

## Language Development Test

**Directions:** Fill in the responses for the administration of the grammatical closure task on the copy of the test given below. First, calculate a score in terms of the normative responses given for the items. After you have done this, calculate a dialect adjusted total score, in which you give the subject credit for items that represent normative dialect structures. You should end up with two scores, a standard total score and a dialect adjusted total score. What is the difference between the two scores? Finally, consider any "non-correct" responses that are not directly attributable to grammatical dialect differences but might be attributable to the way the task has been set up. How do you think these items should be treated in the scoring? Why?

### A. Regular Plurals \*

1. Here is one dog. Here are two \_\_\_\_\_. (dogs)  
(If the student says *puppies*, indicate this and mark the item as correct.)
2. Here is one cat. Here are two \_\_\_\_\_. (cats)  
(If the student says *kittens*, indicate this and mark the item as correct.)
3. Here is one watch. Here are two \_\_\_\_\_. (watches)

\* No more than 1/3 of forms should delete plural *-s*.

### B. Irregular Plurals

4. Here is a tooth. Here are some \_\_\_\_\_. (teeth)
5. Here is a foot. Here are two \_\_\_\_\_. (feet)
6. Here is a man. Here are two \_\_\_\_\_. (men)

**Reminder:** (This page is to remind the student of the children's names.) Say, "Remember the names of the children are Matt (point), Ann (point), and Butch (point)."

### C. Noun Possessives

7. Whose bike is this? It is \_\_\_\_\_. (Matt's)
8. Whose bike is this? It is \_\_\_\_\_. (Ann's)

### D. Personal Pronouns

The girl has a new hat. The hat belongs to her.

9. The girl has a new watch. The watch belongs to \_\_\_\_\_. (her)
10. The boy has some new skis. The skis belong to \_\_\_\_\_. (him)
11. They have a radio to share. The radio belongs to all of \_\_\_\_\_. (them)

### E. Possessive Pronouns

The boy won a new dog. The dog is his.

12. His father won a new coat. The coat is \_\_\_\_\_. (his)
13. His mother won a new dress. The dress is \_\_\_\_\_. (hers)
14. They all won a new car. The car is \_\_\_\_\_. (theirs).

### F. Third Person Singular

15. Here Matt types. Here he \_\_\_\_\_. (writes/draws)
16. Here Ann jumps. Here she \_\_\_\_\_. (swims)

### G. Regular Past Tense

17. Here is Matt jumping the fence. This is the fence Matt \_\_\_\_\_. (jumped)
18. Here is Ann climbing a ladder. Here is the ladder Ann \_\_\_\_\_. (climbed)
19. Here is Butch painting a picture. This is the picture Butch \_\_\_\_\_. (painted)

### H. Irregular Past Tense

20. Here is Matt writing a letter. This is the letter Matt \_\_\_\_\_. (wrote)
21. Here is Ann getting a present. This is the present Ann \_\_\_\_\_. (got)  
(If the student says *received*, prompt one time with "Can you say it another way?" and repeat the item.)
22. Here is Butch making an airplane. This is the airplane Butch \_\_\_\_\_. (made)  
(If the student substitutes the word *built* indicate this and count the item as correct.)

### I. Auxiliary + ing

For the following two items, if the student says the present tense without the auxiliary, e.g., *swing* instead of *are swinging* for Item 23, prompt one time with "Can you say it another way? Remember, here Matt is fishing (point) and here..." (repeat item, e.g., "Ann and Matt...").

Here Matt is fishing

23. Here Ann and Matt \_\_\_\_\_. (are swinging)
24. Here Butch \_\_\_\_\_. (is running)

### J. Derivation of Nouns from Verbs

25. This man paints. He is called a \_\_\_\_\_. (painter)
26. This girl jogs. She is called a \_\_\_\_\_. (jogger)  
(If the student substitutes the word *runner*, indicate this and count the item as correct.)
27. This woman teaches. She is called a \_\_\_\_\_. (teacher)

**K. Adjective Derivation**

- 28. Mother said, "You can't eat because your hands have dirt on them." She could have said, "You can't eat because your hands are \_\_\_\_\_." (dirty)
- 29. The teacher said, "We won't go outside with this much noise in the room." She could have said "We won't go outside because it's too \_\_\_\_\_." (noisy)
- 30. Ann said, "Matt, you have all the luck." She could have said, "You are very \_\_\_\_\_." (lucky)

**L. Formation of Comparative and Superlative**

- 31. This boy is a fast runner, but this boy is \_\_\_\_\_. (faster)
- 32. and this boy is the most fastest \_\_\_\_\_. (fastest)
- 33. This man is strong, but this man is \_\_\_\_\_. (stronger)
- 34. and this man is the \_\_\_\_\_. (strongest)

**M. Demonstratives**

- 35. Matt said, "I don't want those apples. I'll take some of \_\_\_\_\_." (those/these)
- 36. Ann said, "I want this book, and I want \_\_\_\_\_." (that book/one)

**Total** = \_\_\_\_\_

**DIALECT ADJUSTED TOTAL** = \_\_\_\_\_