

STUDENT NAME: _____ DATE: _____ GRADE / CLASS: _____ SCORE: _____

LESSON 55 • SENTENCE BUILDING & SYNTAX MECHANICS

Original Page 34 • Capital Letters & Periods

Textbook Rule: Arrange the scrambled words to form two sensible sentences. Remember to begin each sentence with a **capital letter** and end it with a **period** (.).**1** Arrange these words into a complete sentence:

rain the calls when the comes wind

2 Arrange these words into a complete sentence:

birds the singing are song a joyous

3 Punctuation Detective: Rewrite each sentence with a capital letter and a period:

a. the gentle rain fell softly upon the green wheat

b. two merry birds sang from high branches in the sky

c. a brisk cold wind swept across the open fields

4 Write your own complete sentence using two words from the lesson (*wind, rain, birds, song*):**RULES TO REMEMBER • LESSON 55****Rule 1 • Capital Letters**Every sentence **MUST** start with a **Capital letter** (e.g., *The*, *When*, *A*).**Rule 2 • Sensible Word Order**

Words must form a complete thought with a naming part (subject) and an action part (predicate).

Rule 3 • End PunctuationEvery telling sentence ends with a **period** (.). Never forget your stop sign!

TEACHER: Master Key / Syntax Guide

LEVEL: Grade 2 / Primary Grammar

FOCUS: Sentence Construction & Mechanics

STANDARD: Wheeler Page 34 (Lesson 55)

LESSON 55 • TEACHER INSTRUCTIONAL KEY & SYNTAX MATRIX

Page 34 • Word Order, Capitalization & Punctuation

Pedagogical Purpose: Develops syntactic awareness and grammatical self-monitoring. Students transition from isolated word reading to structured sentence generation, practicing subject-predicate agreement, capitalization, and end punctuation.

SYNTAX MATRIX

SYNTACTIC ELEMENT	CONSTITUENT WORDS	GRAMMATICAL ROLE	INSTRUCTIONAL NOTES
Sentence 1 Structure (Complex/Compound)	The wind calls when the rain comes	Main clause: Subject (<i>The wind</i>) + Verb (<i>calls</i>). Adverbial clause: Subordinator (<i>when</i>) + Subject (<i>the rain</i>) + Verb (<i>comes</i>).	Acceptable variations: "The wind calls when the rain comes." or "When the rain comes, the wind calls."
Sentence 2 Structure (Simple S-V-O)	The birds are singing a joyous song	Subject (<i>The birds</i>) + Verb phrase (<i>are singing</i> , present continuous) + Direct object with adjective (<i>a joyous song</i>).	Highlight noun-verb agreement (plural <i>birds</i> with <i>are</i>). Note vocabulary word <i>joyous</i> (/ˈdʒoɪəs/).
Mechanics Rules (Capital & Period)	Capital T Capital W Period (.)	Signaling boundaries of thought: upper case for initial word, full stop for sentence closure.	Reinforce that capitalization is an essential orthographic cue, not optional decoration.
Vocabulary & Phonics (Review Connections)	rain (ai = /eɪ/) wind (short i) joyous (diphthong oy)	Consolidates phonics from prior lessons: digraph <i>ai</i> from Lessons 53–54; introduces suffix <i>-ous</i> .	Ask students to spot the <i>ai</i> digraph in <i>rain</i> to connect with Margaret E. Sangster's poem.

EXERCISES 1, 2, 3, & 4: COMPLETE MASTER SOLUTIONS

Exercise 1 (Sentence 1):

- Primary Key: "The wind calls when the rain comes."
- Alternative Key: "When the rain comes, the wind calls." (or "When the wind comes, the rain calls.")

Exercise 2 (Sentence 2):

- Key: "The birds are singing a joyous song."

Exercise 3 (Punctuation Detective):

- a. "The gentle rain fell softly upon the green wheat."
- b. "Two merry birds sang from high branches in the sky."
- c. "A brisk cold wind swept across the open fields."

Exercise 4 (Student Sentence): Check for capital letter at start, sensible word order, correct spelling of target words, and a period at the end.

ORAL PRACTICE & SOCRATIC GUIDANCE

Socratic Prompt 1 (Sentence Boundary)

"How do our eyes know where a complete thought begins and ends? A tall capital letter opens the door, and a period closes it!"

Socratic Prompt 2 (Subject-Verb Flow)

"When words are scrambled, always find who or what is doing something first. Who is singing? *The birds!* What are they singing? *A joyous song!*"

Oral Practice Sentence 1 (wind, rain, calls)

"The wind calls when the rain comes down."

Oral Practice Sentence 2 (birds, joyous, song)

"The merry birds are singing a joyous song."

Oral Practice Sentence 3 (wheat, wind, sway)

"The golden wheat begins to sway when the cold wind blows."

Oral Practice Sentence 4 (gladness, sunshine, rain)

"Sunshine and rain bring gladness to the wheat fields."