Grammar Skills

Sentence Structure Practice II (KEY)

*Note that the grammatical errors in these sentences could be corrected in many ways. The corrections in the answer key are not the only ways to correct the errors.
1. Bo’s mom was disappointed in him, he was a bully.
   
   Correct/Incorrect: I
   
   Grammar error: comma splice
   
   Correction: Bo’s mom was disappointed in him; he was a bully.

2. Although Lydia wants her son to do well in school, she encourages him to finish his homework on time.
   
   Correct/Incorrect: I
   
   Grammar error: faulty logical relation between clauses
   
   Correction: Because Lydia wants her son to do well in school, she encourages him to finish his homework on time.

3. Skiing down the slippery hill, the ice nearly made Joanne fall.
   
   Correct/Incorrect: I
   
   Grammar error: dangling modifier
   
   Correction: Skiing down the slippery hill, Joanne nearly fell on the ice.

4. Cars, the movie, are my son’s favourite thing to watch during our Friday night movie marathons.
   
   Correct/Incorrect: I
   
   Grammar error: faulty subject-verb agreement
   
   Correction: Cars, the movie, is my son’s favourite thing to watch during our Friday night movie marathons.

5. The man in the yellow jacket walked next to a woman in a green jacket.
   
   Correct/Incorrect: C
   
   Grammar error: n/a
   
   Correction: n/a
6. In *The Yellow Wallpaper*, the themes characterize the main character, Jane, as someone with a mental illness.
   
   Correct/Incorrect: I
   
   Grammar error: faulty predication
   
   Correction: In *The Yellow Wallpaper*, the author characterizes the main character, Jane, as someone with a mental illness.

7. Frances caught the flu last Wednesday and gets over it quickly – just in time to write her exam on Friday.
   
   Correct/Incorrect: I
   
   Grammar error: shift in perspective
   
   Correction: Frances caught the flu last Wednesday and got over it quickly – just in time to write her exam on Friday.

8. The woman struggled as she was chased by a dog in heels.
   
   Correct/Incorrect: I
   
   Grammar error: misplaced modifier
   
   Correction: The woman in heels struggled as she was chased by a dog.

9. I think daycare workers should be required to have an Early Childhood Education certificate, it would prepare the workers to keep the children safe.
   
   Correct/Incorrect: I
   
   Grammar error: comma splice
   
   Correction: I think daycare workers should be required to have an Early Childhood Education certificate. The ECE certificate would prepare the workers to keep the children safe.

10. Although Henry wanted to visit his hometown, he was afraid he might run into his high school girlfriend.
    
    Correct/Incorrect: C
    
    Grammar error: n/a
    
    Correction: n/a
11. Because Tracy is more interested in Nigel than she is in Trevor, she avoids his flirty glances in the hallways at school.

Correct/Incorrect: I

Grammar error: unclear pronoun

Correction: Tracy avoids Trevor’s flirty glances in the hallways at school. This is because she is more interested in Nigel than she is in Trevor.