



**Error**

# **Winners' Guide to GMAT Grammar & Sentence Correction**

CSS English (Precis & Composition)



**THE CSS POINT**  
Yes We Can Do It!

THE CSS POINT

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Winners' Guide to GMAT Grammar & Sentence  
Correction – 2007 Edition

By

[www.my-gmat.com](http://www.my-gmat.com)

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# Winners' Guide to GMAT Grammar & SC

<i>The English Language: A brief background</i>	4
Beginning—Different Sources—The Present	4
Three Essentials of Good Writing	5
Divisions of Grammar	6
The English Language in a Nutshell	6
The Sentence	27
Sentence Classification	34
Letters	36
Syllables and Words	36
<i>Sentence Correction on the GMAT</i>	37
Grammar Errors commonly Tested on the GMAT	38
Pronoun errors	38
Subject-verb errors	39
Here are the important subject-verb agreement rules.	40
Misplaced modifier Errors	45
Tenses	51
Comparative Pitfalls to avoid on the GMAT	52
What the GMAT SC Section Does NOT TEST	54
<i>Sentence Correction Pitfalls to Avoid</i>	55
<b>THAT FOR SO</b>	55
<b>THESE—THOSE</b>	55
<b>THIS MUCH—THUS MUCH</b>	55
<b>FLEE—FLY</b>	55
<b>THROUGH—THROUGHOUT</b>	55
<b>VOCATION AND AVOCATION</b>	56
<b>WAS—WERE</b>	56

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# Winners' Guide to GMAT Grammar & SC

<b>A OR AN</b>	56
<b>ATTRACTION</b>	56
<b>THE SPLIT INFINITIVE</b>	57
<b>ONE</b>	58
<b>ONLY</b>	58
<b>ALONE</b>	59
<b>OTHER AND ANOTHER</b>	59
<b>AND WITH THE RELATIVE</b>	59
<b>LOOSE PARTICIPLES</b>	59
<b>BROKEN CONSTRUCTION</b>	60
<b>DOUBLE NEGATIVE</b>	61
<b>FIRST PERSONAL PRONOUN</b>	61
<b>SEQUENCE OF TENSES</b>	61
<b>BETWEEN—AMONG</b>	62
<b>LESS—FEWER</b>	63
<b>FURTHER—FARTHER</b>	63
<b>EACH OTHER—ONE ANOTHER</b>	63
<b>EACH, EVERY, EITHER, NEITHER</b>	63
<b>NEITHER-NOR</b>	64
<b>NONE</b>	64
<b>RISE-RAISE</b>	64
<b>LAY-LIE</b>	65
<b>SAYS I—I SAID</b>	65
<b>IN—INTO</b>	65
<b>EAT—ATE</b>	66
<b>SEQUENCE OF PERSON</b>	66
<b>AM COME—HAVE COME</b>	66
<b>PAST TENSE—PAST PARTICIPLE</b>	66
<b>PREPOSITIONS AND THE OBJECTIVE CASE</b>	67
<b>SUMMON—SUMMONS</b>	68
<b>UNDENIABLE—UNEXCEPTIONABLE</b>	68
<i>Superfluous Words</i>	68
<i>GMAT IDIOM Pitfalls that Winners avoid</i>	70

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# Winners' Guide to GMAT Grammar & SC

A Comprehensive List of GMAT Idioms _____	74
<i>Sentence Correction Practice</i> _____	89
ANSWERS _____	93
<i>Further Practice</i> _____	96
Answers to Further Practice Questions _____	102
<i>Exercise –3</i> _____	103
<i>Exercise-3 Answers</i> _____	118
<i>Exercise-4</i> _____	123
<i>Exercise –4 Answers</i> _____	135

## **The English Language: A brief background**

### ***Beginning—Different Sources—The Present***

The English language is the tongue now current in England and her colonies throughout the world and also throughout the greater part of the United States of America. It sprang from the German tongue spoken by the Teutons, who came over to Britain after the conquest of that country by the Romans. These Teutons comprised Angles, Saxons, Jutes

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and several other tribes from the northern part of Germany. They spoke different dialects, but these became blended in the new country, and the composite tongue came to be known as the Anglo-Saxon which has been the main basis for the language as at present constituted and is still the prevailing element. The Anglo-Saxon element supplies the essential parts of speech, the article, pronoun of all kinds, the preposition, the auxiliary verbs, the conjunctions, and the little particles which bind words into sentences and form the joints, sinews and ligaments of the language. It furnishes the most indispensable words of the vocabulary.

### *Three Essentials of Good Writing*

The three essentials of the English language are: Purity, Perspicuity and Precision.

By Purity is signified the use of good English. It precludes the use of all slang words, vulgar phrases, obsolete terms, foreign idioms, ambiguous expressions or any ungrammatical language whatsoever. Neither does it sanction the use of any newly coined word until such word is adopted by the best writers and speakers.

Perspicuity demands the clearest expression of thought conveyed in unequivocal language, so that there may be no misunderstanding whatever of the thought or idea the speaker or writer wishes to convey. All ambiguous words, words of double meaning and words that might possibly be construed in a sense different from that intended, are strictly forbidden. Perspicuity requires a style at once clear and comprehensive and entirely free from pomp and pedantry and affectation or any straining after effect.

Precision requires concise and exact expression, free from redundancy and tautology, a style terse and clear and simple enough to enable the hearer or reader to comprehend immediately the meaning of the speaker or writer. It forbids, on the one hand, all long and involved sentences, and, on the other, those that are too short and abrupt. Its object is

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to strike the golden mean in such a way as to rivet the attention of the hearer or reader on the words uttered or written.

## *Divisions of Grammar*

There are four great divisions of Grammar, viz.:

Orthography, Etymology, Syntax, and Prosody.

Orthography treats of letters and the mode of combining them into words.

Etymology treats of the various classes of words and the changes they undergo.

Syntax treats of the connection and arrangement of words in sentences.

Prosody treats of the manner of speaking and reading and the different kinds of verse.

The three first mentioned concern us most.

## *The English Language in a Nutshell*

All the words in the English language are divided into nine great classes. These classes are called the Parts of Speech. They are Article, Noun, Adjective, Pronoun, Verb, Adverb, Preposition, Conjunction and Interjection. Of these, the Noun is the most important, as all the others are more or less dependent upon it. A Noun signifies the name of any person, place or thing, in fact, anything of which we can have either thought or idea. There are two kinds of Nouns, Proper and Common. Common Nouns are names which belong in common to a race or class, as man, city. Proper Nouns distinguish individual members of a race or class as John, Philadelphia. In the former case, man is a name which belongs in common to the whole race of mankind, and city is also a name which is common to all large centres of population, but John signifies a particular individual of the race, while Philadelphia denotes a particular one from among the cities of the world.

Nouns are varied by Person, Number, Gender, and Case. Person is that relation existing between the speaker, those addressed and the subject under consideration, whether by

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discourse or correspondence. The Persons are First, Second and Third and they represent respectively the speaker, the person addressed and the person or thing mentioned or under consideration.

Number is the distinction of one from more than one. There are two numbers, singular and plural; the singular denotes one, the plural two or more. The plural is generally formed from the singular by the addition of 's' or 'es'.

Gender has the same relation to nouns that sex has to individuals, but while there are only two sexes, there are four genders, viz., masculine, feminine, neuter and common. The masculine gender denotes all those of the male kind, the feminine gender all those of the female kind, the neuter gender denotes inanimate things or whatever is without life, and common gender is applied to animate beings, the sex of which for the time being is indeterminable, such as fish, mouse, bird, etc. Sometimes things which are without life as we conceive it and which, properly speaking, belong to the neuter gender, are, by a figure of speech called Personification, changed into either the masculine or feminine gender, as, for instance, we say of the sun, He is rising; of the moon, She is setting.

Case is the relation one noun bears to another or to a verb or to a preposition. There are three cases, the Nominative, the Possessive and the Objective. The nominative is the subject of which we are speaking or the agent which directs the action of the verb; the possessive case denotes possession, while the objective indicates the person or thing which is affected by the action of the verb.

An Adjective is a word, which qualifies a noun, that is, which shows some distinguishing mark or characteristic belonging to the noun.

A Pronoun is a word used for or instead of a noun to keep us from repeating the same noun too often. Pronouns, like nouns, have case, number, gender and person. There are three kinds of pronouns, personal, relative and adjective.

A verb is a word, which signifies action or the doing of something. A verb is inflected by tense and mood and by number and person, though the latter two belong strictly to the subject of the verb.

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An adverb is a word, which modifies a verb, an adjective and sometimes another adverb.

A preposition serves to connect words and to show the relation between the objects, which the words express.

A conjunction is a word, which joins words, phrases, clauses and sentences together.

An interjection is a word, which expresses surprise or some sudden emotion of the mind.

A more detailed definition of the important parts of speech follows.

## Article

An Article is a word placed before a noun to show whether the noun is used in a particular or general sense.

There are two articles, a or an and the. A or an is called the indefinite article because it does not point out any particular person or thing but indicates the noun in its widest sense; thus, a man means any man whatsoever of the species or race.

The is called the definite article because it points out some particular person or thing; thus, the man means some particular individual.

## Noun

A noun is the name of any person, place or thing as John, London, and book. Nouns are proper and common.

Proper nouns are names applied to particular persons or places.

Common nouns are names applied to a whole kind or species.

Nouns are inflected by number, gender and case.

Number is that inflection of the noun by which we indicate whether it represents one or more than one.

Gender is that inflection by which we signify whether the noun is the name of a male, a female, of an inanimate object or something, which has no distinction of sex.

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Case is that inflection of the noun, which denotes the state of the person, place or thing, represented, as the subject of an affirmation or question, the owner or possessor of something mentioned, or the object of an action or of a relation.

Thus in the example, "John tore the leaves of Sarah's book," the distinction between book which represents only one object and leaves which represent two or more objects of the same kind is called Number; the distinction of sex between John, a male, and Sarah, a female, and book and leaves, things which are inanimate and neither male nor female, is called Gender; and the distinction of state between John, the person who tore the book, and the subject of the affirmation, Mary, the owner of the book, leaves the objects torn, and book the object related to leaves, as the whole of which they were a part, is called Case .

### Adjective

An adjective is a word which qualifies a noun, that is, shows or points out some distinguishing mark or feature of the noun; as, A black dog.

Adjectives have three forms called degrees of comparison, the positive, the comparative and the superlative.

The positive is the simple form of the adjective without expressing increase or diminution of the original quality: nice.

The comparative is that form of the adjective, which expresses increase, or diminution of the quality: nicer.

The superlative is that form which expresses the greatest increase or diminution of the quality: nicest.

Or

An adjective is in the positive form when it does not express comparison; as, "A rich man."

An adjective is in the comparative form when it expresses comparison between two or between one and a number taken collectively, as, "John is richer than James"; "he is richer than all the men in Boston."

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An adjective is in the superlative form when it expresses a comparison between one and a number of individuals taken separately; as, "John is the richest man in Boston."

Adjectives expressive of properties or circumstances, which cannot be increased have only the positive form; as, a circular road; the chief end; an extreme measure.

Adjectives are compared in two ways, either by adding *er* to the positive to form the comparative and *est.* to the positive to form the superlative, or by prefixing *more* to the positive for the comparative and *most* to the positive for the superlative; as, handsome, handsomer, handsomest or handsome, more handsome, most handsome.

Adjectives of two or more syllables are generally compared by prefixing *more* and *most*.

Many adjectives are irregular in comparison; as, Bad, worse, worst; Good, better, best.

### Pronoun

A pronoun is a word used in place of a noun; as, "John gave his pen to James and he lent it to Jane to write her copy with it." Without the pronouns we would have to write this sentence,--"John gave John's pen to James and James lent the pen to Jane to write Jane's copy with the pen."

There are three kinds of pronouns—Personal, Relative and Adjective Pronouns.

Personal Pronouns are so called because they are used instead of the names of persons, places and things. The Personal Pronouns are You, He, She, It, and I with their plurals, You, They and We.

I am the pronoun of the first person because it represents the person speaking.

You are the pronoun of the second person because it represents the person spoken to.

He, She, It are the pronouns of the third person because they represent the persons or things of whom we are speaking.

Like nouns, the Personal Pronouns have number, gender and case. The gender of the first and second person is obvious, as they represent the person or persons speaking and those who are addressed. The personal pronouns are thus declined:

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## First Person.

M. or F.

	Sing.	Plural.
N.	I	We
P.	Mine	Ours
O.	Me	Us

## Second Person.

M. or F.

	Sing.	Plural.
N.	Thou	You
P.	Thine	Yours
O.	Thee	You

## Third Person.

Male

	Sing.	Plural.
N.	He	They
P.	His	Theirs
O.	Him	Them

## Third Person.

Female

	Sing.	Plural.
N.	She	They

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P.	Hers	Theirs
O.	Her	Them

Third Person.

Neuter.

	Sing.	Plural.
N.	It	They
P.	Its	Theirs
O.	It	Them

N. B.—In colloquial language and ordinary writing Thou, Thine and Thee are seldom used.. The Plural form You is used for both the nominative and objective singular in the second person and Yours is generally used in the possessive in place of Thine. The Relative Pronouns are so called because they relate to some word or phrase going before; as, “The boy who told the truth;” “He has done well, which gives me great pleasure.”

Here who and which are not only used in place of other words, but who refers immediately to boy, and which to the circumstance of his having done well.

The word or clause to which a relative pronoun refers is called the Antecedent .

The Relative Pronouns are who , which , that and what .

Who is applied to persons only; as, “The man who was here.”

Which is applied to the lower animals and things without life; as, “The horse , which I sold.” “The hat , which I bought.”

That is applied to both persons and things; as, “The friend that helps.” “The bird that sings.” “The knife that cuts.”

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What is a compound relative, including both the antecedent and the relative and is equivalent to that which ; as, "I did what he desired," i. e. "I did that which he desired."

Relative pronouns have the singular and plural alike.

Who is either masculine or feminine; which and that are masculine, feminine or neuter; what as a relative pronoun is always neuter.

That and what are not inflected.

Who and which are thus declined:

Sing. and Plural    Sing. and Plural

N.    Who            N.    Which

P.    Whose          P.    Whose

O.    Whom            O.    Which

Who , which and what when used to ask questions are called

Interrogative Pronouns .

Adjective Pronouns partake of the nature of adjectives and pronouns and are subdivided as follows:

Demonstrative Adjective Pronouns , which directly point out the person or object. They are this , that with their plurals these , those , and yon , same and selfsame .

Distributive Adjective Pronouns used distributively. They are each , every , either , neither .

Indefinite Adjective Pronouns used more or less indefinitely. They are any , all , few , some , several , one , other , another , none .

Possessive Adjective Pronouns denoting possession. They are my , thy , his , her , its , our , your , their .

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N. B.--(The possessive adjective pronouns differ from the possessive case of the personal pronouns in that the latter can stand alone while the former cannot. "Who owns that book?" "It is mine ." You cannot say "it is my ,"—the word book must be repeated.)

### Verb

A verb is a word, which implies action or the doing of something, or it may be defined as a word, which affirms, commands or asks a question.

Thus, the words John the table , contain no assertion, but when the word strikes is introduced, something is affirmed, hence the word strikes is a verb and gives completeness and meaning to the group.

The simple form of the verb without inflection is called the root of the verb; e. g. love is the root of the verb,--"To Love."

Verbs are regular or irregular , transitive or intransitive .

A verb is said to be regular when it forms the past tense by adding ed to the present or d if the verb ends in e . When its past tense does not end in ed it is said to be irregular .

A transitive verb is one the action of which passes over to or affects some object; as "I struck the table." Here the action of striking affected the object table, hence struck is a transitive verb.

An intransitive verb is one in which the action remains with the subject; as "I walk," "I sit," "I run."

Many intransitive verbs, however, can be used transitively; thus, "I walk the horse;" walk is here transitive.

Verbs are inflected by number , person , tense and mood .

Number and person as applied to the verb really belong to the subject; they are used with the verb to denote whether the assertion is made regarding one or more than one and whether it is made in reference to the person speaking, the person spoken to or the person or thing spoken about.

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## Tense

In their tenses verbs follow the divisions of time. They have present tense , past tense and future tense with their variations to express the exact time of action as to an event happening, having happened or yet to happen.

