

REWRITING EXERCISES

1. Could I borrow your dictionary, please?
Could you ...
2. Robin said he would go to the theatre with me.
"I ...
3. How long is it since they won the lottery?
When ...
4. Five people were standing in front of me in the queue.
There ...
5. It's very easy to work for her.
She ...
6. Few students in our class have a driving licence.
Not ...
7. They are going to buy several plants for their garden.
Several plants ...
8. I don't draw as well as my cousin does.
My cousin ...
9. Who is the owner of that dog?
Who does ...
10. I usually buy my clothes in that shop.
That ...
11. There wasn't anybody in the classroom.
There was ...
12. They are going to clean our school today.
Our school ...
13. The storm frightened us very much.
We ...
14. They finished their studies ten years ago.
It is ...
15. I'll help you with your composition if you like.
Would you ...
16. There were no onions in the fridge.
There weren't ...
17. How long is it since you broke your arm?
When ...
18. Betty said she couldn't remember her aunt's telephone number.
"I ...
19. We seldom drink spirits.
We don't ...
20. Is this hamster Jimmy's?
Does ...
21. Mr Green is repairing the car.
The car ...
22. The child had a birthmark on his face.
There ...
23. It's good to start with this topic.
This is a good ...
24. Shall we go out tonight?
Why ...

25. She has cooked the chicken with little oil.
The chicken ...
26. Being always by yourself will drive you crazy.
Being always on ...
27. My grandmother said, "I enjoyed myself very much in my youth."
My grandmother said ...
28. Remember to post this letter.
Don't ...
29. Everybody should speak at least two languages.
At least two languages ...
30. I suggest we have a glass of champagne together.
Why ...
31. She was sad because she didn't have many friends.
She was sad because she had ...
32. When did her train leave?
How long ...
33. Tom said he had visited that museum two years before.
"I ...
34. Can you lend me your bicycle, please?
Can I ...
35. My friend is an only child.
My friend hasn't got ...
36. Don't you have any cheaper cardigans?
Are these ...
37. "We started our holiday last week," the children said.
The children said ...
38. Shall I carry your suitcase?
Would you ...
39. The school where I learned to read is near my house.
The school I ...
40. How deep is the swimming pool?
What's ...
41. "I'll go to the supermarket tomorrow," he said.
He said ...
42. Harry offered to drive me home.
"I ...
43. There is a choice of about twenty dishes in our menu.
You ...
44. The film started before we arrived at the cinema.
By the time ...
45. She had expected better results in her exams.
Her exam results were ...
46. "What are we going to have for lunch?" he asked his mother.
He asked ...
47. Although it was hot she was still shivering.
Despite ...
48. "Can you lend me ten pounds, Charles?" said Martin.
Martin asked ...
49. Paul hasn't smoked for three years.
Paul gave ...

50. You shouldn't eat fish unless it is fresh.
If ...
51. George has never been to a circus before.
It's ...
52. The cake was so good that I couldn't help eating it.
It was such ...
53. It's not necessary for them to attend the lecture.
They ...
54. Have you eaten all the peanuts?
Aren't ...
55. It has been ages since he studied History.
He ...
56. "When is Mary's birthday?" John asked me.
John asked ...
57. They went on a excursion in spite of the cold.
Although ...
58. I regret not going by car.
I wish ...
59. I haven't been to England for two and a half years.
I last ...
60. Nobody is using the typewriter.
The typewriter ...
61. William and Tina are getting married next Sunday.
William and Tina's marriage ...
62. How long did she take to read the whole novel?
How long did it ...
63. Martin hasn't seen his cousin since Easter.
The last time Martin ...
64. Playing with a video game is very boring.
It ...
65. She regrets having argued with her boyfriend.
If only ...
66. "Don't park here," the traffic warden said to us.
The traffic warden told ...
67. You shouldn't smoke so many cigarettes a day.
You ought to ...
68. He was very tired after running the marathon.
Running the marathon was ...
69. "Whose are these pencils?" the teacher asked.
The teacher asked ...
70. I like her although she gets angry easily.
I like her in ...
71. They started to sing together six months ago.
They have ...
72. My neighbours are always shouting, which is horrible.
I wish ...
73. They were mending the dishwasher for two hours.
The dishwasher ...
74. The boat was so far away that I couldn't see it.
The boat was too ...

