Read the numbered sentences carefully. Decide if there are any punctuation errors, and if so, choose among the letter choices for the correct way to punctuate the sentence. If you find there is no error, choose the letter choice "no error."

1. **There was a huge pipe leaking in the boys' restroom at BHS.**
   - A. There was a huge pipe leaking in the boys restroom.
   - B. There was a huge pipe leaking in the boy's restroom.
   - C. There was a huge pipe leaking in the boy restroom.
   - D. No error

2. **The elf's little outfit was green and furry.**
   - A. The elf's little outfit was green and furry.
   - B. The elf little outfit was green and furry.
   - C. The elf's little outfit was green and furry.
   - D. No error

3. **Tom employer paid him several extra dollars for his work.**
   - A. Tom's employer paid him several extra dollars for his work.
   - B. Toms' employer paid him several extra dollars for his work.
   - C. Toms employer paid him several extra dollars for his work.
   - D. No error

4. **The piece of paper edges show lots of wear and tear.**
   - A. The piece of paper's edges show lots of wear and tear.
   - B. The piece of papers edges show lots of wear and tear.
   - C. The piece of papers' edges show lots of wear and tear.
   - D. No error
5. The runner's clothes were thrown out the window, and they had to wear gym clothes all day long.

A. The runner's clothes were thrown out the window, and they had to wear gym clothes all day long.
B. The runners' clothes were thrown out the window, and they had to wear gym clothes all day long.
C. The runners' clothes were thrown out the window, and they had to wear gym clothes all day long.
D. No error

6. He wasn't at the game because he was sick.

A. He wasn't at the game because he was sick.
B. He wasn't at the game because he was sick.
C. He wasn't at the game because he was sick.
D. No error

7. Doesn't he want people to help him wash the dishes?

A. Doesn't he want people to help him wash the dishes?
B. Does't he want people to help him wash the dishes?
C. Doesn't he want people to help him wash the dishes?
D. No error

8. It isn't time to express your opinion.

A. It isn't time to express your opinion.
B. It isn't time to express your opinion.
C. It isn't time to express your opinion.
D. No error

9. Your her best friend, so maybe you can talk her out of it.

A. Yours her best friend, so maybe you can talk her out of it.
B. You're her best friend, so maybe you can talk her out of it.
C. You her best friend, so maybe you can talk her out of it.
D. No error
10. I'm thinking of becoming a doctor when I grow up.

☐ A. Im thinking of becoming a doctor when I grow up.
☐ B. Im' thinking of becoming a doctor when I grow up.
☐ C. I'm am thinking of becoming a doctor when I grow up.
☐ D. No error

_____ /10 correct x 10 = _____ /100 = ____%

Continued practice with apostrophes: contractions vs. possessive personal pronouns

It is not uncommon for students to confuse contractions and possessive pronouns, but for clarity purposes, they must be learned and quickly.

- **Contractions** are expressed by condensing two words into one. One or more letters are removed from the original words and an apostrophe is added to take their place. The following are some common contractions: I'd, you'd, he'll, don't, couldn’t, wouldn’t, who’s, let’s, etc. Used in moderation contractions are effective tools.

Example: The original sentence may read: You should not be walking this late.

The contraction would then read: You shouldn’t be walking this late.

- **Possessive nouns** and **pronouns** are people, places, things, qualities or ideas that indicate ownership or possession. Pronouns are words that in most cases can be used in place of a noun.

Example: Noun (proper or common): Nancy spotted Roy.

Possessive Noun: Nancy spotted Roy’s car.

Possessives, as we have learned before, are often formed by adding an’s to the original noun, though there are other rules that apply based on plurality and whether the noun ends in an s. However, possessives pronouns already show possession just by the use of that word.

Example: Pronoun: Nancy spotted him.

Possessive pronoun: Nancy spotted his car.

Other possessive pronouns are its, their, whose, and your, while the contraction form is it’s, they’re, who’s, and you’re.

Try to use the SUBSTITUTION TEST: I.e. If you can substitute THEY ARE for THEY’RE then that is the correct usage. If you can’t then the possessive pronoun must be used.
Practice Quiz: For the following, fill in the blank with the word that correctly completes the sentence:

1. _________ home was destroyed by fire. (They’re, There, Their)
2. _________ never going to believe what happened (Your, You’re)
3. Do you know _________ in command? (who’s, whose)
4. ______ not too late to stop smoking. (It’s, Its)
5. Do you know who _________ going with? (they’re, there, their)
6. Have you finished _________ report? (your, you’re)
7. _________ helmet is this? (Whose, who’s)
8. The dog injured _________ paw. (it’s, its)
9. _________ were no witnesses. (They’re, There, Their)
10. We’ll host the drill if _______ alright with everyone. (it’s, its)
11. He is a pitcher _________ career is in trouble. (whose, who’s, whos’)
12. He is a pitcher _________ capable of throwing a 100-mph fastball. (whose, who’s, whos’)
13. The tree needed fertilizer because _________ leaves were yellow. (it’s, its, its’)
14. My mother always said, “___________ going to go far in life.” (You’re, Your, Yours)
15. I don’t think that _________ too late to start studying for your English test tomorrow. (it’s, its, its’)
16. Sarah’s new car looks great, but _________ muffler is almost dragging on the ground. (it’s, its, its’)
17. Whose car is that? Is that _________? (hers, hers’, her’s)
18. The car couldn’t be _________; _________ a manual, and he can’t drive a car with a stick shift. (his/it’s, his’/it’s, his/its)
19. Do you always listen to _________ radio loudly when _________ driving down Main street? (your/you’re, your/you, you’re/your, you’re/you’re)
20. How does what _________ doing make you happy? (you’re, your)

\[ \frac{\text{_______}}{20} \times 5 = \frac{\text{_______}}{100} = \text{______}\% \]

Checked by: ______________________