## Mood

There are four simple moods,--the Infinitive , the Indicative , the Imperative and the Subjunctive .

The Mood of a verb denotes the mode or manner in which it is used. Thus if it is used in its widest sense without reference to person or number, time or place, it is in the Infinitive Mood; as “To run.” Here we are not told who does the running, when it is done, where it is done or anything about it.

When a verb is used to indicate or declare or ask a simple question or make any direct statement, it is in the Indicative Mood. “The boy loves his book.” Here a direct statement is made concerning the boy. “Have you a pin?” Here a simple question is asked which calls for an answer.

When the verb is used to express a command or entreaty it is in the Imperative Mood as, “Go away.” “Give me a penny.”

When the verb is used to express doubt, supposition or uncertainty or when some future action depends upon a contingency, it is in the subjunctive mood; as, “If I come, he shall remain.”

Many grammarians include a fifth mood called the potential to express power , possibility , liberty , necessity , will or duty . It is formed by means of the auxiliaries may , can , ought and must , but in all cases it can be resolved into the indicative or subjunctive. Thus, in “I may write if I choose,” “may write” is by some classified as in the potential mood, but in reality the phrase I may write is an indicative one while the second clause, if I choose , is the expression of a condition upon which, not my liberty to write, depends, but my actual writing.



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Verbs have two participles, the present or imperfect, sometimes called the active ending in *ing* and the past or perfect, often called the passive, ending in *ed* or *d*.

The infinitive expresses the sense of the verb in a substantive form, the participles in an adjective form; as "To rise early is healthful." "An early rising man." "The newly risen sun."

The participle in *ing* is frequently used as a substantive and consequently is equivalent to an infinitive; thus, "To rise early is healthful" and "Rising early is healthful" are the same.

The principal parts of a verb are the Present Indicative, Past Indicative and Past Participle; as:

Love Loved Loved

Sometimes one or more of these parts are wanting, and then the verb is said to be defective.

Present	Past	Passive Participle
Can	Could	(Wanting)
May	Might	"
Shall	Should	"
Will	Would	"
Ought	Ought	"

Verbs may also be divided into principal and auxiliary. A principal verb is that without which a sentence or clause can contain no assertion or affirmation. An auxiliary is a verb joined to the root or participles of a principal verb to express time and manner with greater precision than can be done by the tenses and moods in their simple form. Thus, the sentence, "I am writing an exercise; when I shall have finished it I shall read it to the class." has no meaning without the principal verbs writing, finished read; but the

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meaning is rendered more definite, especially with regard to time, by the auxiliary verbs am , have , shall .

There are nine auxiliary or helping verbs, viz., Be , have , do , shall , will , may , can , ought , and must . They are called helping verbs, because it is by their aid the compound tenses are formed.

## To Be

The verb To Be is the most important of the auxiliary verbs. It has several parts, viz., am, art, is, are, was, were; be, being and been .

## Voice

The active voice is that form of the verb, which shows the Subject not being acted upon, but acting; as, “The cat catches mice.” “Charity covers a multitude of sins.”

The passive voice : When the action signified by a transitive verb is thrown back upon the agent, that is to say, when the subject of the verb denotes the recipient of the action, the verb is said to be in the passive voice. “John was loved by his neighbors.” Here John the subject is also the object affected by the loving, the action of the verb is thrown back on him, hence the compound verb was loved is said to be in the passive voice . The passive voice is formed by putting the perfect participle of any transitive verb with any of the eleven parts of the verb To Be .

## Conjugation

The conjugation of a verb is its orderly arrangement in voices, moods, tenses, persons and numbers.

Here is the complete conjugation of the verb “Love”—Active Voice .

### PRINCIPAL PARTS

Present	Past	Past Participle
Love	Loved	Loved

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## Infinitive Mood

To Love

## Indicative Mood

### PRESENT TENSE

Sing. Plural

1<sup>st</sup> person I love We love

2<sup>nd</sup> person You love You love

3<sup>rd</sup> person He loves They love

### PAST TENSE

Sing. Plural

1<sup>st</sup> person I loved We loved

2<sup>nd</sup> person You loved You loved

3<sup>rd</sup> person He loved They loved

### FUTURE TENSE

Sing. Plural

1<sup>st</sup> person I shall love They will love

2<sup>nd</sup> person You will love You will love

3<sup>rd</sup> person He will love We shall love

### PRESENT PERFECT TENSE

Sing. Plural

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1<sup>st</sup> person I have loved We have loved  
2<sup>nd</sup> person You have loved You have loved  
3<sup>rd</sup> person He has loved They have loved

## PAST PERFECT TENSE

Sing. Plural

1<sup>st</sup> person I had loved We had loved  
2<sup>nd</sup> person You had loved You had loved  
3<sup>rd</sup> person He had loved They had loved

## FUTURE PERFECT TENSE

Sing. Plural

1<sup>st</sup> person I shall have loved We shall have loved  
2<sup>nd</sup> person You will have loved You will have loved  
3<sup>rd</sup> person He will have loved They will have loved

Imperative Mood

(PRESENT TENSE ONLY)

Sing. Plural

2<sup>nd</sup> person Love (you) Love (you)

Subjunctive Mood

PRESENT TENSE

Sing. Plural

1<sup>st</sup> person If I love If we love  
2<sup>nd</sup> person If you love If you love

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3<sup>rd</sup> person If he love If they love

## PAST TENSE

Sing. Plural

1<sup>st</sup> person If I loved If we loved

2<sup>nd</sup> person If you loved If you loved

3<sup>rd</sup> person If he loved If they loved

## PRESENT PERFECT TENSE

Sing. Plural

1<sup>st</sup> person If I have loved If we have loved

2<sup>nd</sup> person If you have loved If you have loved

3<sup>rd</sup> person If he has loved If they have loved

## PAST PERFECT TENSE

Sing. Plural

1<sup>st</sup> person If I had loved If we had loved

2<sup>nd</sup> person If you had loved If you had loved

3<sup>rd</sup> person If he had loved If they had loved

## INFINITIVES

Present Perfect

To love To have loved

## PARTICIPLES

Present Past Perfect

Loving Loved Having loved

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## CONJUGATION OF "To Love"

Passive Voice

Indicative Mood

### PRESENT TENSE

	Sing.	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> person	I am loved	We are loved
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	You are loved	You are loved
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	He is loved	They are loved

### PAST TENSE

	Sing.	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> person	I was loved	We were loved
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	You were loved	You were loved
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	He was loved	They were loved

### FUTURE TENSE

	Sing.	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> person	I shall be loved	We shall be loved
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	You will be loved	You will be loved
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	He will be loved	They will be loved

### PRESENT PERFECT TENSE

	Sing.	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> person	I have been loved	We have been loved
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	You have been loved	You have been loved
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	He has been loved	They have been loved

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## PAST PERFECT TENSE

	Sing.	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> person	I had been loved	We had been loved
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	You had been loved	You had been loved
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	He had been loved	They had been loved

## FUTURE PERFECT TENSE

	Sing.	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> person	I shall have been loved	We shall have been loved
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	You will have been loved	You will have been loved
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	He will have been loved	They will have been loved

## *Imperative Mood*

(PRESENT TENSE ONLY)

	Sing.	Plural
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	Be (you) loved	Be (you) loved

## Subjunctive Mood

PRESENT TENSE

	Sing.	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> person	If I be loved	If we be loved
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	If you be loved	If you be loved
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	If he be loved	If they be loved

## PAST TENSE

	Sing.	Plural
--	-------	--------

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1<sup>st</sup> person    If I were loved    If they were loved  
2<sup>nd</sup> person    If you were loved    If you were loved  
3<sup>rd</sup> person    If he were loved    If we were loved

## PRESENT PERFECT TENSE

	Sing.	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> person	If I have been loved	If we have been loved
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	If you have been loved	If you have been loved
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	If he has been loved	If they have been loved

## PAST PERFECT TENSE

	Sing.	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> person	If I had been loved	If we had been loved
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	If you had been loved	If you had been loved
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	If he had been loved	If they had been loved

## INFINITIVES

Present	Perfect
To be loved	To have been loved

## PARTICIPLES

Present	Past	Perfect
Being loved	Been loved	Having been loved

(N. B.—Note that the plural form of the personal pronoun, *you*, is used in the second person singular throughout. The old form *thou*, except in the conjugation of the verb “To Be,” may be said to be obsolete. In the

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third person singular he is representative of the three personal pronouns of the third person, He , She and It .)

### Adverb

An adverb is a word, which modifies a verb, an adjective or another adverb. Thus, in the example—“He writes well ,” the adverb shows the manner in which the writing is performed; in the examples—“He is remarkably diligent” and “He works very faithfully,” the adverbs modify the adjective diligent and the other adverb faithfully by expressing the degree of diligence and faithfulness.

Adverbs are chiefly used to express in one word what would otherwise require two or more words; thus, There signifies in that place; whence , from what place; usefully , in a useful manner.

Adverbs, like adjectives, are sometimes varied in their terminations to express comparison and different degrees of quality.

Some adverbs form the comparative and superlative by adding er and est. ; as, soon , sooner , soonest .

Adverbs which end in ly are compared by prefixing more and most ; as, nobly , more nobly , most nobly .

A few adverbs are irregular in the formation of the comparative and superlative; as, well , better , best .

### Preposition

A preposition connects words, clauses, and sentences together and shows the relation between them. “My hand is on the table” shows relation between hand and table.

Prepositions are so called because they are generally placed before the words whose connection or relation with other words they point out.

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## Conjugation

A conjunction joins words, clauses and sentences; as "John and James." "My father and mother have come, but I have not seen them."

The conjunctions in most general use are and, also; either, or; neither, nor; though, yet; but, however; for, that; because, since; therefore, wherefore, then; if, unless, lest .

## Interjection

An interjection is a word used to express some sudden emotion of the mind. Thus in the examples,--"Ah! there he comes; alas! what shall I do?" ah , expresses surprise, and alas , distress.

Nouns, adjectives, verbs and adverbs become interjections when they are uttered as exclamations, as, nonsense! strange! hail! away! etc.

We have now enumerated the parts of speech and as briefly as possible stated the functions of each. As they all belong to the same family they are related to one another but some are in closer affinity than others. To point out the exact relationship and the dependency of one word on another is called parsing and in order that every etymological connection may be distinctly understood a brief resume of the foregoing essentials is here given:

The signification of the noun is limited to one , but to any one of the kind, by the indefinite article, and to some particular one, or some particular number , by the definite article.

Nouns , in one form, represent one of a kind, and in another, any number more than one; they are the names of males , or females , or of objects which are neither male nor female; and they represent the subject of an affirmation, a command or a question,--the owner or possessor of a thing,--or the object of an action, or of a relation expressed by a preposition.

Adjectives express the qualities which distinguish one person or thing from another; in one form they express quality without comparison ; in another, they express comparison

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between two , or between one and a number taken collectively,--and in a third they express comparison between one and a number of others taken separately.

Pronouns are used in place of nouns; one class of them is used merely as the substitutes of names ; the pronouns of another class have a peculiar reference to some preceding words in the sentence , of which they are the substitutes,--and those of a third class refer adjectively to the persons or things they represent. Some pronouns are used for both the name and the substitute ; and several are frequently employed in asking questions .

Affirmations and commands are expressed by the verb; and different inflections of the verb express number , person , time and manner . With regard to time , an affirmation may be present or past or future ; with regard to manner, an affirmation may be positive or conditional , it being doubtful whether the condition is fulfilled or not, or it being implied that it is not fulfilled;--the verb may express command or entreaty ; or the sense of the verb may be expressed without affirming or commanding . The verb also expresses that an action or state is or was going on, by a form, which is also used sometimes as a noun, and sometimes to qualify nouns.

Affirmations are modified by adverbs , some of which can be inflected to express different degrees of modification.

Words are joined together by conjunctions ; and the various relations which one thing bears to another are expressed by 'prepositions. Sudden emotions of the mind, and exclamations are expressed by interjections .

Some words according to meaning belong sometimes to one part of speech, sometimes to another. Thus, in "After a storm comes a calm ," calm is a noun; in "It is a calm evening," calm is an adjective; and in "Calm your fears," calm is a verb.

The following sentence containing all the parts of speech is parsed etymologically:

"I now see the old man coming, but, alas, he has walked with much difficulty."

I , a personal pronoun, first person singular, masculine or feminine gender, nominative case, subject of the verb see .

now , an adverb of time modifying the verb see .

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see , an irregular, transitive verb, indicative mood, present tense, first person singular to agree with its nominative or subject I.

the , the definite article particularizing the noun man.

old , an adjective, positive degree, qualifying the noun man.

man , a common noun, 3<sup>rd</sup> person singular, masculine gender, objective case governed by the transitive verb see .

coming , the present or imperfect participle of the verb “to come” referring to the noun man.

but , a conjunction.

alas , an interjection, expressing pity or sorrow.

he , a personal pronoun, 3<sup>rd</sup> person singular, masculine gender, nominative case, subject of verb has walked.

has walked , a regular, intransitive verb, indicative mood, perfect tense, 3<sup>rd</sup> person singular to agree with its nominative or subject he .

with , a preposition, governing the noun difficulty.

much , an adjective, positive degree, qualifying the noun difficulty.

difficulty , a common noun, 3<sup>rd</sup> person singular, neuter gender, objective case governed by the preposition with .

N.B.—Much is generally an adverb. As an adjective it is thus compared:

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
much	more	most

## *The Sentence*

Different Kinds—Arrangement of Words—Paragraph

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A sentence is an assemblage of words so arranged as to convey a determinate sense or meaning, in other words, to express a complete thought or idea.

No matter how short, it must contain one finite verb and a subject or agent to direct the action of the verb.

“Birds fly;” “Fish swim;” “Men walk;”—are sentences.

A sentence always contains two parts, something spoken about and something said about it. The word or words indicating what is spoken about form what is called the subject and the word or words indicating what is said about it form what is called the predicate .

In the sentences given, birds , fish and men are the subjects, while fly , swim and walk are the predicates.

There are three kinds of sentences, simple , compound and complex .

The simple sentence expresses a single thought and consists of one subject and one predicate, as, “Man is mortal.”

A compound sentence consists of two or more simple sentences of equal importance the parts of which are either expressed or understood, as, “The men work in the fields and the women work in the household,” or “The men work in the fields and the women in the household” or “The men and women work in the fields and in the household.”

A complex sentence consists of two or more simple sentences so combined that one depends on the other to complete its meaning; as; “When he returns, I shall go on my vacation.” Here the words, “when he returns” are dependent on the rest of the sentence for their meaning.

A clause is a separate part of a complex sentence, as “when he returns” in the last example.

A phrase consists of two or more words without a finite verb.

Without a finite verb we cannot affirm anything or convey an idea, therefore we can have no sentence.

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Infinitives and participles, which are the infinite parts of the verb, cannot be predicates. “I looking up the street” is not a sentence, for it is not a complete action expressed. When we hear such an expression as “A dog running along the street,” we wait for something more to be added, something more affirmed about the dog, whether he bit or barked or fell dead or was run over.

Thus in every sentence there must be a finite verb to limit the subject.

When the verb is transitive, that is, when the action cannot happen without affecting something, the thing affected is called the object .

Thus in “Cain killed Abel” the action of the killing affected Abel. In “The cat has caught a mouse,” mouse is the object of the catching.

### Arrangement of Words in a Sentence

Of course in simple sentences the natural order of arrangement is subject—verb—object. In many cases no other form is possible. Thus in the sentence “The cat has caught a mouse,” we cannot reverse it and say “The mouse has caught a cat” without destroying the meaning, and in any other form of arrangement, such as “A mouse, the cat has caught,” we feel that while it is intelligible, it is a poor way of expressing the fact and one which jars upon us more or less.

In longer sentences, however, when there are more words than what are barely necessary for subject, verb and object, we have greater freedom of arrangement and can so place the words as to give the best effect. The proper placing of words depends upon perspicuity and precision. These two combined give style to the structure.

Most people are familiar with Gray's line in the immortal Elegy—“The ploughman homeward plods his weary way.” This line can be paraphrased to read 18 different ways. Here are a few variations:

Homeward the ploughman plods his weary way.

The ploughman plods his weary way homeward.

Plods homeward the ploughman his weary way.

His weary way the ploughman homeward plods.

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Homeward his weary way plods the ploughman.

