase beginning with a noun or pronoun, may be the object of a transitive verb; as, "I want *books to read*;" "The merchant ordered *the goods to be shipped*;" "I heard the *water lapping on the crag*;" "I want *him to go*." In such cases, the entire phrase is the object of the verb; but it is best to apply the first paragraph of Remark 1, page 182, in parsing the noun or pronoun beginning the phrase, Rule XVII in parsing the infinitive, and Rule XII in parsing the participle.

Rem. 4.—Some verbs used as copulatives in the passive voice, have two objects, one representing a person or thing, the other a thing; as, "They made *him* their leader;" "They chose *him* chairman." When such verbs are made passive, either object may be taken as the subject, but the other, if retained, becomes a predicate-nominative. If the *thing* is made nominative, the *person* is governed by a preposition, expressed or understood; if the *person* is made nominative, the *thing* may be parsed by Rule II.

Rem. 5.—A transitive verb may have several objects connected by conjunctions; as, "He owns *houses, lands, and bank-stock*."

Rem. 6.—Participial nouns may be limited by objective elements; as, "*Writing notes* is forbidden;" "I like *hunting buffaloes*."

EXERCISES.

Examples to be corrected:

1. Who did you write to? 2. Please let him and I sit together. 3. I do not know who to trust. 4. He who did the mischief you should punish, not I. 5. I saw she and him at the concert last evening. 6. And me, what shall I do?

7. We will go at once, him and me. 8. Every one can master a grief but he that hath it. 9. He was presented a gold watch by his employers. 10. Who are you looking for?

Examples to be analyzed and parsed:

1. We will rear new homes. 2. The parting words shall pass my lips no more. 3. I said that at sea all is vacancy. 4. They have left unstained what there they found. 5. Bring forth this counterfeit model. 6. Mad frenzy fires him now.

7. Reading makes a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man.—*Bacon*. 8. Thou hast left no son—but thy song shall preserve thy name. 9. His disciples said, Who, then, can be saved? 10. I was forbidden the premises. 11. They were debarred the privilege of walking in the park.

12. "But what good came of it at last?"

Quoth little Peterkin.

"Why, that I can not tell," said he;

"But 't was a famous victory."—*Southey*.

219. OBJECTIVE AFTER PREPOSITIONS.

Rule VII.—The object of a preposition is in the objective case.

Rem. 1.—A preposition usually precedes its object; but in poetry this order is often reversed; as, "From crag to crag, *the rattling peaks among*" = among the rattling peaks; "Come walk with me the jungle *through*."

Rem. 2.—Interrogative pronouns frequently precede the prepositions which govern them; as, "*What* are you laughing at?"

Such expressions as, "Whom are you talking to?" "Which house do you live in?" are inelegant, if not ungrammatical. The proper construction is, "To whom are you talking?" "In which house do you live?"

Rem. 3.—Some phrases consist of a preposition, followed by an adjective or an adverb; as, *in vain, at once, in secret, from below, on high, from above, till now, till lately*, etc. In such phrases, an object may be understood; the word following the preposition, parsed as an adjective or adverb *used as a noun*; or the entire expression may be regarded as an *inseparable phrase*.

Rem. 4.—A preposition should never be placed between a verb and its object; as, "He does not want *for* any thing." Say "He does not *want* any thing."

Rem. 5.—A noun or pronoun which is the object of two or more prepositions, or of a preposition and a transitive verb, should be placed after the first verb or preposition, and be represented by a pronoun following each of the others. "He came *into* and passed *through* the cars" should be, "He came

into the cars, and passed through them." "He first called, and then sent for, the sergeant" should be, "He first called the sergeant, and then sent for him."

EXERCISES.

To be corrected:

1. The army shall not want for supplies. 2. Which school do you go to? 3. What firm are you agent for? 4. What country are you a native of? 5. I will not permit of such conduct.

6. It is our duty to assist and sympathize with those in distress. 7. The convicts are hired by and employed for the benefit of a few speculators. 8. He lives in and came from Pittsburgh.

To be analyzed and parsed:

1. We cruised about for several hours in the dense fog. 2. He has a touch of our family. 3. Here rests his head upon the lap of earth. 4. He will steal, sir, an egg out of a cloister. 5. The pile sank down into the opening earth.

6. The ground lifts like a sea. 7. The clouds are driven about in the sky, like squadrons of combatants rushing to the conflict. 8. In vain does the old dragon rage. 9. I had supposed till lately that you were my friend. 10. A shoreless ocean tumbled round the globe. 11. The morning broke without a sun.

