

Merit Online Learning Grammar Rules and Review

High School, Higher Education, Workplace, Intermediate and Advanced ESL students.

Designed for use on any desktop, laptop, or tablet with a high-speed Internet connection. JavaScript required.

What Does Grammar Rules and Review Do?

Grammar Rules and Review is a guide to help students improve their writing. It provides explanations for 10 essential English grammar skills using targeted exercises, with built-in tracking.

Concepts covered include run-on sentences, fused sentences, fragments, comma, misplaced and dangling modifiers, irregular verbs, apostrophes, subject verb agreement, pronoun antecedent agreement, and parallel structure.

Scope of the Program: Skills

There are 62 sets of skill activities within 10 program units of the Grammar Rules and Review program. A list of the skills covered in Grammar Rules and Review is provided near the end of this guide.

Implementation

The program can be used as a teaching tool, reference guide, supplement, or co-requisite. It is ideal for online, hybrid, and blended learning environments.

When used as a supplement or co-requisite for best results we recommend that students use the program 20 to 30 minutes a session, two to three times a week. Usage should be paced to allow students enough time between sessions to absorb the material.

Each Grammar Rules and Review program unit is split into two sections:

Warm-up – allows students to cover individual skills within a program unit Finals – allows students to test their understanding of a program unit.

The Warm-up section of the program allows students to cover individual skills. Immediate feedback is provided after a student answers a question, regardless of whether it is correct.

The Warm-up section is designed so that students may do as many rounds as necessary to master the material.

Tracking students' work

Students and teachers can track improvement through students' Online Portfolios and Reports. Using these tools to view the Warm-up rounds informs students and teachers of what skills students are mastering and what skills students are having difficulty mastering.

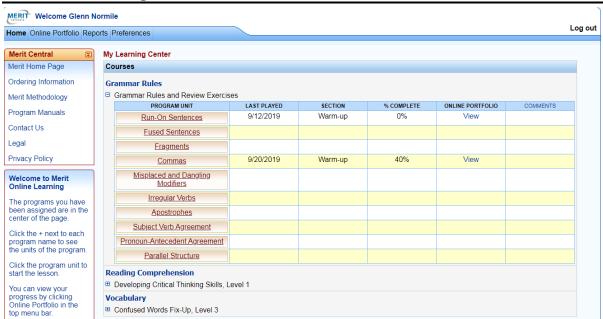
Teacher Orientation to Program Structure or "Anatomy of the Program"

The **Grammar Rules and Review** program appears in the student's Learning Center.

The student clicks the + next to the **Grammar Rules and Review** program level to see the units of the level.

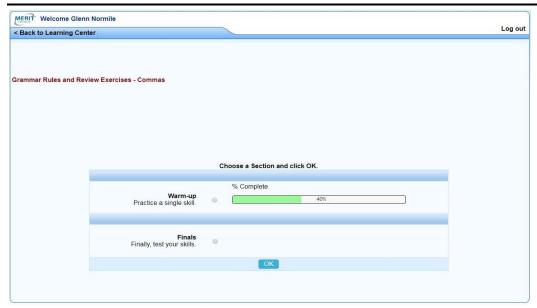
The student clicks the unit name to start a lesson.

Student's Learning Center



Next, the student selects a section. The section menu indicates whether the student has done the **Warm-Up** and Finals and the % complete for the **Warm-Up**.

Section Menu



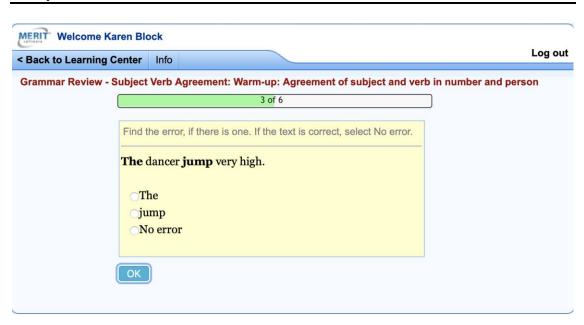
Students can choose a different background at the start of each section. can adjust the text size and choose a different background color at the start of each section. At the start of the Warm-up, they can also choose a graphic reward theme.

Display Options: Background Color



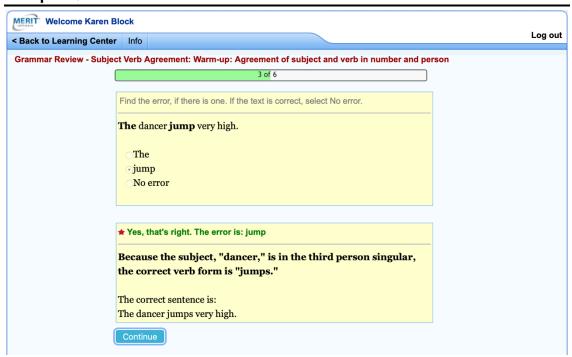
In all sections the student is presented with a text and asked to find the error among several highlighted choices.

Sample Question



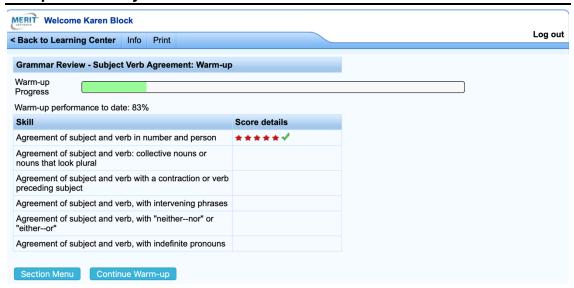
Feedback and help messages are shown in the Warm-up Section.

Sample Question with Feedback



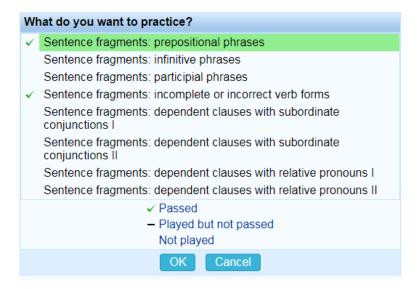
Following each round, the student sees a summary screen showing his/her progress and achievement in that round.

Sample Summary Screen

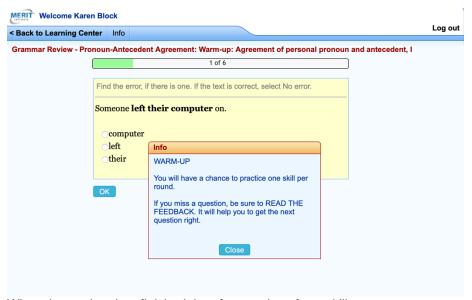


Section Details

WARM-UP: The student selects one skill to practice per round. **In order to pass a skill, a student must get 5 out of 6 questions correct.** To pass a skill in the Warm-up, the student must make six correct choices out of seven questions in a round.



The status bar at the top of the Warm-up screen shows the question count for the round.



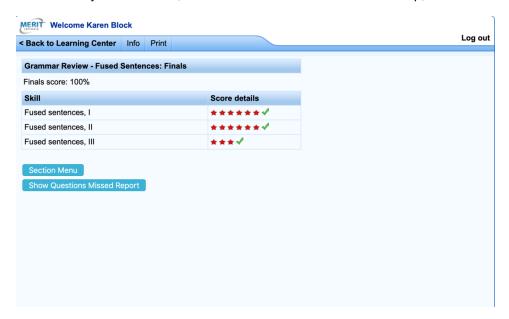
When the student has finished the **six** questions for a skill, a summary screen will show how the student did. The student gets a star for each correct answer. Red stars show correct answers for the current round. Gray stars show correct answers for preceding rounds. The summary screen shows checks for the skills the student has passed in the **Warm-Up** The bar at the top of the summary screen indicates how far along the student is in the **Warm-up**.

The program is designed so students may continue to work on a Warm-Up even if they see an indication that they are "Done." Students may repeat a Warm-Up an infinite number of times, but scoring does not reset. Cumulative time of use is tracked in the Online Portfolio

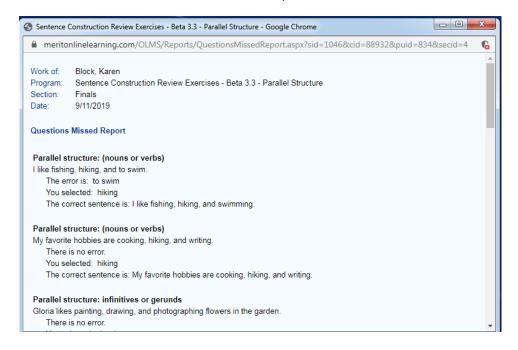
FINALS: The student will be given a set amount of questions (based on the number of skills in a unit), three questions for each skill in the unit. To pass a skill in the Finals, the student must make correct choices for all three questions. The status bar at the top of the screen shows how far along the student is in the Finals.