Plods the ploughman his weary way homeward.

His weary way the ploughman plods homeward.

His weary way homeward the ploughman plods.

The ploughman plods homeward his weary way.

The ploughman his weary way plods homeward.

and so on. It is doubtful if any of the other forms are superior to the one used by the poet. Of course his arrangement was made to comply with the rhythm and rhyme of the verse. Most of the variations depend upon the emphasis we wish to place upon the different words.

In arranging the words in an ordinary sentence we should not lose sight of the fact that the beginning and end are the important places for catching the attention of the reader. Words in these places have greater emphasis than elsewhere.

In Gray's line the general meaning conveyed is that a weary ploughman is plodding his way homeward, but according to the arrangement a very slight difference is effected in the idea. Some of the variations make us think more of the ploughman, others more of the plodding, and still others more of the weariness.

As the beginning and end of a sentence are the most important places, it naturally follows that small or insignificant words should be kept from these positions. Of the two places the end one is the more important, therefore, it really calls for the most important word in the sentence. Never commence a sentence with *And* , *But* , *Since* , *Because* , and other similar weak words and never end it with prepositions, small, weak adverbs or pronouns.

The parts of a sentence which are most closely connected with one another in meaning should be closely connected in order also. By ignoring this principle many sentences are made, if not nonsensical, really ridiculous and ludicrous. For instance: "Ten dollars reward is offered for information of any person injuring this property by order of the owner." "This monument was erected to the memory of John Jones, who was shot by his affectionate brother."

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In the construction of all sentences the grammatical rules must be inviolably observed. The laws of concord, that is, the agreement of certain words, must be obeyed.

(1) The verb agrees with its subject in person and number. "I have," "Thou hast," (the pronoun *thou* is here used to illustrate the verb form, though it is almost obsolete), "He has," show the variation of the verb to agree with the subject. A singular subject calls for a singular verb, a plural subject demands a verb in the plural; as, "The boy writes," "The boys write."

The agreement of a verb and its subject is often destroyed by confusing

(1) collective and common nouns; (2) foreign and English nouns; (3) compound and simple subjects; (4) real and apparent subjects.

(1) A collective noun is a number of individuals or things regarded as a whole; as, class regiment. When the individuals or things are prominently brought forward, use a plural verb; as *The class were distinguished for ability.* When the idea of the whole as a unit is under consideration employ a singular verb; as *The regiment was in camp.* (2) It is sometimes hard for the ordinary individual to distinguish the plural from the singular in foreign nouns, therefore, he should be careful in the selection of the verb. He should look up the word and be guided accordingly. "He was an *alumnus* of Harvard." "They were *alumni* of Harvard." (3) When a sentence with one verb has two or more subjects denoting different things, connected by *and*, the verb should be plural; as, "Snow and rain are disagreeable." When the subjects denote the same thing and are connected by *or* the verb should be singular; as, "The man or the woman is to blame." (4) When the same verb has more than one subject of different persons or numbers, it agrees with the most prominent in thought; as, "He, and not you, is wrong." "Whether he or I am to be blamed."

(2) Never use the past participle for the past tense nor vice versa.

This mistake is a very common one. At every turn we hear "He done it" for "He did it." "The jar was broke" instead of broken. "He would have went" for "He would have gone," etc.

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(3)The use of the verbs *shall* and *will* is a rock upon which even the best speakers come to wreck. They are interchanged recklessly. Their significance changes according as they are used with the first, second or third person. With the first person *shall* is used in direct statement to express a simple future action; as, "I shall go to the city to-morrow." With the second and third persons *shall* is used to express a determination; as, "You shall go to the city to-morrow," "He shall go to the city to-morrow."

With the first person *will* is used in direct statement to express determination, as, "I will go to the city to-morrow." With the second and third persons *will* is used to express simple future action; as, "You will go to the city to-morrow," "He will go to the city to-morrow."

A very old rule regarding the uses of *shall* and *will* is thus expressed in rhyme:

In the first person simply *shall* foretells,  
In *will* a threat or else a promise dwells.  
    *Shall* in the second and third does threat,  
    *Will* simply then foretells the future feat.

(4)Take special care to distinguish between the nominative and objective case. The pronouns are the only words which retain the ancient distinctive case ending for the objective. Remember that the objective case follows transitive verbs and prepositions. Don't say "The boy who I sent to see you," but "The boy whom I sent to see you." Whom is here the object of the transitive verb sent. Don't say "She bowed to him and I" but "She bowed to him and me" since *me* is the objective case following the preposition *to* understood. "Between you and I" is a very common expression. It should be "Between you and me" since *between* is a preposition calling for the objective case.

(5)Be careful in the use of the relative pronouns *who*, *which* and *that*. *Who* refers only to persons; *which* only to things; as, "The boy who was drowned," "The

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umbrella which I lost.” The relative *that* may refer to both persons and things; as, “The man *that* I saw.” “The hat *that* I bought.”

(6) Don't use the superlative degree of the adjective for the comparative; as “He is the richest of the two” for “He is the richer of the two.” Other mistakes often made in this connection are (1) Using the double comparative and superlative; as, “These apples are much more preferable.” “The most universal motive to business is gain.” (2) Comparing objects which belong to dissimilar classes; as “There is no nicer life than a teacher .” (3) Including objects in class to which they do not belong; as, “The fairest of her daughters, Eve.” (4) Excluding an object from a class to which it does belong; as, “Caesar was braver than any ancient warrior.”

(7) Don't use an adjective for an adverb or an adverb for an adjective.

Don't say, “He acted nice towards me” but “He acted nicely toward me,” and instead of saying “She looked beautifully “ say “She looked beautiful .”

(8) Place the adverb as near as possible to the word it modifies. Instead of saying, “He walked to the door quickly,” say “He walked quickly to the door.”

(9) Not alone be careful to distinguish between the nominative and objective cases of the pronouns, but try to avoid ambiguity in their use.

The amusing effect of disregarding the reference of pronouns is well

illustrated in the following story of Billy Williams, a comic actor who thus narrates his experience in riding a horse owned by Hamblin, the manager:

“So down I goes to the stable with Tom Flynn, and told the man to put the saddle on him.”

**“On Tom Flynn?”**

“No, on the horse. So after talking with Tom Flynn awhile I mounted him.”

“What! mounted Tom Flynn?”

“No, the horse; and then I shook hands with him and rode off.”

“Shook hands with the horse, Billy?”

“No, with Tom Flynn; and then I rode off up the Bowery, and who should I meet but Tom Hamblin; so I got off and told the boy to hold him by the head.”

“What! hold Hamblin by the head?”

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“No, the horse; and then we went and had a drink together.”

“What! you and the horse?”

“No, me and Hamblin; and after that I mounted him again and went out of town.”

**“What! mounted Hamblin again?”**

“No, the horse; and when I got to Burnham, who should be there but Tom Flynn,--he'd taken another horse and rode out ahead of me; so I told the hostler to tie him up.”

“Tie Tom Flynn up?”

“No, the horse; and we had a drink there.”

“What! you and the horse?”

“No, me and Tom Flynn.”

Finding his auditors by this time in a horse laugh, Billy wound up with: “Now, look here,--every time I say horse, you say Hamblin, and every time I say Hamblin you say horse: I'll be hanged if I tell you any more about it.”

### *Sentence Classification*

There are two great classes of sentences according to the general principles upon which they are founded. These are termed the loose and the periodic .

In the loose sentence the main idea is put first, and then follow several facts in connection with it. Defoe is an author particularly noted for this kind of sentence. He starts out with a leading declaration to which he adds several attendant connections. For instance in the opening of the story of Robinson Crusoe we read: “I was born in the year 1632 in the city of York, of a good family, though not of that country, my father being a foreigner of Bremen, who settled first at Hull; he got a good estate by merchandise, and leaving off his trade lived afterward at York, from whence he had married my mother, whose relations were named Robinson, a very good family in the country and from I was called Robinson Kreutznaer; but by the usual corruption of words in England, we are now called, nay, we call ourselves, and write our name Crusoe, and so my companions always called me.”

In the periodic sentence the main idea comes last and is preceded by a series of relative introductions. This kind of sentence is often introduced by such words as that , if , since , because . The following is an example:

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“That through his own folly and lack of circumspection he should have been reduced to such circumstances as to be forced to become a beggar on the streets, soliciting alms from those who had formerly been the recipients of his bounty, was a sore humiliation.”

On account of its name many are liable to think the loose sentence an undesirable form in good composition, but this should not be taken for granted. In many cases it is preferable to the periodic form.

As a general rule in speaking, as opposed to writing, the loose form is to be preferred, in as much as when the periodic is employed in discourse the listeners are apt to forget the introductory clauses before the final issue is reached.

Both kinds are freely used in composition, but in speaking, the loose, which makes the direct statement at the beginning, should predominate.

As to the length of sentences much depends on the nature of the composition.

However the general rule may be laid down that short sentences are preferable to long ones. The tendency of the best writers of the present day is towards short, snappy, pithy sentences which rivet the attention of the reader. They adopt as their motto *multum in parvo* (much in little) and endeavor to pack a great deal in small space. Of course the extreme of brevity is to be avoided. Sentences can be too short, too jerky, too brittle to withstand the test of criticism. The long sentence has its place and a very important one. It is indispensable in argument and often is very necessary to description and also in introducing general principles which require elaboration. In employing the long sentence the inexperienced writer should not strain after the heavy, ponderous type. Johnson and Carlyle used such a type, but remember, an ordinary mortal cannot wield the sledge hammer of a giant. Johnson and Carlyle were intellectual giants and few can hope to stand on the same literary pedestal. The tyro in composition should never seek after the heavy style. The best of all authors in the English language for style is Addison. Macaulay says: “If you wish a style learned, but not pedantic, elegant but not ostentatious, simple yet refined, you must give your days and nights to the volumes of Joseph Addison.” The simplicity, apart from the beauty of Addison’s writings causes us to reiterate the literary command—“Never use a big word when a little one will convey the same or a similar meaning.”

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Macaulay himself is an elegant stylist to imitate. He is like a clear brook kissed by the noon-day sun in the shining bed of which you can see and count the beautiful white pebbles. Goldsmith is another writer whose simplicity of style charms.

The beginner should study these writers, make their works his vade mecum, they have stood the test of time and there has been no improvement upon them yet, nor is there likely to be, for their writing is as perfect as it is possible to be in the English language.

Apart from their grammatical construction there can be no fixed rules for the formation of sentences. The best plan is to follow the best authors and these masters of language will guide you safely along the way.

### *Letters*

A letter is a mark or character used to represent an articulate sound. Letters are divided into vowels and consonants. A vowel is a letter which makes a distinct sound by itself. Consonants cannot be sounded without the aid of vowels. The vowels are a, e, i, o, u, and sometimes w and y when they do not begin a word or syllable.

### *Syllables and Words*

A syllable is a distinct sound produced by a single effort. In every syllable there must be at least one vowel.

A word consists of one syllable or a combination of syllables.

Many rules are given for the dividing of words into syllables, but the best is to follow as closely as possible the divisions made by the organs of speech in properly pronouncing them.

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## Sentence Correction on the GMAT

The GMAT Verbal, section has 41 multiple-choice questions (with five answer choices per question). The three question types are Reading Comprehension, Critical Reasoning, and Sentence Correction. You are allowed a maximum of 75 minutes to complete the section. The Verbal section measures your ability to understand and evaluate what is written and to be familiar with basic conventions of standard written English.

The sentence correction section makes up roughly one-third of the verbal section of the GMAT. These questions are designed to test you on English Usage, your ability to form clear and effective sentences and your capacity to choose the appropriate word in a given context. You are expected to select an answer free of redundancies and ambiguities keeping the basic grammar rules in mind.

This section focuses only on those rules, which are most likely to be tested in the GMAT. Your basic strategy for mastering this section will necessarily have to be two pronged. We believe that if you can identify the source of the error correctly you will be successful in solving more than 80% of the questions correctly. Therefore you need to understand how the language operates. Please do not get intimidated by the grammatical jargon or the number of rules that are listed. They are necessary evils for solving these questions.

Also once you are able to identify the source of error, you will be able to eliminate all those alternatives, which repeat the error, thus helping you to narrow down your choices. Note that in a sentence correction question the first alternative repeats the error in the question, so if you have successfully located the error in the question, you can blindly ignore the first alternative and move on to the other alternatives. Given below are some guidelines that will help you master this section.

1. **The underlined part of the sentence is the one, which has the error,** There will be no other errors except in the underlined part. However unless you read the entire sentence you will not be able to spot the error for the simple reason that the part is connected to the whole.

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2. **The most common error is no error.** So if you can't spot an error in the question, you can select (A) as the answer because the first alternative repeats the underlined section verbatim.
3. **Never choose the alternative that changes the meaning of the sentence.** By the same rule of the thumb also avoid alternatives that are ambiguous, awkward or repetitive. There may be some sentences that are grammatically sound but that change the meaning of the sentence. Avoid such errors.
4. **If you can't spot the error in the sentence it doesn't panic.** Look at the alternatives for clues. Sometimes by examining the answer choices, you will find a hint to the kind of error you are looking for.
5. **Be aware of the common grammar and usage errors tested in the GMAT.** It is a good idea to have the following checklist of grammatical errors that are commonly tested in the GMAT.

### *Grammar Errors commonly Tested on the GMAT*

#### *Pronoun errors*

Very many mistakes occur in the use of the pronouns. "Let you and I go" should be "Let you and me go." "Let them and we go" should be "Let them and us go." The verb let is transitive and therefore takes the objective case.

"Give me them flowers" should be "Give me those flowers"; "I mean them three" should be "I mean those three." Them is the objective case of the personal pronoun and cannot be used adjectively like the demonstrative adjective pronoun. "I am as strong as him" should be "I am as strong as he"; "I am younger than her" should be "I am younger than she"; "He can write better than me" should be "He can write better than I," for in these examples the objective cases him, her and me are used wrongfully for the nominatives. After each of the misapplied pronouns a verb is understood of which each pronoun is the subject. Thus, "I am as strong as he (is)." "I am younger than she (is)." "He can write better than I (can)."

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Don't say "It is me;" say "It is I" The verb To Be of which is is a part takes the same case after it that it has before it. This holds good in all situations as well as with pronouns.

The verb To Be also requires the pronouns joined to it to be in the same case as a pronoun asking a question; The nominative I requires the nominative who and the objectives me, him, her, its, you, them, require the objective whom.

"Whom do you think I am?" should be "Who do you think I am?" and "Who do they suppose me to be?" should be "Whom do they suppose me to be?" The objective form of the Relative should be always used, in connection with a preposition. "Who do you take me for?" should be "Whom do, etc." "Who did you give the apple to?" should be "Whom did you give the apple to," but as pointed out elsewhere the preposition should never end a sentence, therefore, it is better to say, "To whom did you give the apple?"

After transitive verbs always use the objective cases of the pronouns.

For "He and they we have seen," say "Him and them we have seen."

### *Subject-verb errors*

**Subjects and Verbs MUST agree with one** another in **number** (singular or plural). Thus, if a subject is singular, its verb must also be singular; if a subject is plural, its verb must also be plural.

In present tenses, nouns and verbs form plurals in opposite ways:

Nouns ADD an *s* to the singular form,

### **BUT**

Verbs REMOVE an *s* from the singular form.

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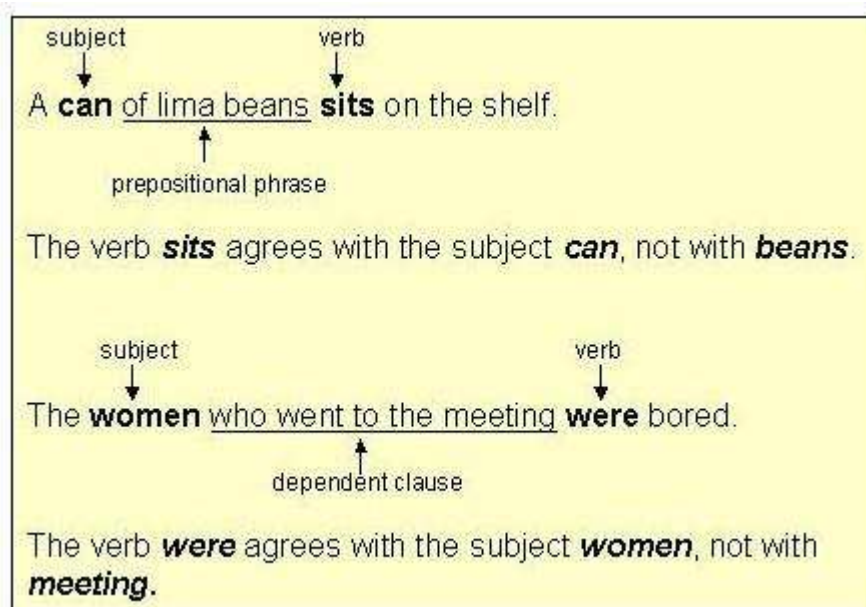
The lion chaseses the prey

The lionss chase the prey.