75. You would avoid failing your test by studying hard.
If ...
76. That house is too expensive for me to buy.
I can't ...
77. It would be a good idea to speak to the manager of the hotel.
You had ...
78. The drug problem worries many parents.
Many parents find ...
79. "Turn down the radio, please," Bill asked me.
Bill asked me ...
80. James started going out with Jane two years ago.
James has ...
81. I'm quite certain that isn't John's car. His is blue.
That car ...
82. Children must not use the lift.
The lift ...
83. I had never seen a more beautiful girl.
She was ...
84. I have to tell you something. Listen to it.
Listen to ...
85. The exams were so easy that she passed them all in June.
They were ...
86. "What's Christine's postal code?" Simon said.
Simon asked ...
87. He usually gets to school in ten minutes.
It ...
88. I don't like the place where I live.
I wish ...
89. The boss is ordering the employees to work harder.
The employees ...
90. Although she was very tired she went to do the shopping.
Despite ...
91. Working so much at night is bad for his eyes.
It ...
92. Diana asked him not to leave her alone.
"Please ...
93. The fish was so frozen that we couldn't cook it.
The fish was too ...
94. They learned less than they had expected.
They didn't ...
95. She tried to cut the steak but it was too rough.
The steak ...
96. She only got angry because he forgot to phone her.
If ...
97. She is the most patient person I have ever met.
I have ...
98. He didn't pass his exam although he studied hard.
In ...
99. It would have been a good idea to rent a car for our holiday.
I wish ...

100. Unless you looked after your teeth, you'd have problems with them.
If ...
101. "How long did it take you to get to the airport?" she asked me.
She asked ...
102. Although she was sad, she was playing with her son for an hour.
In spite ...
103. Was the girl taken to hospital by her father?
Did ...
104. It's not necessary for her to buy all that amount of food.
She ...
105. I was so bored by the book that I took it back to the library.
The book was ...
106. "Don't sing so loudly," I told him.
I told him ...
107. We'll have the party outdoors if it isn't cold.
Unless ...
108. Despite his speed, he couldn't win the race.
Although ...
109. My neighbour's horrible dog is always barking.
I wish ...
110. Unless you kick the ball very hard, it won't reach the goal.
If you ...
111. You must be eighteen years old if you want to buy alcoholic drinks in a bar.
You cannot ...
112. Although she had no experience, she looked after the dog very well.
In spite ...
113. You should call an ambulance only if there is an emergency.
Do not ...
114. Teaching young children is very rewarding.
It ...
115. I told her the bad news as soon as she had finished her dinner.
I waited until ...
116. She sings better than anybody in our choir.
Nobody ...
117. Despite her age, your mother is still very active.
Although ...
118. Richard was sorry he had drunk so much.
Richard wished ...
119. Nobody gave me anything for my birthday.
I ...
120. You won't understand the text if you don't read it thoroughly.
Unless ...
121. The electrician mended our lamps last week.
We ...
122. "How long have you had that pain in your side?" the doctor asked her.
The doctor asked ...
123. Despite all his efforts, he only passed two exams.
Even ...
124. Nobody helped her when she had an accident.
She didn't ...

125. Robert has broken his leg again.
It's ...
126. If the day had been sunny, we would have been sunbathing.
The day ...
127. I last saw Jim when we went to your party.
I haven't ...
128. She didn't buy the belt because she didn't have her credit card.
If ...
129. I went to the park in half an hour.
It ...
130. My brother says he would like to have bought a bigger flat.
My brother wishes ...
131. Growing your own vegetables is very relaxing.
It ...
132. If you speak more languages you will find travelling easier.
The more ...
133. "Why don't you go to the police, Peter?" said Jane.
Jane suggested ...
134. He was driving very fast because he was in a hurry.
If ...
135. I'd lend you my dictionary only if you took care of it.
I'd lend you my dictionary as ...
136. If you don't dress properly, you won't go to the party with me.
Unless ...
137. "I'll bring you a present from Japan," his father said.
His father ...
138. If I had known you were in trouble, I would have helped you.
As I didn't ...
139. It is said that Miss Green has ten cats in her flat.
Miss Green is ...
140. I'd give you a sweet if you behaved well.
Unless ...
141. "What about having a drink in my house?" said Susan.
Susan suggested ...
142. It is believed that he has got divorced twice.
He ...
143. There's no need to take a sleeping bag for the journey.
It isn't ...
144. Sarah didn't attend the class because she overslept.
If ...
145. He kept some coins because he thought he might need them for the phone.
He kept some coins in ...
146. "Be careful when you throw the broken glass to the dustbin," he said to me.
He ...
147. I didn't have your address, so I didn't pay you a visit.
If ...
148. This diamond is said to be very valuable.
They ...
149. "I'm sorry I spoke to you like that," she said to her friend.
She apologised ...

