How to use words appropriately

Before you begin

What you need:
Related text: “Dance with a Giraffe” by Christine Jurzykowski
Exit with Success and The Bare Essentials Plus (optional)
An English dictionary

Approximate time this exercise should take you: 15 minutes

Reminder

Be careful to select the appropriate words to convey your intended meaning. Pay attention not to select an incorrect preposition, confuse words that have a similar sound (especially if English is your second language), or choose the wrong form of the word, such as writing “interested” when you actually mean “interesting.” It is very important to use an English dictionary at the English Exit Exam.

Instructions

The following exercise is designed to reinforce and test your understanding of the “appropriate use of words” objective. This exercise focuses on errors resulting from second language interference and incorrect choice of prepositions and idioms. Rewrite the following sentences, correcting the errors in bold. The first one has been corrected for you as an example.
Exercise

1. Jurzykowski goes at the giraffe house where they had moved Old Nick, and develops an interested relation with the dying animal.

   Jurzykowski goes at [to] the giraffe house where they had moved Old Nick and develops an interested [interesting] relation [relationship] with the dying animal.

2. During the cours of her essay the author advices the reader to respect all of nature through her creditable description of this experience.

3. The author uses the literary technique of illusion when she makes the ingenuous reference to Fossil Rim as dinosaur country; she wants the reader to associate it with primeval conscientness.

4. This personnel essay deals with the narrator’s moving experience as she tries to give Old Nick a descent preparation by his final rite of passage.
5. She infers to the reader that the quite hours she has spent with the giraffe allowed her to merge with a grande collective consciousness.

6. The dancing metaphor compliments the musical and choreograph references in the text.

7. From a very early age, the author developed an intimate with nature because she had formally adapted an orphaned baby anteater.

8. Because of the peaceful and quite time that Jurzykowski spent with her animals, she was able to write an essay with the possibility of an intimacy, gentle, and direct relationship with nature.

9. We might wonder with the principles of the people who run this ranch; these are wild animals that should be lose in their one countries.
10. “Dance with a Giraffe” could **of being** written **has** a dry description of the death of a giraffe; instead it is a moving, poetic essay exploring the spiritual connections shared **in** all living creatures.
Compare your corrections with those in the answer key below.

1. Jurzykowski goes to the giraffe house where they had moved Old Nick, and develops an interesting relationship with the dying animal.

2. During the course of her essay the author advises the reader to respect all of nature through her credible description of this experience.

3. The author uses the literary technique of allusion when she makes the ingenious reference to Fossil Rim as dinosaur country; she wants the reader to associate it with primeval consciousness.

4. This personal essay deals with the narrator’s moving experience as she tries to give Old Nick a decent preparation for his final rite of passage.

5. She implies to the reader that the quiet hours she has spent with the giraffe allowed her to merge with a larger collective consciousness.

6. The dance metaphor complements the music and choreography references in the text.

7. From a very early age, the author developed an intimacy with nature because she had formerly adopted an orphaned baby anteater.

8. Because of the peaceful and quiet time that Jurzykowski spent with her animals, she was able to write an essay about the possibility of an intimate, gentle, and direct relationship with nature.

9. We might wonder about the principles of the people who run this ranch; these are wild animals that should be loose in their own countries.

10. “Dance with a Giraffe” could have been written as a dry description of the death of a giraffe; instead, it is a moving, poetic essay exploring the spiritual connections shared by all living creatures.