*Here are the important subject-verb agreement rules.*

1. A phrase or clause between subject and verb does not change the number of the subject.

Examples:

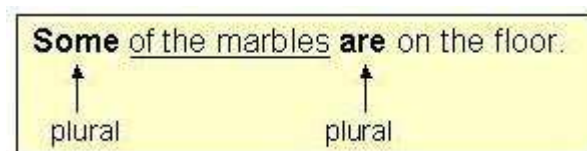


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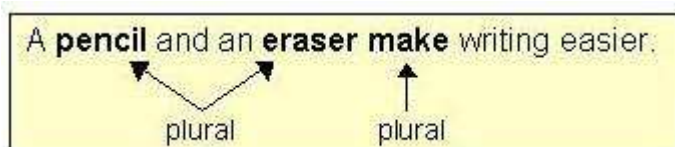
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Sugar is *uncountable*; therefore, the sentence has a singular verb.

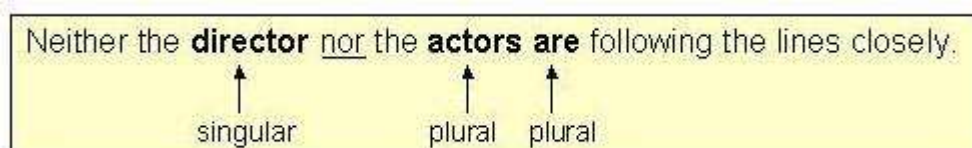
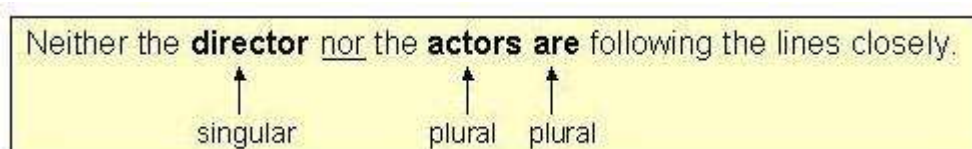


Marbles are *countable*; therefore, the sentence has a plural verb.

**3. Compound subjects joined by *and* are always plural.**



**4. With compound subjects joined by *or/nor*, the verb agrees with the subject nearer to it.**



**5. Inverted Subjects** must agree with the verb.

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Waiter, there **is** a **fly** in my soup. (There **are** four **flies** in my soup.)

↑     ↑  
singular   singular

↑     ↑  
plural   plural

How **are** the **relatives** taking the bad news?

↑     ↑  
plural   plural

**6. Collective Nouns** (*group, jury, crowd, team, etc.*) may be singular or plural, depending on meaning.

The **jury has** awarded custody to the grandmother.

↑     ↑  
singular   singular

In this example, the jury is acting as one unit; therefore, the verb is singular.

The **jury members have** been arguing for five days.

↑     ↑  
plural   plural

In this example, the jury members are acting as twelve individuals; therefore, the verb is plural.

**7. Titles of single entities** (*books, organizations, countries, etc.*) are always **singular**.

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- **Plural form subjects with a plural meaning** take a plural verb. (e.g. *scissors*, *trousers*)

The **scissors are** on the table.  
↑ plural ↑ plural

The **pair of scissors is** on the table.  
↑ singular ↑ singular

**Note:** In this example, the subject of the sentence is *pair*; therefore, the verb must agree with it. (Because *scissors* is the object of the preposition, *scissors* does not affect the number of the verb.)

**9. With subject and subjective complement of different number**, the verb always agrees with the subject.

My favorite **topic is** POEMS by Longfellow.  
↑ singular ↑ singular

**Poems by Longfellow are** my favorite TOPIC.  
↑ plural ↑ plural

### ***Misplaced modifier Errors***

Modifiers are words or groups of words that describe other parts of speech. The position of modifiers in a sentence indicates which element or elements they modify.

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Modifiers positioned ambiguously, illogically, awkwardly, or where they alter the meaning of the sentence should be repositioned for clarity.

*Not:* The Huskies' running back nearly ran 70 yards for the first down.

*But:* The Huskies' running back ran nearly 70 yards for the first down.

A dangling modifier is a phrase or clause that by its position seems to modify the wrong word or phrase. This type of modifier often appears at the beginning of a sentence.

*Incorrect*

Having gone to the store, the rain started right after I got out of the car.

To register for classes, I AM HERE forms must be signed by all students.

Although technically an undergraduate, Northeastern made sure Mark's thesis was submitted to the graduate competition.

To fix, just recast the sentence.

*Correct*

The rain started right after I got out of the car in the store's parking lot.

I AM HERE forms must be signed by all students registering for classes.

Although technically an undergraduate, Mark acting on the advice of his professors sent his thesis to the graduate competition.

Splitting an infinitive means placing an adverb between the to and the verb. Avoid splitting infinitives needlessly.

*Poor:* Professor Solzheimer wanted to quickly administer the exam.

*Better:* Professor Solzheimer wanted to administer the exam quickly.

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However, you may split an infinitive to avoid ambiguity.

*Ambiguous:* To lose money sometimes is irresponsible. [*might be read as "sometimes irresponsible"*]

*Clearer:* To sometimes lose money is irresponsible.

Misplaced and dangling modifiers are phrases that are not located properly in relation to the words they modify.

Misplaced modifiers lead to illogical sentences that are difficult to follow.

Question: How do we know we know if a sentence has a misplaced modifier?

Sentence:	A small book sat on the desk that Sarah had read.
Modifier:	"that Sarah had read"
Problem:	This modifier is misplaced because it modifies the desk. It sounds as if Sarah had read the desk.
Corrected:	A small book that Sarah had read sat on the desk.

Question: How do we catch misplaced modifier Sentences?

The two common types of modifier grammar errors are misplaced modifiers and dangling modifiers.

## 1. Misplaced Modifiers

The example above is a misplaced modifier.

To rehabilitate this grammar error Sentence, rewrite the sentence so that you place any modifiers as close as possible to the words, phrases, or clauses they modify.

Sentence:	The professor posted the notes for the students covered in class.
Problem:	The modifier, "covered in class," appears to modify "the students." Because the students are not covered in class, this is a misplaced modifier.
Corrected:	The professor posted the notes covered in class for the students.

## 2. Dangling Modifiers

occur with -ing modifiers

Modifiers dangle when they are not logically connected to the main part of the sentence.

To rehabilitate these grammar Sentences, either

State the subject right after the dangling modifier, or

Add the subject to the dangling phrase.

Sentence:	Walking through the park, the grass tickled my feet.
Problem:	"Walking through the park" seems to modify the grass. However, The grass cannot walk through the park. Therefore, this is a misplaced modifier.
Corrected:	The grass tickled my feet as I walked through the park. Walking through the park, I found that the grass tickled my feet.

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Parallel constructions

Parallel Construction

Use parallel construction to show the relationships among similar ideas. In the following sentences, the balance of elements heightens the effect of the ideas being conveyed.

Do not ask what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country.

A nation of the people, for the people, and by the people shall not perish from the earth.

You may experience problems with parallelism when you create a “series” of things—a group of three or more nouns, verbs, or phrases. For example, in the following sentence, the writer lists four things that she did, but the items are not in parallel forms:

In school I studied writing, how to increase my vocabulary, how to express parallel ideas in parallel grammatical forms, and critical reading.

Two of the items in this list are *nouns* (“writing” and “critical reading”), and two of the items are *infinitives* (“how to increase my vocabulary” and “how to express parallel ideas in parallel grammatical forms”). One way to correct this faulty parallelism is to make all four elements into infinitives:

**Time now for a quick Quiz on parallel construction & dangling modifiers:**

1. Select the sentence that illustrates the use of proper parallel construction.

Phuong Tran has wit, charm, and she has an extremely pleasant personality.

Phuong Tran has wit, charm, and a pleasing personality.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence is correct. **In the second sentence, I have a group of three nouns: wit, charm, and personality.**

---

2. Select the sentence that illustrates the use of proper parallel construction.

In English class, Tashonda learned to read poems critically and to appreciate good prose.

In English class, Tashonda learned to read poems critically and she appreciated good prose.

The 1st sentence is correct. **She learned two things, which are both in the infinitive form in the first sentence.**

---

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3. Select the sentence that illustrates the use of proper parallel construction.

Raoul's QPA is higher than Ralph.

Raoul's QPA is higher than Ralph's.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence is correct **We don't want to compare a QPA to Ralph; we want to compare QPAs.**

---

4. Select the sentence that illustrates the use of proper parallel construction.

He wanted three things out of college: to learn a skill, to make good friends, and to learn about life.

He wanted three things out of college: to learn a skill, to make good friends, and learning about life.

The 1st sentence is correct. **The second sentence mixes two infinitives with a participle form.**

---

5. Select the sentence that illustrates the use of proper parallel construction.

Coach Espinoza was a brilliant strategist, a caring mentor, and a wise friend.

Coach Espinoza was a brilliant strategist, a caring mentor, and friend.

The 1st sentence is correct. **Once we establish that article-adjective-noun pattern, we should stick to it!**

---

6. Select the sentence that illustrates the use of proper parallel construction.

We found the film repulsive, offensive, and we thought it was embarrassing.

We found the film repulsive, offensive, and embarrassing.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence is correct. **A series of three similar adjectives instead of two adjectives and an independent clause.**

---

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7. Select the sentence that illustrates the use of proper parallel construction.

Mr. Nguyen kept his store clean, neat, and he made it conveniently arranged.

Mr. Nguyen kept his store clean, neat, and conveniently arranged.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence is correct. **For the sake of variety we can add modifiers to a string of otherwise parallel elements.**

---

8. Select the sentence that illustrates the use of proper parallel construction.

Professor Ali rewarded his students for working hard on the final project and going beyond the call of duty.

Professor Ali rewarded his students for their hard work on the final project and going beyond the call of duty.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence is correct. ***Working hard and going beyond* become parallel elements.**

---

9. Select the sentence that illustrates the use of proper parallel construction.

There's nothing I like better than finding a good trout stream, setting up camp, and spending a couple of days fishing.

There's nothing I like better than finding a good trout stream, setting up camp, and to spend a couple of days fishing.

The 1st sentence is correct. **Three verbals (gerunds) are parallel -- as opposed to two gerunds and an infinitive form.**

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## *Tenses*

### **Consistent verb tense**

Verb tenses must be used correctly and consistently. Otherwise, established times of actions become confused in your readers' minds.

*Incorrect:* I decided to go to the library to do some research. As I was walking up the stairs, some guy grabs my bag. I turn around and punch him in the nose.

*Correct:* I decided to go to the library to do some research. As I was walking up the stairs, some guy grabbed my bag. I turned around and punched him in the nose.

## Comparative constructions

*Comparatives* and *Superlatives* are special forms of adjectives. They are used to compare two or more things. Generally, comparatives are formed using **-er** and superlatives are formed using **-est**. This page will explain the rules for forming regular comparatives and superlatives, and also show some basic ways of using them

### **Comparatives.**

The *comparative* is the form of an adjective or adverb that implies a greater degree than the "positive" (base) form of the word: not *good* (positive) but *better* (comparative); not *hot* (positive) but *hotter* (comparative); not *arbitrary* (positive) but *more arbitrary* (comparative). (The next step up is the *superlative*: not *good* or *better* but *best*; not *hot* or *hotter* but *hottest*; not *arbitrary* or *more arbitrary* but *most arbitrary*.)

As the examples suggest, there are three basic ways to form comparatives. A few are irregular: *good, better, best; bad, worse, worst*. These simply have to be memorized, although virtually all native speakers learn them in early childhood. (Young children might say *gooder* and *goodest*, but they pick up on the irregular forms quickly.)

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Most adjectives form their comparatives with *-er* (sometimes doubling the final consonant, sometimes turning a final *y* into *i*): *slower, bigger, happier*. The superlative of these adjectives is formed with *-est*: *slowest, biggest, happiest*.

But a large class doesn't take *-er*; it's formed with *more*: not *arbitrarier* but *more arbitrary*; not *exhausteder* but *more exhausted*. (The superlatives of these adjectives is formed with *most*: *most arbitrary, most exhausted*.)

Unfortunately, there's no good rule to tell you which class an adjective belongs to. A rough guideline is that long adjectives take *more* rather than *-er*: you'd never say *condescendinger* or *unaccountabler*. But what exactly constitutes a "long" adjective isn't clear. A good dictionary will give you the comparative and superlative form of most adjectives; if ever you're in doubt, look it up.

### ***Comparative Pitfalls to avoid on the GMAT***

#### RULE-1

When two dissimilar things are being compared, the point of comparison must be made very clear with the help of a pronoun or a modifying clause.

It is incorrect to say

It is not as cold as yesterday.

Cold is not being compared with yesterday. A day's temperature is being compared with another day's temperature. Hence, the correct form of the sentence would be

It is not as cold as it was yesterday.

Let us take a look at another example of this kind.

People in America are more hardworking than Europe is incorrect because the comparison is not clear. Obviously the comparison is between people of America and people of Europe. So the sentence, could be corrected as

People in America are more hardworking than people in Europe.

However, it is very likely that the options available to you in the GMAT may not have this sentence. In that case you need to look for a pronoun that stands for the phrase *people in Europe*. You might be more likely to find an option, which has

People in America are more hardworking than those in Europe.

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## RULE 2

Care should also be taken not to compare something with the class it belongs to. Look at the following sentences;

Roses smell sweeter than any flowers. Mangoes are more expensive than any fruits.

Roses belong to the class of flowers and mangoes belong to the class of fruits, but these sentences imply otherwise. To correct them you need to say

Roses smell sweeter than any other flowers do.

Mangoes are more expensive than any other fruit.

In both the cases the sentence makes it clear that roses/mangoes belong to the respective class but have some quality that is not found in other members of the same class.

## RULE 3

Ambiguous comparative constructions must be avoided.

He hates television as much as his wife.

What does this sentence mean? Does it mean that he hates both the television as well as his wife. Or does it mean that both he and his wife hate television? The ambiguity must be resolved by having two separate constructions.

He hates television as much as his wife does.

He hates television as much as he hates his wife.

In the GMAT you will find one option that corrects this kind of ambiguity but changes the meaning of the sentence. You have to avoid that and choose the option that corrects the ambiguity but keeps the sense of the original sentence.

## RULE 4

Care must be taken when saying something is "as good as, 'if not better than" something else. The first part of this expression - and similar ones - is sometimes left hanging in the air:

Gold is as cheap, if not cheaper than it was last year.

Here the as..as construction is left incomplete and therefore the sentence is incorrect.

The correct form is

Gold is as cheap as it was last year, if not cheaper.

## **A final word**

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If you find that a sentence compares two things and if you find comparative words such as "as", "than", "like" and others you must look for an error in comparatives. You need to check to see whether the two things have been correctly compared and whether rules for comparison have been maintained. For example, if you have a sentence like

There were twice as many casualties in the riots this year than in the year before.

Ask yourself what is being compared? Number of casualties? The sentence does not clarify that; you obviously need a pronoun in the second clause to clarify the point of comparison,

The sentence should read as

There were twice as many casualties in the riots this year than those in the year before.

### ***What the GMAT SC Section Does NOT TEST***

Punctuation

Spelling

Sentence Fragments

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## Sentence Correction Pitfalls to Avoid

Common Stumbling Blocks—Peculiar Constructions—Misused Forms.

### ***THAT FOR SO***

“The hurt it was that painful it made him cry,” say “so painful.”

### ***THESE—THOSE***

Don't say, These kind; those sort . Kind and sort are each singular and require the singular pronouns this and that . In connection with these demonstrative adjective pronouns remember that this and these refer to what is near at hand, that and those to what is more distant; as, this book (near me), that book (over there), these boys (near), those boys (at a distance).