150. It is expected that his latest film will be a success.
His latest film ...
151. If she had received the message, she would have phoned back.
She didn't receive ...
152. Do you really need to make up so much?
Is it ...
153. He warned the child not to swim in the deepest part of the swimming pool.
“... ”
154. The plumber turned on the tap so as to check that it didn't work properly.
The plumber turned on the tap in ...
155. The cheque is not valid without your signature.
Unless you ...
156. “I won't eat the beans,” the boy said.
The boy refused ...
157. People say this is the best restaurant in town.
This restaurant ...
158. I can't stand people eating popcorn in the cinema.
I wish ...
159. I'm afraid the dentist will have to fill my tooth.
I'm afraid I'll have ...
160. My father will buy me a motorbike provided I pass my exams.
My father will buy me a motorbike as ...
161. “I didn't eat all the strawberries in the bowl,” the child said.
The child denied ...
162. It's known that he was paid a lot of money for his silence.
He is ...
163. Peter went to bed early so he didn't watch his favourite programme.
If...
164. The problem with the waiter was my fault.
I was to ...
165. The doctor insists that his patients should be vaccinated.
The doctor insists on ...
166. You cannot come to the disco with us unless you are over sixteen.
You can come to the disco with us provided ...
167. It is expected that the king will travel to India next month.
The king is ...
168. He offered me his umbrella.
He offered his ...
169. Having finished his meal, he asked for the bill.
As soon ...
170. When he started the car he realized there was somebody behind him.
On ...
171. He said he was sorry he hadn't done the ironing.
He apologised ...
172. “I broke the mirror,” she said.
She admitted ...
173. She didn't remember the title of the book so she couldn't ask for it.
If ...
174. His book will be published provided he takes his manuscript to the editor.
Unless ...

175. Don't you think you should switch off the light now?
Don't you think it's time ...
176. She crossed the street so as not to meet Helen.
She crossed the street to avoid ...
177. "I won't sleep on the floor," he said.
He refused ...
178. It is believed that the plane disappeared in the triangle of the Bermuda.
The plane ...
179. Your mother need not have done the cleaning.
It wasn't ...
180. She should have her car fixed before starting her journey.
Her car needs ...
181. She had very little experience. Nevertheless, she got the job.
Although...
182. Bring a map so that we don't get lost.
In case...
183. I reminded him six times, nevertheless he still forgot.
Although...
184. The boat was unable to leave, There was a storm.
Due...
185. If you pay him well, he'll do a good job.
Provided...
186. If you pay the rent, you can stay here.
As long as...
187. Our flight was delayed because there was a strike by air traffic controllers.
Due ...
188. I won't lend you my car if you don't promise to drive carefully.
Unless ...
189. I couldn't eat although I was very hungry.
Despite ...
190. If you take your time, you won't find it difficult.
As long as ...
191. It would be wise for us to take raincoats.
We'd ...
192. This suitcase is too small for all my things.
This suitcase is not..
193. Their house is so far away that we can't walk there.
It is such...
194. 'Can you guess who ha just left?' he asked us.
He asked us if...
195. The architect worked on the plans for six months.
The architect spent...
196. On the day she agreed to marry him, he was happier than he had ever been in his life.
The day she agreed to marry him was...
197. I haven't seen so much rain for a long time.
It's...
198. Malcolm was originally going to buy a car, but he bought a motor-cycle instead.
Instead...
199. Please explain this letter to me.
Please tell me...

