

## **Sentence Correction**

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## Areas to deal in.....

#### ▶ Noun

Nouns are used as subjects of sentences and as the objects of verbs and prepositions.

#### Types of Noun

- I. Common & Proper Noun
- 2. Singular & Plural Noun

Alumnus - Alumni, Bacterium - Bacteria, Medium- Media, Phenomenon - Phenomena

There are some singular nouns often mistaken as plural nouns because they end with "s".

Citrus, Economics, Glasses, Means, Measles, News, Physics, Scissors, Series, Species, Statistics

3. Countable & Uncountable Noun

Countable nouns usually have both singular and plural forms. Uncountable nouns are used just as singular.

4. Collective Noun

they are singular. However, when they are used to represent a number of collections, then they are plural.

Audience, Business, Choir, Committee, Company, Crowd, Family, Flock, Government, Group, Majority, Nation, Pack, Team, The Public, Unit

## Agreement & Reference of Pronoun

- There are several pronominal forms which seem to be plural but act as singular, taking singular verbs and singular pronouns if they act as antecedents.
- The most common of these words are another, any, anybody, anything, each, either, every, everybody, neither, no one, nobody, none (not one), etc.; they must be followed by a singular verb, whatever the meaning might indicate:
- Not one of the bananas was ripe.
- Everybody wanted <u>his or her</u> own way.

### Pronouns

- When two pronouns are connected with "and" and one of them is 1<sup>st</sup> person pronoun (I, We) it is given preference to all pronouns.
- Example
- You and I have done your work (Incorrect)
- You and I have done our work (Correct)
- You and Arshad have wasted their time (Incorrect)
- You and Arshad have wasted your time (Correct)

## Reflexive Pronouns

- Following verbs usually take reflexive pronouns
- ı. Avail
- 2. Absent
- 3. Avenge
- 4. Enjoy
- 5. Exert
- 6. Make
- 7. Help
- 8. Acquit

Note: If after the verb enjoy object is present we should not use reflexive pronouns.

# Adjective

An adjective is a descriptive word which qualifies a noun, making it more specific:

The red car.

The old red car.

The big old red car.

The two young professors lived in Greewich Village.

A bright light flashed through the window of the house.

There are three forms of a 'true' adjective.

Normal: big beautiful

Comparative: bigger more beautiful

Superlative: biggest most beautiful

### Adverb

- An adverb is a part of speech used mainly to modify verbs but also adjectives and other adverbs. Adverbs describe how, where or when.
- Most adverbs are formed from adjectives by the addition of the ending "-ly" (as in suddenly, playfully, interestingly)
- Some common adverbs have no suffixes, as in: here/there, now, well, just.
- Some adverbs have the same form as their adjective counterpart, e.g., fast, long, first.
- Not all words ending in -ly are adverbs: lovely, ungainly, and likely are adjectives.

## Adverb Cont...

- Adverbs modify verbs in the same way adjectives qualify nouns.
- The adverb often follows the verb it modifies:
  I shouted loudly to my friends across the theater.
- Sometimes it precedes the verb:

I really wanted to talk to her.

Sometimes position determines meaning:

I think clearly. (My thinking is clear.)

I clearly think. (It is clear that I think.)

# Adverb & Adjective

I ate some peas only yesterday - I don't need to eat any today.

I only ate some peas yesterday - I didn't do anything else. I ate only some peas yesterday - I didn't eat anything else. Only I ate some peas yesterday - nobody else had any.

Early may be both adjective and adverb:

I take the early train.

I get up early to take the train.

## Like vs Such As

- Like is used to introduce similarity between two items or persons. In other words, like cannot be used to introduce examples or a subset of a category, which should be used following such as.
- Correct: I enjoy playing musical instruments such as piano and violin.
  - Wrong: I enjoy playing musical instruments like piano and violin.

# Like vs. As/As If/As though

- Use like before a noun or pronoun.
- Use as before a clause, adverb or prepositional phrase.
- Use as if and as though before a clause.
- I. My mother's cheesecake tastes like glue.
- 2. I love frozen pizza because there is no other snack like it.
- 3. My mother's cheesecake tastes great, as a mother's cheesecake should.
- 4. There are times, as now, that learning grammar becomes important.
- 5. He golfed well again, as in the tournament last year.
- 6. He served as captain in the navy.
- 7. He often told half-truths, as any politician would.
- 8. He looks as if he knows me.
- 9. It looked as if a storm were on the way.
- 10. He yelled at me as though it were my fault.

# Prepositions Frequently Misused

#### <u>beside vs. besides</u>

- beside at the side of someone or something Frank stood beside Henry.
- besides in addition to
   Besides his Swiss bank account he has many others in Austria.

#### at vs. with:

usually at a thing but with a person. Exceptions include throw something at somebody with something, be angry at someone, be pleased with something, and others.