### ***THIS MUCH—THUS MUCH***

“ This much is certain” should be “ Thus much or so much is certain.”

### ***FLEE—FLY***

These are two separate verbs and must not be interchanged. The principal parts of flee are flee , fled , fled ; those of fly are fly , flew , flown . To flee is generally used in the meaning of getting out of danger. To fly means to soar as a bird. To say of a man “He has flown from the place” is wrong; it should be “He has fled from the place.” We can say with propriety that “A bird has flown from the place.”

### ***THROUGH—THROUGHOUT***

Don't say “He is well known through the land,” but “He is well known throughout the land.”

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## *VOCATION AND AVOCATION*

Don't mistake these two words so nearly alike. Vocation is the employment, business or profession one follows for a living; avocation is some pursuit or occupation which diverts the person from such employment, business or profession. Thus  
"His vocation was the law, his avocation, farming."

## *WAS—WERE*

In the subjunctive mood the plural form *were* should be used with a singular subject; as, "If I *were*," not *was*. Remember the plural form of the personal pronoun *you* always takes *were*, though it may denote but one. Thus, "You *were*," never "you *was*." "If I *was* him" is a very common expression. Note the two mistakes in it,—that of the verb implying a condition, and that of the objective case of the pronoun. It should read *If I were he*. This is another illustration of the rule regarding the verb *To Be*, taking the same case after it as before it; *were* is part of the verb *To Be*, therefore as the nominative (I) goes before it, the nominative (he) should come after it.

## *A OR AN*

*A* becomes *an* before a vowel or before *h* mute for the sake of euphony or agreeable sound to the ear. *An apple*, *an orange*, *an heir*, *an honor*, etc.

## *ATTRACTION*

Very often the verb is separated from its real nominative or subject by several intervening words and in such cases one is liable to make the verb agree with the subject nearest to it. Here are a few examples showing that the leading writers now and then take a tumble into this pitfall:

(1) "The partition which the two ministers made of the powers of government *were* singularly happy."

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(Should be *was* to agree with its subject, partition .)

(2)“One at least of the qualities which fit it for training ordinary men unfit it for training an extraordinary man.”

(Should be *unfits* to agree with subject one .)

(3)“The Tibetans have engaged to exclude from their country those dangerous influences whose appearance were the chief cause of our action.”

(Should be *was* to agree with appearance .)

(4)“An immense amount of confusion and indifference prevail in these days.”

(Should be *prevails* to agree with amount.)

### ***THE SPLIT INFINITIVE***

Even the best speakers and writers are in the habit of placing a modifying word or words between the *to* and the remaining part of the infinitive. “He was scarcely able *to even* talk “ “She commenced *to rapidly* walk around the room.” “ *To have really* loved is better than not *to have at all* loved .” In these constructions it is much better not to split the infinitive.

In New York City there is a certain magistrate who prides himself on his diction in language. He tells this story: A prisoner, a faded, battered specimen of mankind, on whose haggard face, deeply lined with the marks of dissipation, there still lingered faint reminders of better days long past, stood dejected before the judge. “Where are you from?” asked the magistrate. “From Boston,” answered the accused. “Indeed,” said the judge, “indeed, yours is a sad case, and yet you don’t seem *to thoroughly* realise how low you have sunk.” The man stared as if struck. “Your honor does me an injustice,” he said bitterly. “The disgrace of arrest for drunkenness, the mortification of being thrust

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into a noisome dungeon, the publicity and humiliation of trial in a crowded and dingy courtroom I can bear, but to be sentenced by a Police Magistrate who splits his infinitives—that is indeed the last blow.”

### **ONE**

The indefinite adjective pronoun *one* when put in place of a personal substantive is liable to raise confusion. When a sentence or expression is begun with the impersonal *one* the word must be used throughout in all references to the subject. Thus, “One must mind one’s own business if one wishes to succeed” may seem prolix and awkward, nevertheless it is the proper form. You must not say—“One must mind his business if he wishes to succeed,” for the subject is impersonal and therefore cannot exclusively take the masculine pronoun. With *any one* it is different. You may say—“If any one sins he should acknowledge it; let him not try to hide it by another sin.”

### **ONLY**

This is a word that is a pitfall to the most of us whether learned or unlearned. Probably it is the most indiscriminately used word in the language. From the different positions it is made to occupy in a sentence it can relatively change the meaning. For instance in the sentence—“I *only* struck him that time,” the meaning to be inferred is, that the *only* thing I did to him was to *strike* him, not *kick* or otherwise abuse him. But if the *only* is shifted, so as to make the sentence read-“I struck him *only* that time” the meaning conveyed is, that *only* on that occasion and at no other time did I strike him. If another shift is made to-“I struck *only* him that time,” the meaning is again altered so that it signifies he was the *only* person I struck.

In speaking we can by emphasis impress our meaning on our hearers, but in writing we have nothing to depend upon but the position of the word in the sentence. The best rule in regard to *only* is to place it immediately before the word or phrase it modifies or limits.

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## ***ALONE***

is another word which creates ambiguity and alters meaning. If we substitute it for only in the preceding example the meaning of the sentence will depend upon the arrangement. Thus "I alone struck him at that time" signifies that I and no other struck him. When the sentence reads "I struck him alone at that time" it must be interpreted that he was the only person that received a blow. Again if it is made to read "I struck him at that time alone" the sense conveyed is that that was the only occasion on which I struck him. The rule which governs the correct use of only is also applicable to alone.

## ***OTHER AND ANOTHER***

These are words which often give to expressions a meaning far from that intended. Thus, "I have nothing to do with that other rascal across the street," certainly means that I am a rascal myself. "I sent the despatch to my friend, but another villain intercepted it," clearly signifies that my friend is a villain.

A good plan is to omit these words when they can be readily done without, as in the above examples, but when it is necessary to use them make your meaning clear. You can do this by making each sentence or phrase in which they occur independent of contextual aid.

## ***AND WITH THE RELATIVE***

Never use and with the relative in this manner: "That is the dog I meant and which I know is of pure breed." This is an error quite common. The use of and is permissible when there is a parallel relative in the preceding sentence or clause. Thus: "There is the dog which I meant and which I know is of pure breed" is quite correct.

## ***LOOSE PARTICIPLES***

A participle or participial phrase is naturally referred to the nearest nominative. If only one nominative is expressed it claims all the participles that are not by the construction of

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the sentence otherwise fixed. "John, working in the field all day and getting thirsty, drank from the running stream." Here the participles *working* and *getting* clearly refer to John. But in the sentence,--"Swept along by the mob I could not save him," the participle as it were is lying around loose and may be taken to refer to either the person speaking or to the person spoken about. It may mean that I was swept along by the mob or the individual whom I tried to save was swept along.

"Going into the store the roof fell" can be taken that it was the roof which was going into the store when it fell. Of course the meaning intended is that some person or persons were going into the store just as the roof fell.

In all sentence construction with participles there should be such clearness as to preclude all possibility of ambiguity. The participle should be so placed that there can be no doubt as to the noun to which it refers. Often it is advisable to supply such words as will make the meaning obvious.

### ***BROKEN CONSTRUCTION***

Sometimes the beginning of a sentence presents quite a different grammatical construction from its end. This arises from the fact probably, that the beginning is lost sight of before the end is reached. This occurs frequently in long sentences. Thus: "Honesty, integrity and square-dealing will bring anybody much better through life than the absence of either." Here the construction is broken at *than*. The use of *either*, only used in referring to one of two, shows that the fact is forgotten that three qualities and not two are under consideration. Any one of the three meanings might be intended in the sentence, viz., absence of any one quality, absence of any two of the qualities or absence of the whole three qualities. *Either* denotes one or the other of two and should never be applied to any one of more than two. When we fall into the error of constructing such sentences as above, we should take them apart and reconstruct them in a different grammatical form. Thus,--"Honesty, integrity and square-dealing will bring a man much better through life than a lack of these qualities which are almost essential to success."

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## ***DOUBLE NEGATIVE***

It must be remembered that two negatives in the English language destroy each other and are equivalent to an affirmative. Thus “I don’t know nothing about it” is intended to convey, that I am ignorant of the matter under consideration, but it defeats its own purpose, inasmuch as the use of nothing implies that I know something about it. The sentence should read—“I don’t know anything about it.”

Often we hear such expressions as “He was not asked to give no opinion,” expressing the very opposite of what is intended. This sentence implies that he was asked to give his opinion. The double negative, therefore, should be carefully avoided, for it is insidious and is liable to slip in and the writer remain unconscious of its presence until the eye of the critic detects it.

## ***FIRST PERSONAL PRONOUN***

The use of the first personal pronoun should be avoided as much as possible in composition. Don’t introduce it by way of apology and never use such expressions as “In my opinion,” “As far as I can see,” “It appears to me,” “I believe,” etc. In what you write, the whole composition is expressive of your views, since you are the author, therefore, there is no necessity for you to accentuate or emphasize yourself at certain portions of it.

Moreover, the big I’s savor of egotism! Steer clear of them as far as you can. The only place where the first person is permissible is in passages where you are stating a view that is not generally held and which is likely to meet with opposition.

## ***SEQUENCE OF TENSES***

When two verbs depend on each other their tenses must have a definite relation to each other. “I shall have much pleasure in accepting your kind invitation” is wrong, unless you really mean that just now you decline though by-and-by you intend to accept; or unless you mean that you do accept now, though you have no pleasure in doing so, but look forward to be more pleased by-and-by. In fact the sequence of the compound tenses

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puzzle experienced writers. The best plan is to go back in thought to the time in question and use the tense you would then naturally use. Now in the sentence “I should have liked to have gone to see the circus” the way to find out the proper sequence is to ask yourself the question—what is it I “should have liked” to do? and the plain answer is “to go to see the circus.” I cannot answer—“To have gone to see the circus” for that would imply that at a certain moment I would have liked to be in the position of having gone to the circus. But I do not mean this; I mean that at the moment at which I am speaking I wish I had gone to see the circus. The verbal phrase I should have liked carries me back to the time when there was a chance of seeing the circus and once back at the time, the going to the circus is a thing of the present. This whole explanation resolves itself into the simple question,--what should I have liked at that time, and the answer is “to go to see the circus,” therefore this is the proper sequence, and the expression should be “I should have liked to go to see the circus.”

If we wish to speak of something relating to a time prior to that indicated in the past tense we must use the perfect tense of the infinitive; as, “He appeared to have seen better days.” We should say “I expected to meet him,” not “I expected to have met him.” “We intended to visit you,” not “to have visited you.” “I hoped they would arrive,” not “I hoped they would have arrived.” “I thought I should catch the bird,” not “I thought I should have caught the bird.” “I had intended to go to the meeting,” not “I had intended to have gone to the meeting.”

### ***BETWEEN—AMONG***

These prepositions are often carelessly interchanged. Between has reference to two objects only, among to more than two. “The money was equally divided between them” is right when there are only two, but if there are more than two it should be “the money was equally divided among them.”

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## ***LESS—FEWER***

Less refers to quantity, fewer to number. “No man has less virtues” should be “No man has fewer virtues.” “The farmer had some oats and a fewer quantity of wheat” should be “the farmer had some oats and a less quantity of wheat.”

## ***FURTHER—FARTHER***

Further is commonly used to denote quantity, farther to denote distance. “I have walked farther than you,” “I need no further supply” are correct.

## ***EACH OTHER—ONE ANOTHER***

Each other refers to two, one another to more than two. “Jones and Smith quarreled; they struck each other” is correct. “Jones, Smith and Brown quarreled; they struck one another” is also correct. Don't say, “The two boys teach one another” nor “The three girls love each other.”

## ***EACH, EVERY, EITHER, NEITHER***

These words are continually misapplied. Each can be applied to two or any higher number of objects to signify every one of the number independently. Every requires more than two to be spoken of and denotes all the persons or things taken separately. Either denotes one or the other of two, and should not be used to include both. Neither is the negative of either, denoting not the other, and not the one, and relating to two persons or things considered separately.

The following examples illustrate the correct usage of these words:

Each man of the crew received a reward.

Every man in the regiment displayed bravery.

We can walk on either side of the street.

Neither of the two is to blame.

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## ***NEITHER-NOR***

When two singular subjects are connected by *neither* , *nor* use a singular verb; as, “*Neither John nor James was there* ,” not *were there*.

With *either...or*, *neither...nor*, *or*, and *only* . . . But also, if both the subjects are singular then the verb is a so singular.

*Neither the banana nor the apple appeals to him.*

*Not only the educational policy, but its enforcement also lacks conviction.*

*But If both Subjects are plural then the verb also I will be plural.*

*Either your Colleagues or your friends are ready to represent you at the conference.*

*Neither bananas nor apples appeal to him.*

*Not only the policies themselves, but also the enforcing officials lack conviction.*

*If one subject is singular and the other' is plural, the verb should agree with the immediately preceding subject.*

*Neither you nor your friends were to be found anywhere.*

*Not only the teacher but all the students also feel the same way.*

## ***NONE***

Custom Has sanctioned the use of this word both with a singular and plural; as—“*None is so blind as he who will not see*” and “*None are so blind as they who will not see.*”

However, as it is a contraction of *no one* it is better to use the singular verb.

## ***RISE-RAISE***

These verbs are very often confounded. *Rise* is to move or pass upward in any manner; as to “*rise from bed;*” to increase in value, to improve in position or rank, as “*stocks rise;*” “*politicians rise;*” “*they have risen to honor.*”

*Raise* is to lift up, to exalt, to enhance, as “*I raise the table;*” “*He raised his servant;*” “*The baker raised the price of bread .*”

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## **LAY-LIE**

The transitive verb *lay* , and *lay* , the past tense of the neuter verb *lie* , are often confounded, though quite different in meaning. The neuter verb *to lie* , meaning to lie down or rest, cannot take the objective after it except with a preposition. We can say “He lies on the ground,” but we cannot say “He lies the ground,” since the verb is neuter and intransitive and, as such, cannot have a direct object. With *lay* it is different. *Lay* is a transitive verb, therefore it takes a direct object after it; as “I lay a wager,” “I laid the carpet,” etc.

Of a carpet or any inanimate subject we should say, “It lies on the floor,” “A knife lies on the table,” not *lays* . But of a person we say—“He lays the knife on the table,” not “He lies ----.” *Lay* being the past tense of the neuter *to lie* (down) we should say, “He lay on the bed,” and *lain* being its past participle we must also say “He has lain on the bed.”

We can say “I lay myself down.” “He laid himself down” and such expressions.

It is imperative to remember in using these verbs that *to lay* means to do something, and *to lie* means to be in a state of rest .

## **SAYS I—I SAID**

“Says I” is a vulgarism; don’t use it. “I said” is correct form.

## **IN—INTO**

Be careful to distinguish the meaning of these two little prepositions and don’t interchange them. Don’t say “He went in the room” nor “My brother is into the navy.” *In* denotes the place where a person or thing, whether at rest or in motion, is present; and *into* denotes entrance . “He went into the room;” “My brother is in the navy” are correct.

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## *EAT—ATE*

Don't confound the two. Eat is present, ate is past. "I eat the bread" means that I am continuing the eating; "I ate the bread" means that the act of eating is past. Eaten is the perfect participle, but often eat is used instead, and as it has the same pronunciation (et) of ate, care should be taken to distinguish the past tense, I ate from the perfect I have eaten (eat).

## *SEQUENCE OF PERSON*

Remember that the first person takes precedence of the second and the second takes precedence of the third. When Cardinal Wolsey said Ego et Rex (I and the King), he showed he was a good grammarian, but a bad courtier.

## *AM COME—HAVE COME*

"I am come" points to my being here, while "I have come" intimates that I have just arrived. When the subject is not a person, the verb to be should be used in preference to the verb to have; as, "The box is come" instead of "The box has come."