200. You cannot go into that restaurant without a jacket and tie.
Unless...
201. It is high time for us to go home.
It's time we...
202. I can study properly only if I sit at a desk.
Sitting at a desk...
203. Jennifer regretted her foolish behaviour.
Jennifer wished...
204. We took more clothes than we needed on holiday last summer.
We needn't...
205. Is it really necessary for me to arrive so early?
Do I...
206. Someone has stolen the boss's car.
The boss has...
207. Take an umbrella with you. It may rain this afternoon.
Take an umbrella in...
208. We worked on the garden the whole weekend.
We spent...
209. Two new suits are being made for him.
He is...
210. Leonard felt sick because he was eating polluted shellfish.
If Leonard...
211. The only thing I forgot to put in the picnic basket was the bottle-opener.
I remembered...
212. It is said that he escaped to a neutral country.
He...
213. Oil was slowly covering the sand of the beach.
The sand of the beach...
214. In spite of all our efforts, we failed.
Although...
215. We'd prefer you not to wear those slippers in the office, Miss Blake.
We'd rather...
216. The storm blew the roof off the house.
The house...
217. You really should be able to dress yourself by now, Elsie.
It's time you...
218. This is the quickest way to get into the centre of the city.
There's...
219. Only one person knew what had caused the fire.
The cause...
220. I don't think this punch-bowl has enough brandy in it.
There is too...
221. Provided your handwriting is legible, the examiners will accept your paper.
As long as the examiners...
222. I'll take a mackintosh because it may rain this evening.
In case...
223. There are a lot of people dependent on him.
He...
224. What I admire most about him is his absolute frankness.
His absolute frankness, more...

225. How did you get the idea that they're rich?
What made...?
226. We could have done more for them really.
We didn't...
227. I won't keep you long. I know you're in a hurry.
I won't take up...
228. As one grows older one becomes more intolerant.
The older...
229. The fourth time he asked her to marry him, she accepted.
Only on his fourth...
230. Immediately after his arrival home a water-heater exploded.
Hardly...
231. Patricia loves Mozart, and above all his operas.
Patricia loves Mozart, but what...
232. Whoever did that must have been a very brave person.
Only...
233. Doris tiptoed up the stairs because she didn't want to wake anyone up.
For fear...
234. 'Why didn't you invite us too?' she said reproachfully.
She said: 'You might... ?'
235. Nancy is proud of being a good cook.
Nancy prides...
236. My protests were ignored by everybody.
Nobody...
237. I'm sure it was by mistake that he took your umbrella.
I'm sure he didn't...
238. We'll arrive soon – and then we'll all be able to have a beer.
Once...
239. Katherine is the only real friend that Dolly has.
Except...
240. It's a great pity you wrote that letter.
I wish...
241. Ralph's passport was nowhere to be found.
Nobody...
242. The last time we were here was in 1980.
We...
243. Rita doesn't realise how serious her husband's operation is going to be.
Little...
244. He decided to repair the thing himself and not to take it back to the shop.
Rather...
245. 'Please don't drive so fast!' Kathleen begged her boyfriend.
Kathleen pleaded...
246. Offering her more money wouldn't make any difference.
Even if...
247. But for Ivor's help we would have been in serious trouble.
If...
248. Driving at that speed is dangerous on this road, whether you are an experienced driver or not, Sir.
However...
249. Your hair really needs cutting, doesn't it, Paddy?
Your hair really must...

250. It's such a wonderful opportunity that we mustn't miss it.
It's too...
251. Paul left the room without saying a word.
Paul didn't...
252. I don't like this food as much as you do.
You...
253. What particularly impressed me was her accent-free pronunciation.
I...
254. The result of the match was never in doubt.
At no time...
255. This will be the orchestra's first performance outside London.
This will be the first time...
256. How long has this roof been leaking?
When... ?
257. A waiter spilled soup over Lydia's new dress last night.
Lydia...
258. I haven't heard from home recently.
My...
259. I suppose you didn't enjoy that party very much, did you?
You can't...
260. It's a good thing I had my cheque-book on me. We would have been in trouble otherwise.
If...
261. It would be a good idea if you went and asked her yourself.
You'd...
262. The violent criticism of the Prime Minister was quite unjustified.
There...
263. Whose is that car outside the gate?
Who does... ?
264. If it doesn't rain soon, a lot of our crops will be lost.
Unless...
265. It won't make any difference if it rains because we'll still go.
We'll still go...
266. I would do anything in the world for him.
There's...
267. Veronica remembered and so did Dorothy.
Veronica didn't...
268. What would your own reaction have been?
What reaction... ?
269. Aren't they ever going to bring us the breakfast I ordered for 8 o'clock?
Aren't we... ?
270. The people who were there can remember nothing unusual happening.
Nobody who...
271. It was my refusal to obey the policeman that caused my arrest.
It was because I...