GRAMMAR PRACTICE 1

Today is the day, and I can hardly believe it; however, moving way across town is going to be stressful. My neighbors will be on hand to help my husband and I because we helped them last year.

T  F      1. There are four clauses.

T  F      2. The last clause is dependent.

T  F      3. The subject to the third independent clause is a gerund.

T  F      4. The semicolon after the second clause should be a period.

T  F      5. The subject for the first clause is Today.

T  F      6.  In the fourth clause, the word I should be me.
T  F      7. The main verbs for the third clause are is going to be.

T  F      8.  There should be a comma between I and because.

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GRAMMAR PRACTICE 1 – ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Today is the day, and I can hardly believe it; however, moving way across town is going to be stressful. My neighbors will be on hand to help my husband and I because we helped them last year.

F  1. There are four clauses.  -- There are five.

 Today is the day,

 and I can hardly believe it;

 however, moving way across town is going to be stressful.

 My neighbors will be on hand to help my husband and I

 because we helped them last year.

T   2. The last clause is dependent.  -- The last clause begins with a condition word: *because*.

T  3. The subject to the third independent clause is a gerund. -- The word *moving* is a present participle that is behaving like a noun, so it is a gerund. The word *moving* also controls the verb so it is the subject. Moving is . . . vs. Movings are . . .

F  4. The semicolon after the second clause should be a period. -- Semicolons and periods are interchangeable as far as sentence structure is concerned.  So you wouldn't say that one must be used instead of another.  You would say that a semicolon or period must be used instead of a colon or comma because they do not serve the same purpose.

T 5. The subject for the first clause is Today. -- Don't be fooled into thinking that small clauses are phrases.

T  6.  The word I should be me. -- In order to test this, take out the first part of the object.  The object receives the action of the verb; whereas, the subject does the action of the verb.

 My neighbors will be on hand to help my husband and I

 If you removed "my husband," it is quite apparent which to use between "I" and "me."  Would you ever say they are going to help I ?  When you read something compound, you must read is as if it were two separate structures.

 They will help my husband and they will help me.

F 7. The main verbs for the third clause are is going to be. -- The infinitive "to be" is not a main verb, so it is not a part of the main verb phrase.

F 8. There should be a comma between I and because. – You do not use a comma between

 clauses when the dependent clause (DC) follows the independent clause (IC).

 DC comma IC. When I am late, I must hurry.

 IC no comma DC. I must hurry when I am late.