

Exercise 2 – Grammaticality Judgments

Provide your own grammaticality judgments for the following sentences. Place an asterisk (*) to the left of sentences you judge to be ungrammatical, a question mark (?) next to the sentences you judge to be a little off, and a check mark next to the sentences you judge to be grammatical. Remember, ignore prescriptivist ideals. Focus on your own actual language. This ain't no writing test!

1. *John went to the store.*
2. *John to went the store.*
3. *John goed to the store.*
4. *John never been to the store.*
5. *I ain't hungry.*
6. *I am not hungry.*
7. *I not am hungry.*
8. *John went to the store is what happened.*
9. *What happened is John went to the store.*
10. *The happy couple are on vacation.*
11. *The happy couple is on vacation.*
12. *Where she at?*
13. *Where she be?*
14. *Who she be?*
15. *Who be she?*
16. *Whom are you?*
17. *Whom killed Mary?*
18. *Who killed Mary?*
19. *Who Mary killed?*
20. *Whom Mary killed?*

21. *Whom killed?*
22. *Who killed?*
23. *Who do you think that killed her?*
24. *John had smacked Mary.*
25. *John smacked.*
26. *John smacked Mary the porch.*
27. *John smacked Mary on the porch.*
28. *John and me love baseball.*
29. *Me and John love baseball.*
30. *John and I love baseball.*
31. *I and John love baseball.*
32. *John saw me pulling weeds from the garden.*
33. *John saw I pulling weeds from the garden.*
34. *John saw Bill and I pulling weeds from the garden.*
35. *John saw Bill and me pulling weeds from the garden.*
36. *Very big dog died.*
37. *Saw Mary yesterday; she looked great!*
38. *John went to the store and dropped dead.*
39. *John went to the store and John dropped dead.*