

## How to use words appropriately

### Before you begin

#### What you need:

Related text: **“Dance with a Giraffe” by Christine Jurzykowski**  
*Exit with Success* and *The Bare Essentials Plus* (optional)  
An English dictionary

Approximate time this exercise should take you: **15 minutes**

### Reminder

Be careful to select the appropriate words to convey your intended meaning. Pay attention not to select an incorrect preposition, confuse words that have a similar sound (especially if English is your second language), or choose the wrong form of the word, such as writing “interested” when you actually mean “interesting.” It is very important to use an English dictionary at the English Exit Exam.

### Instructions

The following exercise is designed to reinforce and test your understanding of the “appropriate use of words” objective. This exercise focuses on errors resulting from second language interference and incorrect choice of prepositions and idioms. Rewrite the following sentences, correcting the errors in bold. The first one has been corrected for you as an example.

# Exercise

1. Jurzykowski goes **at** the giraffe house where they had moved Old Nick, and develops an **interested relation** with the dying animal.

Jurzykowski goes **at [to]** the giraffe house where they had moved Old Nick and develops an **interested [interesting] relation [relationship]** with the dying animal.

2. During the **cours** of her essay the author **advices** the reader to respect all of nature through her **creditable** description of this experience.

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3. The author uses the literary technique of **illusion** when she makes the **ingenuous** reference to Fossil Rim as dinosaur country; she wants the reader to associate it with primeval **conscienceness**.

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4. This **personnel** essay deals with the narrator's moving experience as she tries to give Old Nick a **descent** preparation **by** his final rite of passage.

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5. She **infers** to the reader that the **quite** hours she has spent with the giraffe allowed her to merge with a **grande** collective consciousness.

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6. The **dancing** metaphor **compliments** the **musical** and **choreograph** references in the text.

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7. From a very early age, the author developed an **intimate** with nature because she had **formally adapted** an orphaned baby anteater.

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8. Because of the peaceful and **quite** time that Jurzykowski spent with her animals, she was able to write an essay **with** the possibility of an **intimacy**, gentle, and direct relationship with nature.

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9. We might wonder **with** the principles of the people who run this ranch; these are wild animals that should be **lose** in their **one** countries.

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10. “Dance with a Giraffe” could **of being** written **has** a dry description of the death of a giraffe; instead it is a moving, poetic essay exploring the spiritual connections shared **in** all living creatures.

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# Answer key

*Compare your corrections with those in the answer key below.*

1. Jurzykowski goes **to** the giraffe house where they had moved Old Nick, and develops an **interesting relationship** with the dying animal.
2. During the **course** of her essay the author **advises** the reader to respect all of nature through her **credible** description of this experience.
3. The author uses the literary technique of **allusion** when she makes the **ingenious** reference to Fossil Rim as dinosaur country; she wants the reader to associate it with primeval **consciousness**.
4. This **personal** essay deals with the narrator's moving experience as she tries to give Old Nick a **decent** preparation **for** his final rite of passage.
5. She **implies** to the reader that the **quiet** hours she has spent with the giraffe allowed her to merge with a **larger** collective consciousness.
6. The **dance** metaphor **complements** the **music** and **choreography** references in the text.
7. From a very early age, the author developed an **intimacy** with nature because she had **formerly adopted** an orphaned baby anteater.
8. Because of the peaceful and **quiet** time that Jurzykowski spent with her animals, she was able to write an essay **about** the possibility of an **intimate**, gentle, and direct relationship with nature.
9. We might wonder **about** the principles of the people who run this ranch; these are wild animals that should be **loose** in their **own** countries.
10. "Dance with a Giraffe" could **have been** written **as** a dry description of the death of a giraffe; instead, it is a moving, poetic essay exploring the spiritual connections shared **by** all living creatures.