

Lesson 5: Exercise 1

Directions: Find the **X-Word** in each of the following sentences and place an **X** over it. Then place a box around the **subject** and put an **S** over the box. Try to mark the forms of the **verbs**, too.

"This is Why Birds Fly in a V"

1. Why ^X do ^S migratory birds like ducks and geese ^{Vb} fly in the shape of a V?

2. Why ^X don't ^S they ^{Vb} fly in the shape of an I or a W?

3. ^S People ^X would like ^{Vb} to understand this interesting habit.

4. ^S It ^X could help ^{Vb} us design better airplanes.

5. ^S Studies ^X have shown ^{DTN} that the V shape helps birds see each other.

6. ^S Each bird in the V ^X is located ^{DTN} just far enough back and to the side.

7. ^S The next bird ^X can see ^{Vb} it in its side vision.

8. ^S One study ^X has discovered ^{DTN} another reason for the V.

9. ^S The birds ^X were ^{DTN} each given a GPS.

Explanation: the word "each" is a *middle word (MW)*, an adverb that can come between the X-Word and the Verb. The most common middle word is *not*.



3) Chose the correct form of the X-Word or Verb.

- S**
Singular **A bird** (is | are) a wonderful machine.
- S**
Gerund **Flying** (is | are) not easy!
- S**
Plural **Birds** (use | uses) a lot of energy when they fly.
- S**
Plural **Flying birds** (saves | save) energy in a V shape.
- S**
Uncountable **Science** (use | uses) information like this.
- S**
Uncountable **Nature** (provides | provide) useful information.
- S**
Plural **Scientists** (has | have) not stopped learning from nature.