PUNCTUATION EXERCISES

Now that you understand most of the rules of punctuation, you may like to test yourself by correcting the following sentences. The answers are given on the next page.

1. The new regulations will prove to be everyone’s disadvantage.

2. All of these books are to be catalogued the ones on geology natural history philosophy and scientific method.

3. As well as being an excellent basketball player the girl was also a member of the winning squash team.

4. The point is according to my understanding that we should move quickly.

5. Instead Chambers 1988 suggests the importance of the genetic influence in determining the antecedents.

6. It was found however that most of the liquid could not be absorbed.

7. The miner his face covered in mud climbed slowly out.

8. The trend toward specialization is very clear particularly in the professions see Table 2.

9. Once daylight came we thought we were safe however this was not to be.

10. Keats poem ‘To Autumn’ is possibly the greatest evocation of that season ever written.

11. After their long walk the boys noses were red with cold.

12. It’s not easy to isolate its cause but we think its due to the torrential rain we had recently.

13. The car left the road rolled down the bank turned over several times hit a free and then burst into flames.

14. Gourmets and aren’t we all gourmets will particularly enjoy the marinated quail.

15. It was a rather hit or miss affair we found to our horror that we were expected to provide the entertainment as well.
SUGGESTED ANSWERS TO PUNCTUATION EXERCISES

1. The new regulations will prove to be to everyone’s disadvantage.

2. All of these books are to be catalogued: the ones on geology, natural history, philosophy and scientific method.

3. As well as being an excellent basketball player, the girl was also a member of the winning squash team.

4. The point is, according to my understanding, that we should move quickly.

5. Instead, Chambers (1988) suggests the importance of the genetic influence in determining the antecedents.

6. It was found, however, that most of the liquid could not be absorbed.

7. The miner, his face covered in mud, climbed slowly out of the pit.

8. The trend toward specialization is very dear — particularly in the professions (see Table 2).

9. Once daylight came we thought we were safe; however, this was not to be.

10. Keats’ poem ‘To Autumn’ is possibly the greatest evocation of that season ever written.

11. After their long walk the boys’ noses were red with cold.

12. It’s not easy to isolate its cause, but we think it’s due to the torrential rain we had recently.

13. The car left the road, rolled down the bank, turned over several times, hit a tree, and then burst into flames.

14. Gourmets (and aren’t we all gourmets?) will particularly enjoy the marinated quail.

15. It was a rather hit-or-miss affair; we found to our horror that we were expected to provide the entertainment as well!