Use the right arrow key on your keyboard to advance slides.

# Writing Skills Assessment

How good are your copyediting skills?

Take this 3-part, 15-point

copyediting quiz to test your

command of usage, grammar

and punctuation.

Count your correct choices.

Ready?

Part 1: Usage

1. The list is comprised of /

composed of 75 common errors.

1. The list is comprised of /

[composed of] 75 common errors.

2. I'm not looking for compliments

<u>/ complements</u>.

2. I'm not looking for [compliments]

<u>/ complements</u>.

3. I don't intend to push the issue

further / farther.

3. I don't intend to push the issue

[further] / farther.

4. The last thing I want to do is

persuade / convince you that I

never make mistakes.

4. The last thing I want to do is

persuade / [convince] you that I

never make mistakes.

5. Here is the principle / principal

point for business writers.

5. Here is the <u>principle / [principal]</u>

point for business writers.

Usage: 5

**Usage:** 

5 (See correct word choice.)

Part 2: Grammar

1. The complexity of the problems

1. The complexity of the problems

1. The complexity of the problems

1. The complexity (of the problems)

1. The complexity

2. The Good Writing Press may

have to trim their payroll,

however, the company is

expecting new demand for it's

2. The Good Writing Press may

have to trim [its] payroll,

however, the company is

expecting new demand for it's

2. The Good Writing Press may

have to trim [its] payroll[.]

However, the company is

expecting new demand for it's

2. The Good Writing Press may

have to trim [its] payroll[;]

however, the company is

expecting new demand for it's

2. The Good Writing Press may

have to trim [its] payroll[;]

however, the company is

expecting new demand for [its]

3. Good communication skills can

help managers affect change.

3. Good communication skills can

help managers [e]ffect change.

4. Our procedures for following up

on delinquent accounts are

inconsistent, incomplete, and

not reliable.

4. Our procedures for following up

on delinquent accounts are

inconsistent, incomplete, and

not reliable.

4. Our procedures for following up

on delinquent accounts are

inconsistent, incomplete, and

[un]reliable.

**Usage:** 

(See correct word choice.)

Grammar: 6

Usage: 5 (See correct word choice.)

Grammar: 6 (See three common errors.)

**Part 3: Punctuation** 

"To communicate effectively you

must know three things your

audience your purpose and

"To communicate effectively[,] you

must know three things your

audience your purpose and

"To communicate effectively[,] you

must know three things[:] your

audience your purpose and

"To communicate effectively[,] you

must know three things[:] your

audience[,] your purpose and

"To communicate effectively[,] you

must know three things[:] your

audience[,] your purpose(,) and

"To communicate effectively[,] you

must know three things[:] your

audience[,] your purpose(,) and

Usage: 5 (See correct word choice.)

Grammar: 6 (See three common errors.)

**Punctuation: 4** 

Usage: 5 (See correct word choice.)

Grammar: 6 (See three common errors.)

Punctuation: 4 (See punctuation errors.)

Usage: 5 (See correct word choice.)

Grammar: 6 (See three common errors.)

Punctuation: 4 (See punctuation errors.)

Total: 15

See my <u>column</u> for explanations of the correct choices.