## *PAST TENSE—PAST PARTICIPLE*

The interchange of these two parts of the irregular or so-called strong verbs is, perhaps, the breach oftenest committed by careless speakers and writers. To avoid mistakes it is requisite to know the principal parts of these verbs, and this knowledge is very easy of acquirement, as there are not more than a couple of hundred of such verbs, and of this number but a small part is in daily use. Here are some of the most common blunders: "I seen" for "I saw;" "I done it" for "I did it;" "I drunk" for "I drank;" "I begun" for "I began;" "I rung" for "I rang;" "I run" for "I ran;" "I sung" for "I sang;" "I have chose" for "I have chosen;" "I have drove" for "I have driven;" "I have wore" for "I have worn;"

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“I have trod” for “I have trodden;” “I have shook” for “I have shaken;” “I have fell” for “I have fallen;” “I have drank” for “I have drunk;” “I have began” for “I have begun;” “I have rang” for “I have rung;” “I have rose” for “I have risen;” “I have spoke” for “I have spoken;” “I have broke” for “I have broken.” “It has froze” for “It has frozen.” “It has blowed” for “It has blown.” “It has flowed” (of a bird) for “It has flown.”

N. B.—The past tense and past participle of To Hang is *hanged* or *hung*. When you are talking about a man meeting death on the gallows, say “He was *hanged*”; when you are talking about the carcass of an animal say, “It was *hung*,” as “The beef was *hung* dry.” Also say your coat “was *hung* on a hook.”

### ***PREPOSITIONS AND THE OBJECTIVE CASE***

Don't forget that prepositions always take the objective case. Don't say

“Between you and I “; say “Between you and me “

Two prepositions should not govern one objective unless there is an immediate connection between them. “He was refused admission to and forcibly ejected from the school” should be “He was refused admission to the school and forcibly ejected from it.”

His objection and condoning of the boy's course, seemed to say the least, paradoxical.

(The preposition *to* should come after objection.)

Many men of brilliant parts are crushed by force of circumstances and their genius forever lost to the world.

(Some maintain that the missing verb after genius is *are*, but such is ungrammatical. In such cases the right verb should be always expressed: as—their genius *is* forever lost to the world.)

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## ***SUMMON—SUMMONS***

Don't say "I shall summons him," but "I shall summon him." Summon is a verb, summons, a noun.

It is correct to say "I shall get a summons for him," not a summon.

## ***UNDENIABLE—UNEXCEPTIONABLE***

"My brother has an undeniable character" is wrong if I wish to convey the idea that he has a good character. The expression should be in that case "My brother has an unexceptionable character." An undeniable character is a character that cannot be denied, whether bad or good. An unexceptionable character is one to which no one can take exception.

## **Superfluous Words**

In the following examples the word or words in parentheses are uncalled for and should be omitted:

1. Fill the glass (full).
2. They appeared to be talking (together) on private affairs.
3. I saw the boy and his sister (both) in the garden.
4. He went into the country last week and returned (back) yesterday.
5. The subject (matter) of his discourse was excellent.

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6. You need not wonder that the (subject) matter of his discourse was excellent; it was taken from the Bible.
7. They followed (after) him, but could not overtake him.
8. The same sentiments may be found throughout (the whole of) the book.
9. I was very ill every day (of my life) last week.
10. That was the (sum and) substance of his discourse.
11. He took wine and water and mixed them (both) together.
12. He descended (down) the steps to the cellar.
13. He fell (down) from the top of the house.
14. I hope you will return (again) soon.
15. The things he took away he restored (again).
16. The thief who stole my watch was compelled to restore it (back again).
17. It is equally (the same) to me whether I have it today or tomorrow.
18. She said, (says she) the report is false; and he replied, (says he) if it be not correct I have been misinformed.
19. I took my place in the cars (for) to go to New York.
20. They need not (to) call upon him.
21. Nothing (else) but that would satisfy him.
22. Whenever I ride in the cars I (always) find it prejudicial to my health.
23. He was the first (of all) at the meeting.
24. He was the tallest of (all) the brothers.
25. You are the tallest of (all) your family.
26. Whenever I pass the house he is (always) at the door.
27. The rain has penetrated (through) the roof.
28. Besides my uncle and aunt there was (also) my grandfather at the church.
29. It should (ever) be your constant endeavor to please your family.
30. If it is true as you have heard (then) his situation is indeed pitiful.
31. Either this (here) man or that (there) woman has (got) it.
32. Where is the fire (at)?
33. Did you sleep in church? Not that I know (of).
34. I never before (in my life) met (with) such a stupid man.

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35. (For) why did he postpone it?
36. Because (why) he could not attend.
37. What age is he? (Why) I don't know.
38. He called on me (for) to ask my opinion.
39. I don't know where I am (at).
40. I looked in (at) the window.
41. I passed (by) the house.
42. He (always) came every Sunday.
43. Moreover, (also) we wish to say he was in error.
44. It is not long (ago) since he was here.
45. Two men went into the wood (in order) to cut (down) trees.

Further examples of redundancy might be multiplied.

### **GMAT IDIOM Pitfalls that Winners avoid**

Idioms is one of the most important areas tested in GMAT sentence correction.

An Idiom is a phrase or word used in special meaning that one cannot understand from just knowing the dictionary definition of the words or the grammar of its parts. Many of the phrasal verbs are idiomatic. To bear up, for example, means to have courage. Most idioms are formed with prepositions, but the problem with prepositions is that you cannot decide which preposition to use according to logic. The usage is conventional and is either right or wrong. There are no rules or logical assumptions to be used in order to determine the correctness of an idiomatic expression.

So then, how do you know the correct idiomatic expression? Well to use one, you play it by the ear. To give you an example you agree to something but you agree with someone!

To differ from is to be different, but to differ with is to disagree.

It is correct to say the lesser of the two evils but wrong to say less of the two evils, a pole is ten feet long and not ten foot long. Given below are some of the most common idiomatic expressions that are likely to confuse you. Take a close look at their usage and try and remember the conventions of this usage so that when you encounter an incorrect usage you are able to identify it and correct it.

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## SEPERABLES AND INSEPERABLES

As you right well be aware the meanings of two word verbs known as phrasal verbs are idiomatic in nature. For example "to catch on" means to understand and "to put off" means to postpone.

According to the rules inseparables also known as prepositional verbs, are never to be separated from each other, i.e. both the words are to be used together. It is grammatically wrong to separate the parts of phrasal verbs. If there is a direct object, it follows the second word.

Given below is a list of some of the common inseparables of the English language:

Account for	Hold off/up
Ask for	Look after /ahead/away /for
Bear up	Pull Up
Boil over	Run over
Break in/ out/into	See through
Call for/on	Send for
Care for	Show off
Carry on	Stand by
Clean up	Stay up
Come away	Talk back
Come into/out	Turn up
Get over	Wear away
Give in/out	
Go ahead/back/up	
Grow up	



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## Separables

Like inseparable prepositional verbs, these verbs also have idiomatic meanings. Separable two word verbs are also called phrasal verbs. A pronoun object or a short noun object can come between the two verbs. Given below is a list of the separables :-

Back it up	Make it out/up
Blow it up	Mix it up
Break them down	Pass it on
Break them off	Pay it back
Bring it about	Pick it out
Bring it up	Point it out
Burn it up/down	Put it across/away/off /out
Clear it away /up	Round them off
Close it down	Set it up
Draw it up	Take it in/up/out
Fill it up	Talk it up/over
Find it up	Think it over/out
Give it away/up/out	Throw it away
Hand it in /out	Try it on
Keep them down/up/on /out	Turn them away/down/off/over/up
Leave it out	Wear them out
Let it in	Wind it up
Look it up	Wipe it out
Look it up	Work it out

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Given below is a list of common errors in idiomatic usage. Once again this list is by no means exhaustive. Whenever in doubt, it is always a good idea to consult a standard dictionary.

Agree with something/agree to something

Agree with somebody/something = have' the same opinion as

Incorrect: I agree to his statement.

Correct: I agree with his statement.

Agree to something = be willing to accept or allow something

Incorrect: Conservationists will never agree with the building of flyovers. Correct: Conservationists will never agree to the building of flyover

Break up/down

Break up = stop being together as a couple or as a group

Incorrect: The Spice girls broke just after Posh Spice married David Beckham.

Correct: The Spice girls broke up just after Posh Spice married David Beckham.

Break down = break something

Incorrect: The police had to break the door to get in.

Correct: The police had to break down the door to get in.

Cut up/down/off/out

Cut up = cut something into small pieces.

Incorrect: You first cut the potatoes and fry them in a saucepan.

Correct: You first cut up the potatoes and saucepan; or you first cut the potatoes into pieces..

saucepan.

Cut out = remove a part of something by cutting all around it

Incorrect: I cut the picture and stuck it on a piece of paper.

Correct: I cut out the picture. and stuck it on a piece of paper.

Cut down = usually referred to the cutting of trees

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Incorrect: They have cut a lot of trees to make *way* for advertisement hoardings.

Correct: They have cut down a lot of trees to make way for advertisement hoardings.

Cut (without down) = reduce the cost, size, price of something .

Incorrect: They have cut down the cost of production in order to increase profits.

Correct: They have cut the cost of production in order to increase profits.

Cut off = Separated from the others

Incorrect: Without a telephone you are virtually cut out from the rest of the world.

Correct: Without a telephone you are virtually cut off from the rest of the world.

Deal in/with

Deal In = buy and sell

Incorrect: The company deals with computers.

Correct: The company deals in computers.

Deal with = a problem or a situation

Incorrect: The book deals in the issue of apartheid and racial discrimination. Correct: The book deals with the issue of apartheid and racial discrimination.

### *A Comprehensive List of GMAT Idioms*

A Bird In The Hand Is Worth Two In The Bush

"Dan has asked me to go to a party with him. What if my boyfriend finds out?" Reply: "Don't go. A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush."

A Blessing In Disguise

"My car broke down again, but maybe it was a blessing in disguise; I've been wasting too much time driving around anyway."

A Chip On Your Shoulder

"What's bothering that guy?" Answer: "Nothing; he's just got a chip on the shoulder."

A Dime A Dozen

"I don't need friends like him; they are a dime a dozen."

A Drop In The Bucket

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"I'd like to do something to change the world but whatever I do seems like a drop in the bucket."

A Fool And His Money Are Easily Parted

Example: "Her husband can't seem to hold onto any amount of money; he either spends it or loses it. A fool and his money are easily parted."

A Penny Saved Is A Penny Earned

"I'm going to give you \$20 but I want you to put it in the bank; a penny saved is a penny earned!"

A Piece Of Cake

"Do you think you will win your tennis match today?" Answer: "It will be a piece of cake."

A Shot In The Dark

"That was such a difficult question! How did you get it right?" Reply: "I just took a shot in the dark."

A Slap On The Wrist

"He should be in jail for what he did, but he got off with just a slap on the wrist."

A Slip Of The Tongue

"Be careful talking to the police tomorrow; one slip of the tongue could get us into big trouble."

A Taste Of Your Own Medicine

"It looks like she got a taste of her own medicine."

A Toss-Up

"Do you think they'll make it one time?" Answer: "I really don't know. It's a toss-up."

A Wolf In Sheep's Clothing

"Don't trust the salespeople at that store; they are all wolves in sheep's clothing!"

About Face

"Do an about face, get back in that bathroom, and brush your teeth!"

Absence Makes The Heart Grow Fonder

"The time we spend apart has been good for us; absence makes the heart grow fonder."

Actions Speak Louder Than Words

"Don't tell me how to do this; show me! Actions speak louder than words."

Add Fuel To The Fire

"I would like to do something to help, but I don't want to add fuel to the fire."

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## Against The Clock

"We worked against the clock all day to get this report done by 5PM."

## Against The Grain

"I jog at this track everyday and there is always that one guy who has to go against the grain and run in the opposite direction."

## All Bark And No Bite

"The new manager threatened to fire me but I know he won't do it; he is all bark and no bite."

## All Greek

"Did you understand what he just said?" Reply: "Nope. It was all Greek to me."

## All In The Same Boat

"We can't fight against each other; we need to work together. We're all in the same boat!"

## All That Glitters Is Not Gold

"Be careful when shopping for your new car; all that glitters is not gold!"

## All Thumbs

"Hey! You are pouring my coffee on the table!" Reply: "Oh, I'm so sorry! I have been all thumbs today."

## An Arm And A Leg

"Be careful with that watch; it cost me an arm and a leg."

## An Axe To Grind

"I have an axe to grind with you." Answer: "Oh no; what did I do wrong?"

## Arm In Arm

"What a nice afternoon. We walked arm in arm along the beach for hours."

## Around The Block

"You kids are too young to fall in love: Wait until you have been around the block a time or two."

## As Blind As A Bat

"Without his glasses, my father is as blind as a bat."

## As High As A Kite

"The ball got stuck up there on the roof. It's as high as a kite."

## As Light As A Feather

"Wow, you lift that box so easily!" Reply: "Oh, come on. It is as light as a feather."

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## At The Drop Of A Hat

"Would you travel around the world if you had the money?" Answer: "At the drop of a hat."

## At Wit's End

"We have been at wit's end trying to figure out how we are going to pay our taxes."

## Back To The Drawing Board

"It looks like my plan to kill the weeds in the garden has failed. Back to the drawing board."

## Barking Up The Wrong Tree

"I have been trying to solve this math problem for 30 minutes but I think I've been barking up the wrong tree."

## Beat A Dead Horse

"There's no use in beating a dead horse."

## Beating Around The Bush

"If you want to ask me, just ask; don't beat around the bush."

## Bend Over Backwards

"We bent over backwards to help him, and he never even thanked us!"

## Better Late Than Never

"Sorry I was late for the meeting today; I got stuck in traffic." Answer: "That's okay; better late than never."

## Between A Rock And A Hard Place

"I'd like to help you but I am stuck between a rock and a hard place."

## Birds Of A Feather Flock Together

"Look; the volleyball players are eating at the same table together, as always." Answer: "Birds of a feather flock together."

## Bite Off More Than You Can Chew

"I thought I could finish this report within one month, but it looks like I have bitten off more than I can chew."

## Bite Your Tongue

"Whenever that professor says something I don't like, I have to bite my tongue."

## Blood Is Thicker Than Water

"When my best friend and my brother got in a fight I had to help my brother; blood is thicker than water."

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## Break Down

"Did your car break down again?"

## Break In

"They broke in to my apartment when I was gone, and they took everything!"

## Break The Tie

"Whoever wins in Florida will have enough votes to break the tie."

## Burn Your Bridges

"I wish you hadn't been rude to that man just now; he is very important in this town and you shouldn't go around burning bridges."

## Burning The Candle At Both Ends

"Ever since this new project started I have been burning the candle at both ends. I can't take much more of it."

## Burning The Midnight Oil

"Our son has been working hard preparing for his final exams!" Answer: "Yes, he's been up each night burning the midnight oil."

## Call It Off

"Tonight's game was called off because of the rain."

## Can't Cut The Mustard

"Bob dropped out of medical school; he couldn't cut the mustard."

## Cold Turkey

"I want to quit drinking right now. As of this moment, I am going cold turkey."

## Come Hell Or High Water

"Will you be at the family reunion next year?" Answer: "Yes- we'll be there, come hell or high water!"

## Cross Your Fingers

"Let's cross our fingers and hope for the best!"

## Cry Over Spilt Milk

"Let's not go crying over spilt milk."

## Cry Wolf

"That kid on the other team just fell down; it looks like he might be hurt!" Answer: "He's not hurt; he's just crying wolf."

## Curiosity Killed The Cat

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"Hey, I wonder what's down that street; it looks awfully dark and creepy." Answer: "Let's not try to find out. Curiosity killed the cat."

### Dead Heat

"It looks like we're going to have to find another way to decide a winner. That one was a dead heat."

### Dog-Eat-Dog

"I have been in this business for twenty years. It's dog-eat-dog; the competition is always trying to steal your customers."

### Don't Count Your Chickens Until They're Hatched

"Next Friday I will be able to pay you back that money I owe you." Answer: "I won't be counting my chickens..."

### Don't Look A Gift Horse In The Mouth

"Don't look a gift horse in the mouth! When you buy your own beers you can decide what brand you want."

### Don't Put All Your Eggs In One Basket

"The best way to gamble is to only bet small amounts of money and never put all your eggs in one basket."

### Down To The Wire

"It looks like this race is going to come right down to the wire!"

### Drastic Times Call For Drastic Measures

"Sales have been slow and we had to let go three of our employees; drastic times call for drastic measures."

### Dry Spell

"Sam is a great salesman, though lately he's been having a bit of a dry spell."

### Every Cloud Has A Silver Lining

"I found a new job after all and I like this one much better than the last!" Answer: "You see, every cloud has a silver lining."