Rule VIII.—Nouns denoting *time, distance, measure, direction, or value*, after verbs and adjectives, are in the objective case without a governing word.

Rem. 1.—The relations between nouns and verbs, as well as those between nouns and adjectives, are usually expressed by prepositions. Sometimes, however, these relations are so obvious that they are not expressed, but implied. An implied relation and its subsequent term form an adverbial phrase, the term being the object of the relation. As there is no preposition in the English language that exactly expresses this relation, the noun is said to be in the objective case *without a governing word*.

Rem. 2.—A preposition is frequently omitted. The subsequent term is not then in the objective case without a governing word, but is governed by a preposition understood.

Ex.—"Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co., No. 137 Walnut Street, Cincinnati, O."—*To* Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co., at No. 137 Walnut Street, in Cincinnati, in Ohio. "July 4, 1776"—*On* the 4th day of July, in the year 1776.

Rem. 3.—*Home* and nouns denoting *manner* are frequently in the objective case without a governing word; as, "We drove *home* in a storm;" "They marched *Indian-file*."

Rem. 4.—The names of *things*, following the passive forms of the verbs *ask, lend, teach, refuse, provide*, and some others, are in the objective case without a governing word, or in the objective case governed by a preposition understood; as, "He was asked a *question*;" "John was refused *admittance*;" "I was taught *grammar*."

EXERCISES.

To be analyzed and parsed:

1. The horse ran a mile. 2. I do not care a straw. 3. He is worth a million of dollars. 4. The child is nine years old. 5. He wore his coat cloak-fashion. 6. Spring has already covered thy grave, twelve times, with flowers. 7. The ship sailed four knots an hour.

8. This is worth remembering. 9. The tower is two hundred and fifty feet high. 10. How many square yards of plastering in a room twenty-one feet long, fifteen feet wide, and ten feet high? 11. The poor, dissipated student was refused his diploma.

220. PRONOUNS.

Rule IX.—Pronouns must agree with their antecedents in person, gender, and number.

Rem. 1.—The person, gender, and number of an interrogative pronoun are indeterminate when no answer is given to the question in which it is found; as, "Who owns that vessel?" The answer may be, "Mr. Gordon owns it," "Jones &

Smith own it," "I own it," "He and I own it," or "You yourself own it." The interrogative, however, should be parsed as being in the third person and singular number, because it requires the verb to be in the third person and singular number. Its gender is indeterminate. When an answer is given, or when one can be inferred from well-known facts, these properties are determinate; as, "Who owns that vessel?—I own it." "Who" is the first person, common gender, singular number, agreeing with "I." "Who commanded the allied forces at the battle of Waterloo?" "Who" is in the third person, masculine gender, singular number—the answer, though not given, being well known.

Rem. 2.—There being no pronoun of the third person singular used in common for either sex, the masculine forms, *he, his, him*, are used in its place. Do not say, "Each pupil should learn *his* or *her* lesson;" use *his* alone. Say, "Should any one desire to consult me, let *him* call at my office," even though the invitation be intended for both sexes. Should the gender of the person referred to be known, use a masculine or feminine pronoun, as the case requires.

Rem. 3.—Things personified should be represented as masculine or feminine by the pronouns referring to them; as, "Night, sable goddess, from *her* ebon throne;" "Grim-visaged War hath smoothed *his* wrinkled front."

Rem. 4.—A pronoun sometimes precedes its antecedent; as, "*Thy* chosen temple, Lord, how fair!" "Hark! *they* whisper, angels say."

Rem. 5.—The relative pronoun is frequently omitted; as, "That is the house [*which*] we live in;" "This is the book [*which*] you inquired for."

Rem. 6.—*That*, as a relative, should generally be used after *a, all, every, same, and very*; after *who*, used interrogatively; after an adjective in the superlative degree; and when both persons and things are referred to.

Ex.—"He is a man *that* all respect;" "I gave him *all that* I had;" "Is this the *same* book *that* I lent you?" "It is the *very* book *that* you lent me;" "He is the *wisest that* says the least;" "Who *that* has once heard him does not wish to hear him once again?" "Here are the *persons and things that* were sent for."

Rem. 7.—Unless great emphasis is required, a noun or pronoun should not be used in the nominative absolute case by pleonasm. Say, "The horse ran away," not "The horse, *it* ran away;" "Many words darken speech," not "Many words, *they* darken speech."

Rem. 8.—To avoid ambiguity, a relative pronoun should be placed as near as possible to its antecedent.