When the student has finished all the questions, a summary screen will show how the student did. The student gets a star for each correct answer and a check for skills the student has passed.

Students may retake Finals, but scores are reset. Like the Warm-Up, cumulative time is tracked.



Students and Teachers may view the Questions Missed Report to see any questions the student missed on the Finals. The report includes what the student answered, the correct answer, and the correct sentence. The Questions Missed Report is also available in the Online Portfolio.



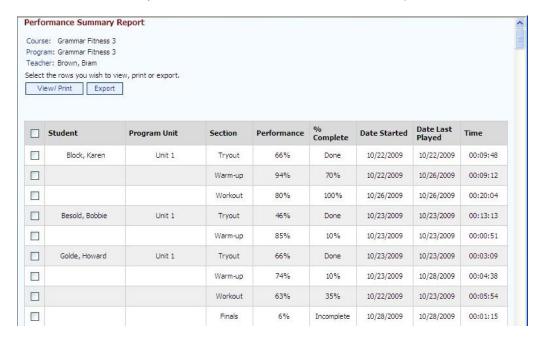
Monitoring Student Work in the Online Portfolio

The Online Portfolio shows the student's summary screen for the most recently played section in the unit. To see the student's progress click the other sections' radio buttons to view their summary screens. The Fitness Performance Detail also includes overview information about the unit such as the % complete, time, and performance score for each section.



Monitoring Student Work with Reports

Reports show student progress and performance through the sections of the program. Performance Summary, Work-to-Date, and Performance Detail reports are available:



Skills Covered in Grammar Rules and Review

Run-On Sentences

Run-on sentences because of comma fault Run-on sentences: use of end punctuation

Fused Sentences

Fused sentences, I Fused sentences, II Fused sentences, III

Fragments

Sentence fragments: propositional phrases Sentence fragments: infinitive phrases Sentence fragments: participial phrases

Sentence fragments: incomplete or incorrect verb forms

Sentence fragments: dependent clauses with subordinate conjunctions I Sentence fragments: dependent clauses with subordinate conjunctions II

Sentence fragments: dependent clauses with relative pronouns I Sentence fragments: dependent clauses with relative pronouns II

Commas

The comma in a series
The comma with nouns in apposition
The comma to set off transitional words
The comma between coordinate modifiers
The comma with nouns in direct address

Misplaced and Dangling Modifiers

Misplaced modifiers: adverbs and prepositional phrases

Misplaced modifiers: participial phrases

Dangling modifiers, I Dangling modifiers, II Dangling modifiers, III Dangling modifiers, IV

Misplaced modifiers: phrases and clauses

Misplaced modifiers: phrases

Squinting modifiers

Misplaced modifiers: dependent clauses

Irregular Verbs

Simple past tense of irregular verbs, I Simple past tense of irregular verbs, II Simple past tense of irregular verbs, III Past participles of irregular verbs, I Past participles of irregular verbs, II

Apostrophes

Possessive of singular nouns: 's

Whose, who's

Possessive pronoun: its, not it's

Making a singular noun possessive, using's

Contraction of it is: it's, not its

Possessive pronoun: your, not you're

Contraction of you are: you're, not your Possessive pronoun: theirs, not there's Contraction of there is: there's, not theirs

Subject Verb Agreement

Agreement of subject and verb in number and person
Agreement of subject and verb: collective nouns or nouns that look plural
Agreement of subject and verb with a contraction or verb preceding subject
Agreement of subject and verb, with intervening phrases
Agreement of subject and verb, with "neither--nor" or "either--or"
Agreement of subject and verb, with indefinite pronouns

Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement

Agreement of personal pronoun and antecedent, I
Agreement of personal pronoun and antecedent, II
Agreement of personal pronoun and singular or plural antecedent
Agreement of pronoun/antecedent: collective nouns or nouns that look plural
Agreement of indefinite pronoun and antecedent, I
Agreement of indefinite pronoun and antecedent, II
Lack of pronoun-antecedent agreement

Parallel Structure

Parallel structure: (nouns or verbs)
Parallel structure: infinitives or gerunds
Parallel structure (nouns or phrases)
Parallel structure (nouns, gerunds or phrases)
Faulty parallelism (two similar ideas)
Faulty parallelism (two or three similar ideas)
Faulty parallelism (similar ideas in a series)

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