### Everything But The Kitchen Sink

"Whenever we go camping my wife wants to bring everything but the kitchen sink!"

### Fair And Fair Alike

"Michael stayed home to take care of your sister last night, so tonight it is your turn. Fair and fair alike."

### Finding Your Feet

"Don't worry about it. We will help you while you are finding your feet."

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Fixed In Your Ways

"Sometimes it is hard to accept that your parents are fixed in their ways."

Flash In The Pan

"What a great first year he had, but after that... nothing!" Answer: "Just another flash in the pan."

From Rags To Riches

"My uncle is a real rags to riches story."

Get Over It

"I was very sick yesterday, but I got over it quickly."

Get Up On The Wrong Side Of The Bed

"Don't start yelling at me just because you got up on the wrong side of the bed."

Give Him The Slip

"My brother will be at the movie tonight. Afterwards, let's give him the slip and go to a party."

Go For Broke

"The way to be successful is to decide exactly what you want, then go for broke."

Great Minds Think Alike

"I have decided that this summer I am going to learn how to scuba dive." Answer: "Me too! I have already paid for the course. Great minds think alike!"

Haste Makes Waste

"You should always take your time when doing your taxes and check your numbers very carefully; haste makes waste."

Have No Idea

"I can't find my keys. I have no idea where I put them."

He Lost His Head

"Okay- I'll tell you what happened. But don't lose your head."

Head Over Heels

"I have been head over heels about my girlfriend since the day I met her."

Icing On The Cake

"I've been accepted by the university, and they've offered me a position on the basketball team!" Answer: "That's wonderful! Icing on the cake."

Idle Hands Are The Devil's Tools

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"It makes me nervous to see those kids outside just standing around; idle hands are the devils tools!"

If It's Not One Thing, It's Another

"First the car broke down, and now I can't find my keys! If it's not one thing, it's another!"

In And Out

"I know this city in and out."

In Over Your Head

"Go ahead and lead the meeting today; I'll help you out if you get in over your head."

In The Dark

"Did you know that today was her birthday?" Answer: "No, I was in the dark."

In The Doghouse

"You kids will be in the doghouse with your mother after that mess you made in her garden!"

In The Heat Of The Moment

"Sorry about what I said; I got caught up in the heat of the moment."

It Takes Two To Tango

"Her husband is awful; they fight all the time." Answer: "It takes two to tango."

It's A Small World

"Hey, it's funny seeing you here." Reply: "It's a small world."

Its Anyone's Call

"Who do you think will win this election?" Answer: "Its anyone's call."

Keep An Eye On Him

"I have to run to the bathroom. Can you keep an eye on my suitcase while I am gone?"

Labor Of Love

"Taking care of this dog is a labor of love."

Lend Me Your Ear

"Friends, Romans, countrymen; lend me your ear."

Let Bygones Be Bygones

"You and I have had our disagreements; let's let bygones be bygones."

Let Sleeping Dogs Lie

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"I wanted to ask her what she thought of her ex-husband, but I figured it was better to let sleeping dogs lie."

Let The Cat Out Of The Bag

"Bob didn't tell anyone that he was sick, but his wife let the cat out of the bag."

Mad As A Hatter

"Everybody in my family knew that our uncle was as mad as a hatter."

Method To My Madness

"Give me a moment to explain; there is method to my madness."

Neck And Neck

"They're coming around the final corner. They're neck and neck!"

Neither A Borrower, Nor A Lender Be

"Could you lend me twenty dollars?" Answer: "Sorry, neither a borrower nor a lender be."

Never Bite The Hand That Feeds You

"We have been your best customers for years. How could you suddenly treat us so rudely? You should never bite the hand that feeds you."

Nose Out Of Joint

"We were only joking; don't get your nose out of joint."

Not A Chance

"Do you think you will be able to finish your report by five o'clock today?" Answer: "Not a chance. I'll be busy in meetings all day."

Off Limits

"Guns are off limits within New York City."

Off On The Wrong Foot

"Let's try to start on time tomorrow and get off on the right foot."

Off The Hook

"You're lucky; it turns out that Dad never heard you come in late last night." Answer: "Great, that means I'm off the hook!"

On Pins And Needles

"Jean was on pins and needles the whole time her father was in the hospital."

On The Fence

"Has he decided whether he will take the job yet?" Answer: "No, he's still on the fence."

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## On The Same Page

"Before we make any decisions today, I'd like to make sure that everyone is on the same page."

## On Top Of The World

"What a great time we had that night; we were on top of the world!"

## On Your Last Leg

"I would be glad to sell you my car, but I must tell you that it is on its last leg."

## On Your Mind

"You have been on my mind all day."

## One For The Road

"Bartender- I'll have one more whiskey for the road."

## Out And About

"Where have you been all day?" Answer: "Oh, out and about."

## Out Of Sight, Out Of Mind

"I meant to read that book, but as soon as I put it down, I forgot about it." Answer: "Out of sight, out of mind."

## Out Of The Blue

"Why did she do that?" Answer: "I have no idea. It was completely out of the blue."

## Out Of The Frying Pan And Into The Fire

"I didn't like that job because I was working too hard. Yet in this new job I work even harder!" Answer: "Out of the frying pan and into the fire."

## Out Of The Woods

"Joe was sick two weeks ago and we were very worried, but now it looks like he is out of the woods."

## Out Of Your Element

"He is a great tennis player on the hard courts, but he is out of his element on grass."

## Out On A Limb

"I want this project to succeed just as much as you do, but I am not willing to go out on a limb."

## Out On The Town

"Do you want to join us tonight? We're going out on the town."

## Over My Dead Body

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"All of my friends are going out to the lake tonight and I'm going too!" Answer: "Over my dead body you are!"

Par For The Course

"I get sick every time I travel." Answer: "That's just par for the course."

Penny-Wise, Pound-Foolish

"We've worked so hard to save money that if we took a vacation now it would be penny-wise, pound-foolish."

People Who Live In Glass Houses Should Not Throw Stones

"Look at what time it is... you are late again!" Answer: "Hey, how often are you not on time? People who live in glass houses should not throw stones."

Practice Makes Perfect

"You see how quickly you are getting better at the piano! Practice makes perfect!"

Practice What You Preach

"Good managers always lead by example and practice what they preach."

Preaching To The Choir

"You don't need to tell me this project is important; you're preaching to the choir."

Protest Too Much

"Do you think he is telling the truth?" Answer: "I think he protests too much."

Pulling Your Leg

"I want to ask you a question and I would like an honest answer; no pulling my leg."

Put Your Best Foot Forward

"I want you to get out on that field and put your best foot forward!"

Put Your Foot In Your Mouth

"Let's all be very careful what we say at the meeting tomorrow. I don't want anyone putting their foot in their mouth."

Raise Cain

"Have you two boys been out raising cain again?"

Rock The Boat

"Everybody wants to go except for you. Why do you have to rock the boat?"

Roll Out The Red Carpet

"We are all so excited about your coming home that we're going to roll out the red carpet."

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## Rome Was Not Built In One Day

"It is taking me a long time to write this computer program." Answer: "Rome was not built in one day."

## Round About

"Well, I know how to get there in a round about way, but maybe we should check the map."

## Rub Salt In An Old Wound

"Oh please, let's not rub salt in old wounds!"

## Second Nature

"It has always been second nature for me to draw with both hands."

## Shake A Leg

"They are waiting outside in the car; let's shake a leg!"

## Sick As A Dog

"I heard you were uncomfortable yesterday." Answer: "Uncomfortable? I was as sick as a dog!"

## Sink Or Swim

"When we interview new teachers, we just put them in with the students and see how they do. It's sink or swim."

## Six Of One, A Half-Dozen Of The Other

Example: "I say she's a stewardess. She says she's a flight attendant. It's six of one, a half-dozen of the other."

## Skeletons In The Closet

"I had only known her for one week. How could I know what skeletons she had in her closet?"

## Split Down The Middle

"The election is split down the middle with no clear winner at the moment."

## Start From Scratch

"How are you going to build your business?" Answer: "Just like everyone else does: starting from scratch."

## The Apple Of Your Eye

"Even when they were young, she was always the apple of his eye."

## The Ball Is In Your Court

"My uncle helped me to get an interview at his company, now the ball is in my court."

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## The Best Of Both Worlds

"My wife and I bought one house in Paris and one in New York; it gives us the best of both worlds."

## The Bigger They Are The Harder They Fall

"Are you worried that he might be too strong?" Answer: "No I'm not. He is big, but the bigger they are, the harder they fall."

## The Devil Is In The Details

"I can sketch a basic outline of the plan for you and it may look very simple, but the devil is in the details."

## The Early Bird Catches The Worm

"I always arrive at work 30 minutes early; the early bird catches the worm!"

## The Ends Justify The Means

"I agree with your goal, but the ends do not justify the means."

## The Jury Is Out

"Its hard to say if what we did was the right thing. The jury is still out on it."

## The Pot Calling The Kettle Black

"Here comes the guy who is always late for work." Answer: "Aren't you the pot calling the kettle black?"

## The Pros And Cons

"I've considered the pros and cons and I've decided: it is going to be expensive, but I still want to go to college."

## The Sky Is The Limit

"After I graduate from business school, the sky's the limit!"

## The Straw That Broke The Camel's Back

"You've been rude to me all day, and I've had it. That's the last straw!"

## The Writing On The Wall

"Can't you see the writing on the wall?"

## Third Wheel

"You two go on ahead without me. I don't want to be the third wheel."

## Tie The Knot

"Did you hear about Dan and Jenny? They finally decided to tie the knot!"

## To Err Is Human, To Forgive Divine

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"I will never forgive my mother for what she has done!" Answer: "Don't be angry at her. To err is human, to forgive divine."

Tooth And Nail

"That was a tough match; they fought us tooth and nail!"

Truer Words Were Never Spoken

"The earlier I get up, the better the day I have." Answer: "Truer words were never spoken."

Turn Over A New Leaf

"I'm turning over a new leaf; I've decided to quit smoking."

Two Wrongs Don't Make A Right

"That boy pushed me yesterday and I am going to get him back today!" Answer: "No you are not! Two wrongs do not make a right."

Two's Company; Three's a Crowd

"Why did you have to bring your sister? Two's company; three's a crowd!"

Under The Gun

"Everyone at the office has been working under the gun since the new manager arrived."

Under The Weather

"What's wrong?" Answer: "I'm a bit under the weather."

Up Against

"We have been up against stronger opponents in the past."

Up For Grabs

"Quick- that table is up for grabs; let's get it before someone else does."

Variety Is The Spice Of Life

Example: "We were originally planning to go to Mexico on our vacation this year - like we did last year - but we decided to go to Egypt instead. Variety is the spice of life!"

Water Under The Bridge

"Aren't you still angry about what he said?" Answer: "No, that was a long time ago. It's all water under the bridge."

Wear Your Heart On Your Sleeve

"My brother always lets you know how he feels; he wears his heart on his sleeve."

What They Don't Know Won't Hurt Them

"Don't tell your father what happened; what he doesn't know won't hurt him."

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When In Rome, Do As The Romans Do

"Are you sure we should eat this with our hands?" Answer: "Why not? All of these people are eating it that way. When in Rome, do as the Romans do!"

When It Rains, It Pours

"Sometimes we have no customers for two or three hours then suddenly we get 20 people all at once; when it rains, it pours!"

When Pigs Fly

"Would you ever take her on a date?" Answer: "Sure- when pigs fly!"

Wine And Dine

"That man is really is really crazy about my sister. He has been wining and dining her all month."

With Your Back Up Against The Wall

"I'm sorry I can't help you; I've got my back up against the wall."

Without A Doubt

"Are you going to watch the game tomorrow?" Answer: "Without a doubt!"

Word Of Mouth

"Where did you hear about that?" Answer: "Just word of mouth."

You Can't Judge A Book By Its Cover

"He dresses in plain clothing and drives an ordinary car. Who would know he is the richest man in town? You can't judge a book by its cover!"

Your Guess Is As Good As Mine

"Excuse me, what time does the bus arrive?" Answer: "Your guess is as good as mine; I almost never take the bus."

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Now for some practice

## Sentence Correction Practice

### *Exercise 1*

Questions in this section are given as sentences, part or all of which may be underlined. Also given are the five rephrased versions of the underlined part. You may choose the most suitable by paying attention to grammar, choice of words and sentence correction.

1. The jaguar, now extinct in most of Africa, is the largest cat in Africa, hunts alone, and an efficient swimmer.  
(A) hunts alone, and an efficient swimmer.  
(B) they hunt alone and swim efficiently.  
(C) hunts alone, swims efficiently.  
(D) a lone hunter, and an efficient swimmer.  
(E) they hunt alone, and they swim efficiently.
2. Until recently, athletes who had received remuneration for any activity that has a link to their athletic prowess is barred for the Olympics.  
(A) that has a link to their athletic prowess is  
(B) with links to their athletic prowess has been  
(C) linked to their athletic prowess was  
(D) with a link to their athletic prowess is to be  
(E) linked to their athletic prowess were
3. Much of the frog's anatomical features – such as its long sticky tongue – is adapted to its insectivorous diet.  
(A) Much of the frog's anatomical features – such as its long sticky tongue – is  
(B) Much from the frog's anatomical features – such as its long sticky tongue – are  
(C) Much of the frog's features that are anatomical – such as its long sticky tongue – is  
(D) Much of the frog's anatomical features – such as its long sticky tongue – are  
(E) Much of the frog's features that are anatomical – such as its long sticky tongue – are
4. In Bangladesh, the possibility of floods are regarded by most residents with a mixture of bravado and caution.  
(A) are regarded by most residents with

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- (B) is regarded by most residents with  
(C) is regarded by most residents as  
(D) is mostly regarded by residents with  
(E) by most residents is regarded with
5. In recent months, there has been considerable debate over if increased taxes should be a first or last resort in balancing the budgets.  
(A) over if increased taxes should be a first or last resort  
(B) over whether increased taxes should be a first or last resort  
(C) about increasing taxes being first or last resort  
(D) about if increased taxes is a first or last resort  
(E) concerning tax increases and their being first or last resort
6. According to the pact between the two warring parties the first agreed to return the occupied city to the second; it did so six months later.  
(A) six months later.  
(B) as soon as six months later had passed.  
(C) sooner than six months later.  
(D) six months more.  
(E) a soon as six months more.
7. People concerned about telltale signs of age on the face should know that cigarette smoking seems to have two damaging effects: it not only hastens wrinkling of the skin, and it also apparently interferes with the healing process after a face lift.  
(A) it not only hastens wrinkling of the skin, and it also apparently interferes  
(B) it not only hastens the wrinkling of the skin, but it also appears that it interferes  
(C) not only does it hasten the wrinkling of the skin as it also apparently interferes  
(D) not only does it hasten the wrinkling of the skin, but it also appears to interfere  
(E) not only is wrinkling of the skin hastened, but it appears to interfere
8. Freud saw the ability to love and the willingness to work to be hallmarks of full maturity.  
(A) love and the willingness to work to be  
(B) love and the willingness to work for  
(C) love and the willingness to work as  
(D) love, as he did the willingness to work, to be  
(E) love, as the willingness to work, as being
9. A former director of the Central Intelligence Agency has said that the surveillance capabilities of United States satellites would enable a skilled photographic interpreter to distinguish between Guernsey and Hereford cows grazing in a meadow.  
(A) between Guernsey and Hereford cows grazing  
(B) between Guernsey and Hereford cows that graze  
(C) among between Guernsey and Hereford cows that are grazing  
(D) among Guernsey and Hereford cows as they graze  
(E) Guernsey from Hereford cows grazing

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10. A report by American Medical Association indicates that a surge in the number of malpractice suits began about ten years ago and efforts to contain it since then had been only partially successful.
- (A) efforts to contain it since then had been only partially successful
  - (B) efforts since then to contain it were only successful in part
  - (C) that efforts since then to contain it have been only partially successful
  - (D) that efforts to contain it since then only have been partially successful
  - (E) that efforts to contain it since then were only successful in part
11. Sharply fewer ducks are expected to migrate south this fall and may be the lowest figure on record, according to United States and Canadian wildlife experts.
- (A) Sharply fewer ducks are expected to migrate south this fall and may be
  - (B) It is expected that sharply fewer ducks will migrate south this fall and will perhaps be
  - (C) The ducks expected to migrate south this fall will be sharply reduced, perhaps to
  - (D) The number of ducks that will migrate south this fall is expected to drop sharply, perhaps to
  - (E) A sharp drop is expected in the number of ducks that will migrate south this fall, which may be
12. Some surveys on the use of graphics in business presentation indicate that proposals incorporating graphics stand a twenty percent better chance of being approved than proposals without graphics.
- (A) a twenty percent better chance of being approved than proposals
  - (B) a twenty percent better chance of approval in comparison with those
  - (C) a likelihood they will be approved twenty percent greater than those
  - (D) a twenty percent greater likelihood of approval as compared to proposals
  - (E) twenty percent more likelihood of being approved than do those

**Each of the sentences given below contains an error. Point out the mistake and give the suggested correct sentence.**

13. The commendation was received by the Major General for displaying valour in face of a terrorist attack.
14. Democracy has and will always be an imperfect form of government; but it is less imperfect than all the alternatives.
15. Like miniature solar systems, the electrons in an atom orbit the nucleus.
16. The drastic change in the weather was as immediate that it was totally unexpected.