Ex.—"A purse was lost in the street, *which* contained a large sum of money." The clause introduced by "which," should be placed immediately after "purse."

Rem. 9.—A pronoun whose antecedent is a collective noun conveying the idea of unity, should be in the neuter singular; one whose antecedent is a collective noun conveying the idea of plurality, should be plural, taking the gender of the individuals composing the collection.

Rem. 10.—*It* is used to represent (1) a noun or pronoun in any person, in either number, or of any gender; (2) a sentence, or a part of a sentence; or (3) it may be used to represent an indefinite antecedent.

Ex.—"It is *I*;" "It was *land-warrants* that I purchased;" "It was *Milton* who wrote *Paradise Lost*;" "You have *wronged me*, and will repent of *it*;" "It *snows*;" "We *roughed it* in the woods."

EXERCISES.

To be corrected:

1. James, he has been whispering. 2. Whom, when they had washed, they laid her in an upper chamber. 3. The names I called you, I am now sorry for them. 4. If any one has not paid their fare, let them call at the captain's office. 5. Every one should have his or her life insured.

6. Every one should have their lives insured. 7. That book is in the book-case, which contains pictures. 8. This is the dog whom my father bought. 9. These are the men and the guns which we captured. 10. That is the same pen which I sold you. 11. He is the wisest which lives the most nobly.

12. The moon took its station still higher. 13. The jury could not agree in its verdict. 14. The news came of defeat, but no one believed them. 15. If you see an error or a fault in my conduct, remind me of them.

To be parsed:

1. The hand that governs in April, governed in January.
 2. I perish by this people which I made. 3. Many a man shall envy him who henceforth limps. 4. I venerate the man whose heart is warm. 5. Your sorrows are our gladness.
 6. The blooming morning oped her dewy eyes.

7. Men are like birds that build their nests in trees that hang over rivers. 8. He was followed by another worthless rogue, who flung away his modesty instead of his ignorance.
 9. A bird is placed in a bell-glass, A, which stands over the mercury.

10. Remorseless Time!
 Fierce spirit of the glass and scythe! What power
 Can stay him in his silent course, or melt
 His iron heart to pity?—*Prentice.*

11. "Banished from Rome!" what's banished, but set free
 From daily contact of the things I loathe?
 "Tried and convicted traitor!" Who says this?
 Who'll prove it, at his peril, on my head?—*Croly.*

221. ANTECEDENTS CONNECTED BY "AND."

Rule X.—A pronoun, with two or more antecedents in the singular, connected by *and*, must be plural.

Rem. 1.—When the antecedents are but different names for the same person or thing, the pronoun must be singular; as, "The eminent lawyer and statesman has resigned *his* office."

Rem. 2.—When the antecedents are emphatically distinguished, the pronoun should be singular; as, "The mind *as well as* the body has *its* diseases;" "The country *and not* the government has *its* admirers."

Rem. 3.—When the antecedents are limited by *each*, *every*, or *no*, the pronoun must be singular; as, "Each man and each boy did *his* duty;" "Every hill and every mountain has *its* echo;" "There is no day and no hour without *its* cares."

Rem. 4.—When the antecedents taken together are regarded as a single thing, the pronoun must be singular; as, "The horse and wagon is in *its* place."

EXERCISES.

To be analyzed and parsed:

1. Charles and Henry are flying their kites. 2. You and I should study our lessons. 3. The child wants some bread and milk: will you get it? 4. The good man, and the sinner, too, shall have his reward. 5. The great philosopher and statesman is laid in his grave. 6. He bought a horse and a wagon, and sold them at a profit. 7. Every house and lot has its price set opposite its number.

222. ANTECEDENTS CONNECTED BY "OR" OR "NOR."

Rule XI.—A pronoun, with two or more antecedents in the singular, connected by *or* or *nor*, must be singular.

Rem. 1.—When the two antecedents are of different genders, the use of a singular masculine pronoun to represent them is improper. In such cases:

1. Use a plural pronoun that may represent both genders; as, "Not on outward charms could *he* or *she* build *their* pretensions to please."

2. Use different pronouns; as, "No boy or girl should whisper to *his* or *her* neighbor."

3. Substitute a general term, including both, for the two antecedents, and represent this general term by a singular masculine pronoun; as, "No *pupil* (boy or girl) should whisper to *his* neighbor."

Rem. 2.—When one of the antecedents is plural, it should be placed last, and the pronoun should be plural; as, "Neither the farmer nor his sons were aware of *their* danger."