#### between vs. among

- Use the preposition among in situations involving more than two persons or things and use between in situations involving only two persons or things.
- The money was divided among the workers.
- The money was divided between the two boxers

# No Preposition Please

We should not use any preposition with the words like

Resembles, Reach, Order, Marry, Love, Control, Inform, Affect, Attack, Obey, Hate, Reach, Discuss, Request

When these are being used as verb

Ex: He resembles with his brother (Incorrect)

He resembles his brother (Correct)

# **Prepositions – Time**

	English		Usage		Example
•	on	•	days of the week	•	on Monday
•	in	•	months / seasons	•	in August / in winter
		•	time of day	•	in the morning
		•	year	•	in 2006
		•	after a certain period of time (when?)	•	in an hour
•	at	•	for night	•	at night
		•	for weekend	•	at the weekend
		•	a certain point of time (when?)	•	at half past nine
•	since	•	from a certain point of time (past till now)	•	since 1980
•	for	•	over a certain period of time (past till now)	•	for 2 years
•	ago	•	a certain time in the past	•	2 years ago
•	before	•	earlier than a certain point of time	•	before 2004

# **Prepositions – Time**

• to • telling the time • ten to six (5:50)

• past • telling the time • ten past six (6:10)

• to / till / until • marking the beginning and end of a period of time • from Monday to/till Friday

• till / until • in the sense of how long something is going to last • He is on holiday until Friday.

• I will be back by 6 o'clock.

up to a certain time
 By 11 o'clock, I had read five pages.

by

# Prepositions – Place (Position and Direction)

English	Usage		Example
	• room, building, street, town, country	•	in the kitchen, in London
·	• book, paper etc.	•	in the book
in	• car, taxi	•	in the car, in a taxi
	• picture, world	•	in the picture, in the world
	• meaning next to, by an object	•	at the door, at the station
	• for table	•	at the table
at	• for events	•	at a concert, at the party
	<ul> <li>place where you are to do something typical (watch a film, study, work)</li> </ul>	•	at the cinema, at school, at work
	• attached	•	the picture on the wall
	• for a place with a river	•	London lies on the Thames.
	• being on a surface	•	on the table
on	• for a certain side (left, right)	•	on the left
	• for a floor in a house	•	on the first floor
	• for public transport	•	on the bus, on a plane
	• for television, radio	•	on TV, on the radio
by, next to, beside	• left or right of somebody or something	•	Jane is standing by / next to / beside the car
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# Prepositions – Place (Position and Direction)

•	under	•	on the ground, lower than (or covered by) something else	•	the bag is under the table
•	below	•	lower than something else but above ground	•	the fish are below the surface
•	over	•	covered by something else meaning more than getting to the other side (also across) overcoming an obstacle	•	put a jacket over your shirt over 16 years of age walk over the bridge climb over the wall
•	above	•	higher than something else, but not directly over it	•	a path above the lake
	across	•	getting to the other side (also <i>over</i> ) getting to the other side	•	walk across the bridge swim across the lake
•	through	•	something with limits on top, bottom and the sides	•	drive through the tunnel

# **Prepositions – Place (Position and** Direction)

•	movement to p	erson or building
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- movement to a place or country
- for bed

- enter a room / a building
- towards movement in the direction of something (but not directly to it)
- movement to the top of something onto
- in the sense of where from from

- go to the cinema
- go to London / Ireland
- go to bed

go into the kitchen / the house

- go 5 steps towards the house
- jump onto the table
  - a flower from the garden

into

# Preposition of Manner

- ▶ I. We travel by bus/ train/ boat/ sea/ plane/ air.
- ▶ 2. We travel on horseback, on foot, on a bicycle, or by bicycle.
- ▶ 3. We arrive in a country or town.
- ▶ 4. We arrive at any destination e.g. an address, a hotel, theatre, or station.
- ▶ 5. We get in/ into a public or private vehicle (enter)
- ▶ 6. We get out of public or private. vehicle.

# Preposition cont....

- When a verb is place immediately after a preposition it must be in the form of gerund.
- Examples
- He is good at telling tales
- 2. He is accused of smuggling
- 3. She is fond of climbing
- 4. I cannot go on bathing here
- 5. I Prevented him from going there
- 6. Are you afraid of talking to him?

## Verb

- If two or more singular nouns are joined with "and" takes plural verb.
- Ex: He and his friend have arrived

- If two singular nouns are joined with "and" if they mean to same person or object then it takes singular verb.
- Ex:A White and Red Car is parked in the Street.
- Following words take singular verb if they used as subject.
- Ex: Each, Every, Neither, Either, None, Many

## Verb

- Two singular nouns joined by either or neither .. nor take verb Singular
- Ex: Either he or his brother stolen the Book
- Two subjects joined by either or neither .. Nor are of different persons, verb agrees with the person nearest to it.
- Ex: Neither he nor we are angry
- When two nouns join by with or as well as, the verb agrees with the first noun whether it is singular or plural.
- Ex: The Principal with his all teachers has gone out for a walk.