

it is deflected by the cold current returning from the pole. When this cold current is of least strength, as in August and September, the Gulf Stream comes within ten miles of Barnegat; at other times it is distant one hundred and twenty miles, changing with the amount of cold current and of the wind. If we had not the cold wall between our shores and the Gulf Stream, it is fair to presume that we should have a less stormy coast, as the juxtaposition of these two currents with their difference in temperature must from that circumstance tend to an unstable condition of atmospheric equilibrium. Our cold north-west winds would then sweep to the north of us, and become westerly and south-westerly winds.—*Popular Science Monthly.*

## MODERN LANGUAGES.

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### EXERCISES IN ENGLISH.

1. Contract the following sentences into simple ones:

(a) The proceedings were more interesting than usual.

(b) The event occurred while he was absent from home.

(c) I wrote to him and explained fully what had caused the delay.

(d) There is no doubt that he has made a serious mistake.

(e) He did not deny that the claim which we made was just.

(f) It is supposed that he took them all with him.

(g) He read a paper in which he described the mode in which the operation is usually performed.

(h) He refused to accept it, and so they had to hold another election.

(i) It is a great many years since the event happened.

(j) When he heard that the enemy were approaching he ordered that the gates should be closed.

2. Substitute other words or phrases of the same meaning for those italicized:

(a) Flight did but *temporarily retard* his *inevitable doom*.

(b) The *conspirators* were *terrified* by the *unexpected peril* which *menaced* them.

(c) He was *compelled* to *relinquish* his *design* of *subjugating* them.

(d) The *prosecution* of this *remote* war was *gradually* becoming *more difficult*.

(e) Even men who *deemed* themselves religious *participated* in it without *scruple*.

(f) He *endeavoured* to *allay* political *commotion* and to soften the *asperities* of party strife, and with *laudable* motives stretched his authority on the side of *clemency* to the rebels.

3. Break up into a series of short, simple sentences:

Once upon a time there lived a very rich man, and a king besides, whose name was Midas; and he had a little daughter, whom nobody but myself ever heard of, and whose name I either never knew, or have entirely forgotten.

4. Change to indirect narrative:

The king did not believe that he would keep his word, and said, "I will not let you go unless you find some friend who will come and stay in your place, then, if you are not back when the day comes, I shall put your friend to death in your stead."

5. Change to direct narrative:

Pythias replied that the king was wrong. Damon would come if he possibly could, but he had to come by sea, and the wind had been contrary for some days. However, it was much better that he (P.) should die than Damon. He (P.) had no wife and no children, and he loved his friend (D.) so well that he would willingly die for him.

6. Analyze the following sentences, and parse the italicized words:

*A traveller, by the faithful hound,  
Half-buried in the snow was found,  
Still grasping in his hand of ice  
That banner with the strange device,  
Excelsior!*

7. Change the compound sentences into complex, and vice versa: