Year 6 English: Apostrophes, speech and capitals (Hard)

English · Grammar and punctuation · Level: Hard

Student: _____ Date: _____

Instructions
- There are 10 questions. Read each one carefully.
- Write your answers on this paper. Use the space under a question to work it out.
- A grown-up can read a question aloud — that's fine.
- The answers are at the end. Check them together when you have finished.

Questions

1. Which sentence has its apostrophe in the right place?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** Nobody knew what they'd find in the cave.

○ **B** Nobody knew what theyd find in the cave.

○ **C** Nobody knew what the'yd find in the cave.

2. Which word completes the sentence? Tell me when ___ ready to leave.

Circle one answer.

○ **A** youre ○ **B** your ○ **C** you're

3. Which sentence is written correctly?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** “Is that smoke over the ridge?” asked Dev, pointing at the horizon.

○ **B** “Is that smoke over the ridge? asked Dev, pointing at the horizon.”

○ **C** “Is that smoke over the ridge?” Asked Dev, pointing at the horizon.

4. Find the correct way to write what was said.

Circle one answer.

○ **A** Nobody move! hissed Mr Kerr, crouching low.

○ **B** “Nobody move!” hissed Mr Kerr, crouching low.

○ **C** “Nobody move”! hissed Mr Kerr, crouching low.

5. Which one has the speech marks and commas in the right places?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** “I know the way,” said Mr Kerr, “Because I've walked this track before.”

○ **B** “I know the way”, said Mr Kerr, “because I've walked this track before.”

○ **C** “I know the way,” said Mr Kerr, “because I've walked this track before.”

6. Which sentence is punctuated correctly?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** Dad bought bread from Mr Hall, the baker on Hill Street this morning.

○ **B** Dad bought bread from Mr Hall, the baker on Hill Street, this morning.

○ **C** Dad bought bread from Mr Hall the baker on Hill Street this morning.

○ **D** Dad bought bread from, Mr Hall the baker on Hill Street, this morning.

7. Which sentence uses capital letters correctly?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** Captain B.J. Moore sailed west along the coast.

○ **B** Captain B.J. Moore sailed West along the coast.

○ **C** captain B.J. Moore sailed west along the coast.

8. Fix the capital letters: 'my aunt rosa and my uncle tom speak italian and greek at home.'

9. Fix the capital letters (write initials with full stops): 'captain b.j. moore sailed west along the coast of western australia.'

10. Fix every mistake in this sentence. Lena is asking a question, so put her spoken words in speech marks after a comma: 'lena asked is the pool open on sundays'

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Answer key

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1. A — Nobody knew what they'd find in the cave.
Nobody knew what they'd find in the cave. The apostrophe goes where the letters were left out, and every contraction needs one.

2. C — you're
Tell me when you're ready to leave. You're is short for you are.

3. A — “Is that smoke over the ridge?” asked Dev, pointing at the horizon.
“Is that smoke over the ridge?” asked Dev, pointing at the horizon. Only the spoken words go inside the marks, and the tag starts with a small letter.

4. B — “Nobody move!” hissed Mr Kerr, crouching low.
“Nobody move!” hissed Mr Kerr, crouching low. Only the spoken words go inside the marks, and the tag starts with a small letter.

5. C — “I know the way,” said Mr Kerr, “because I've walked this track before.”
“I know the way,” said Mr Kerr, “because I've walked this track before.” The speech carries on after the tag, so it starts with a small letter.

6. B — Dad bought bread from Mr Hall, the baker on Hill Street, this morning.
Dad bought bread from Mr Hall, the baker on Hill Street, this morning. The extra detail is closed off with a comma on each side.

7. A — Captain B.J. Moore sailed west along the coast.
Captain B.J. Moore sailed west along the coast. Capitals go on names, titles, initials (with full stops), acronyms, languages and religions, not on common words.

8. My aunt Rosa and my uncle Tom speak Italian and Greek at home.
My aunt Rosa and my uncle Tom speak Italian and Greek at home. Names, titles, initials, acronyms, languages and religions need capitals. Initials have full stops.

9. Captain B.J. Moore sailed west along the coast of Western Australia.
Captain B.J. Moore sailed west along the coast of Western Australia. Names, titles, initials, acronyms, languages and religions need capitals. Initials have full stops.

10. Lena asked, “Is the pool open on Sundays?”
Lena asked, “Is the pool open on Sundays?” Add a comma, speech marks round the spoken words, a capital for the question, and the question mark inside the closing marks.