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17. Steve's new production was warmly received by the public whereas his earlier productions had been enthusiastically welcomed.
18. The screening test was designed to measure analytical aptitude, spatial perception, and to test mathematical ability.
19. Her increased popularity created her even more fans following her everywhere she went.
20. The star athlete's daily regimen included a 5-mile run, swimming for a half hour, and a full workout in the gym.

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## *ANSWERS*

1. A using the phrase “an efficient swimmer” disrupts the parallelism in the sentence, B and E uses the plural “they” to refer to a single jaguar. C misses the “and” between the last two statements. D seems to be the best choice for preserving the parallelism presented in the first part of the statement.
2. A uses is to refer to plural “athletes”, B uses singular ‘has been’ to plural “athletes” and has a complex structure, C again uses singular ‘was’ to refer to plural “athletes”, D also has the same error . E best conveys the intent of the original sentence.
3. A,B, and C use much with the countable noun “features”. Again A, C and E use the singular verb “is” with the plural “features”. D seems suitable on both these counts.
4. In A the verb are does not agree with the subject possibility. C, D and E changes the original meaning or purport of the sentence. B seems to be the best answer on both these counts.
5. E is unnecessarily verbose and confusing. C and D refer to plural taxes in singular form. A contains the redundant if. B seems to be the best choice.
6. B contains the redundant phrase “later had passed”. C does not clearly convey the timing of the event. D and E contain the idiomatically incorrect “six months more”. A logically and concisely conveys the correct meaning.
7. A incorrectly uses ‘not only’ with ‘and’, B uses a second redundant ‘if’, C is unnecessarily verbose, E unnecessarily changes the voice of the message. D seems to be the most appropriate.
8. D and E change the original purport of the sentence. B uses for as in ‘work for’. C seems to be the most appropriate.
9. B and E distort the original message, C and D incorrectly use ‘among’ to refer to two breeds, A is the correct choice.
10. A uses had to refer to plural ‘suits’, B unnecessarily changes the focus of the message, D and E contain the redundant that, C seems to be the best choice.
11. A, B use ‘sharply’ incorrectly, C and E unnecessarily change the voice of the message, D seems to be the best choice.
12. B and E uses incorrect tense, C and D are unnecessarily verbose, A seems to be the most appropriate.

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13. The commendation was received by the Major General for displaying valour in face of a terrorist attack.  
*Mistake:* Inappropriate use of passive voice  
*Correct Sentence:* The Major General received the commendation for displaying valour in face of a terrorist attack.
14. Democracy has and will always be an imperfect form of government; but it is less imperfect than all the alternatives.  
*Mistake:* Lack of parallel structure i.e. has does not have any completing verb form  
*Correct Sentence:* Democracy has always been, and will always be, an imperfect form of government; but it is less imperfect than all the alternatives.
15. Like miniature solar systems, the electrons in an atom orbit the nucleus.  
*Mistake:* Faulty comparison, the electrons cannot be compared to miniature solar system (they can be compared with planets)  
*Correct Sentence:* Like planets in a miniature solar system, the electrons in an atom orbit the nucleus.
16. The drastic change in the weather was as immediate that it was totally unexpected.  
*Mistake:* Incorrect idiom in “as immediate”...“that”  
*Correct Sentence:* The drastic change in the weather was so immediate that it was totally unexpected.
17. Steve’s new production was warmly received by the public whereas his earlier productions had been enthusiastically welcomed.  
*Mistake:* Illogical usage of whereas  
*Correct Sentence:* Steve’s new production was warmly received by the public; his earlier productions had been enthusiastically welcome.
18. The screening test was designed to measure analytical aptitude, spatial perception, and to test mathematical ability.  
*Mistake:* Parallel Structure error (To test mathematical ability is not in parallel with the other items in the list.  
*Correct Sentence:* The screening test was designed to measure analytical aptitude, special perception, and mathematical ability.
19. Her increased popularity created her even more fans following her everywhere she went.  
*Problem:* “Popularity” cannot “create more fans”  
*Correct Sentence:* As her popularity increased, even more fans followed her wherever she went.
20. The star athlete’s daily regimen included a 5-mile run, swimming for a half hour, and a full workout in the gym.

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*Problem:* Parallel Structure

*Correct Sentence:* The star athlete's daily regimen included a 5-mile run, a half-hour swim, and a full workout in the gym.

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## Further Practice

### Exercise 2

1. The media failed, abjectly and broadly in not exercising more self-control and by allowing themselves to be so freely used.
  - a. The media failed, abjectly and broadly in not exercising more self-control
  - b. The media abjectly and broadly failed in not exercising more self-control
  - c. Abjectly and broadly, the media failed in not exercising more self-control
  - d. The abject and broad failure of the media in not exercising more self-control
  - e. The media failed abjectly, and broadly by not exercising more self-control
2. To date, some 70 cities have used federal government funding for the buybacks, in purchase of some 17,000 Guns.
  - a. in purchase of some 17,000 guns.
  - b. the purchase of some. 17,000 guns.
  - c. in the purchasing of some 17,000 guns.
  - d. purchasing some 17,000 guns.
  - e. Purchasing some of the 17,000 guns.
3. Despite of the political signal for a closer UK-US relationship, UK's defense procurement here at times runs into problems and export licenses are delayed because of the inter ministerial differences.
  - a. Despite of the political signal for a closer UK -US relationship
  - b. Despite the political signal for a closer UK -US relationship
  - c. Inspite the political, signaling for a closer' UK -US relationship
  - d. Despite the political signals for a closer UK -US relationship
  - e. Inspite of the fact of the political signal for a closer UK -US relationship
4. Scientists at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in America found that active mice demonstrate a greater ability to learn, suggesting that exercise increases brain chemicals that make it more resilient to cognitive decline.
  - a. that make it more resilient to cognitive decline.
  - b. that makes it more resilient to cognitive decline.
  - c. that make them more resilient to cognitive decline.
  - d. that makes them more resilient to cognitive decline.
  - e. that make it most resilient to' cognitive decline.
5. So my immediate question to the dotcommers was Why in that case the kids needed to attend a bricks and mortar seminary at all?
  - a. Why in that case the kids needed to attend
  - b. Why in that case did the kids need to attend
  - c. Why in that case do the kids need to attend
  - d. In that case, why do the kids need to attend
  - e. Why in that case did the kids needed to attend

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6. The process of education would not be likely to suffer at all so long as a grading system on assignments keeps tabs on cumulative learning - just as scaled down low end correspondence courses. function all over the world.
  - a. so long as a grading system on assignments keeps tabs on cumulative learning
  - b. so long as a grading system on assignments keep tabs on cumulative learning
  - c. as long as grading. systems on assignments keep tabs on cumulative learning
  - d. as long as systems of grading assignments kept tabs on cumulative learning
  - e. so long as a grading system on assignments kept tabs on cumulative learning
7. The National Institute on Ageing in America avoids fatty foods. since they contribute to obesity and dementia.
  - a. The National Institute on Ageing in America avoids fatty foods, since they contribute to obesity and dementia.
  - b. The National Institute on Ageing in America advises people to avoid fatty foods, since they contribute to obesity and dementia.
  - c. Avoid fatty foods, since they contribute to obesity and dementia says The National Institute on Ageing in America.
  - d. The National Institute on Ageing in America advises people to avoid fatty foods, as they would be contributing to obesity and dementia.
  - e. The National Institute on Ageing in America has suggested avoidance of fatty food, as it contributes to obesity and dementia.
8. The report says the risk of death is about the same from an aircraft crash and as similar as terrestrial accident such as a nuclear reactor meltdown.
  - a. the same from an aircraft crash and as similar as
  - b. the same from an aircraft crash and as similar to
  - c. the same as from an aircraft crash and as similar as
  - d. the same as from an aircraft crash and is similar to
  - e. the same as from an aircraft crash as well as to
9. Far from protecting the lawful right of adults to marry of their own free will, the tribal Jirgas and feudal leaders pressurized the provincial government to succumb.
  - a. the tribal Jirgas and feudal leaders pressurized the provincial government to succumb.
  - b. the provincial government was made to succumb under pressure from the tribal Jirgas and feudal leaders.
  - c. the provincial government succumbed under the pressure of Jirgas and feudal leaders.
  - d. the provincial governr,1ent succumbed under the pressures of Jirgas and of feudal leaders.
  - e. the tribal Jirgas and feudal leaders made the provincial government succumb under pressure.
10. This trial was the longest study of women with upto 5 cms. of breast tumors.

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- a. the longest study of women with upto 5 cms. of breast tumors.
  - b. the longest study of 5 cm. women with breast tumors.
  - c. the longest study of women having 5 cms. of breast tumors.
  - d. the longest study on women with breast tumors that were upto 5 cms deep.
  - e. the longest study of women with breast tumors that were upto 5 cms.
11. Whenever some sort of middle ground is sought to be created through track-two diplomacy it is attacked by pre-establishment forces on either side.
- a. Whenever some sort of middle ground is sought to be created through track-two diplomacy it is attacked by pre-establishment forces on either side.
  - b. Whenever some sort of middle ground is sought to be created through track-two diplomacy it is attacked by pre-establishment forces on both the sides.
  - c. Whenever some sort of middle ground is sought to be created by track-two diplomacy, it is attacked by pre-establishment forces on both sides.
  - d. Each time some sort of middle ground is seen to be created through track-two diplomacy it is attacked by pre-establishment forces on either side.
  - e. Each time some sort of middle grounds are sought to be created through track-two diplomacy, it is attacked by pre-establishment forces on either side.
12. Results from an American study of more than 9200 elderly smokers showed their ability to think, perceive and remembrance sooner than nonsmokers had quit smoking.
- a. they lost their ability to think, perceive and remembrance
  - b. they lose their ability to think, perceive and remember
  - c. they lost their ability to think, perceive and to remember
  - d. they lost their ability to think, perceive and remember
  - e. they lose their abilities to think, to perceive and to remember that they lost or those who
13. If the committee plays its cards sensibly in the coming weeks, pushing for meaningful reforms toward this end, without repudiating the earlier reforms, it should have turned a hitherto deliberative exercise into a demonstration of political maturity and could effect a turnaround on the party's political fortunes.
- a. it should have turned a hitherto deliberative exercise into a demonstration of political maturity
  - b. it could turn a hitherto deliberation exercise into a demonstration of political maturity
  - c. it will turn a hitherto deliberation exercise into a demonstration of political maturity
  - d. it could have turned a hitherto deliberation exercise j.,to a demonstration of political maturity
  - e. it should turn a hitherto deliberation exercise into a demonstration of political maturity
14. Scientists in Princeton have broken the speed barrier posed by light and caused a light pulse to travel at many times the speed of light.
- a. and caused a light pulse to travel at many' times the speed of light.

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- b. and have caused light pulse 5 to travel at many times the speed of light.
  - c. and has caused a light pull to travel at many, times the speed of light.
  - d. and caused light pulses to travel at many times' the speed of light.
  - e. and have enabled a light, pulse to travel at many times the speed of light.
15. Most poor people would be quite happy to see, children's teachers being held accountable to the local community:
- a. one's children's teachers being held accountable to the local community.
  - b. teachers of one's children being held accountable to the local community.
  - c. their children's teachers being held accountable to the local community.
  - d. one's children's teachers being held accountable to one's local community.
  - e. their children's teachers being accountable to their local community.
16. A understanding of how different forms of these genes contributes to disease will help us in designing new medicines for both prevention and for potential cure of these conditions.
- a. A understanding of how different forms of these genes contributes to disease
  - b. Understanding how different forms of these genes contributes to disease
  - c. Understanding how different forms of these genes contribute to disease
  - d. An understanding of the way, in which the different forms of these genes contributes in disease
  - e. An understanding of the manner in which different forms of genes contribute to disease
17. The government on Monday said that a company can undertake additional activities which are covered under the automatic route without seeking the consent of the foreign investment promotion board
- a. with but seeking the consent of the foreign investment promotion board.
  - b. without seeking approval from the foreign investment promotion board.
  - c. without seeking approval of the foreign investment promotion board.
  - d. Without the consent of the foreign investment promotion board.
  - e. Without the consent of the foreign investment promotional board.
18. In 1933 Hollywood released a film called 'Queen Christina', a fictionalization of life of a Swedish monarch who refuses to marry.
- a. a fictionalization of life of a Swedish monarch who refuses to marry.
  - b. a fictional account of a Swedish monarch who refuses to marry.
  - c. a fictionalization of the life and times of a Swedish monarch who refused to marry,
  - d. a fictional, account of the life of a Swedish monarch who refused to marry.
  - e. a fictionalized account of the life of a Swedish monarch who refused to marry.
19. There could also be a tension between the importance and the dangers of using governmental power i.e. order to transform society in the image of a programmatic vision.
- a. There could also be a tension between the importance and the dangers of using governmental power

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- b. There could also be a tension among the importance and the dangers of using governmental power
  - c. There could also be a tension on the one hand between the importance and the dangers of using governmental power on the other
  - d. There could also be a tension between the importance of and the danger of using government power
  - e. There could also be tension between the importance of and' danger in using government power
20. Terrorist violence may represent some sub-national aspirations within a state system call on sympathetic understanding of the systematic indignity that terrorists have gone through.
- a. which call on sympathetic understanding of the systematic indignity
  - b. which, calls for a sympathetic understanding of the systematic indignity
  - c. which call for sympathetic understanding of the systematic indignity
  - d. which calls for sympathizing understanding of the systematic indignity
  - e. which calls upon sympathetic understanding of the systematic indignity
21. Hillary Clinton has never been to Los Angeles, however she has been to New York.
- a. however, she has been to New York
  - b. she has been however to New York
  - c. she had been to New York, however.
  - d. although she has gone to New York.
  - e. but she went to New York however.
22. If you have your answer sheets, and if you have "our Question paper. you may begin the test now.
- a. if you have your question paper, you may begin the test now.
  - b. your question paper, you may begin the test now.
  - c. your question paper, now you may begin the test.
  - d. if you have the question paper, you may begin the test now.
  - e. if you have your question paper, you should begin the test now.
23. The Planet Pluto in the Solar System is the farthest from the Earth.
- a. The planet Pluto in the Solar System is the farthest from the Earth.
  - b. The planet Pluto is the, one in the Solar System which is the farthest from the Earth.
  - c. The planet Pluto is the one in the Solar System that is farthest from the Earth.
  - d. Pluto is the planet in the Solar System which is the farthest from the Earth.
  - e. The. planet Pluto is that which is the, farthest pie net from the Earth in the Solar System.
24. With the Yen falling even further, our foreign exchange rate is as bad today, as, yesterday.
- a. is as bad today, as yesterday.
  - b. is bad' today as well and yesterday as well.
  - c. was as bad today as it was yesterday.
  - d. is bad both today and also yesterday.
  - e. as bad today and was worse yesterday.

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25. I washed the face and out on the glasses before leaving for work.
- a. I washed the face and put on the glasses before leaving for work.
  - b. I washed my face and put on the glasses before' leaving for work.
  - c. I washed the face and put on the glasses before I left for work.
  - d. I washed my face and put on my glasses before leaving' for work.
  - e. Before I left for work, I washed my face and put on my glasses.

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## *Answers to Further Practice Questions*

### **Answers to Exercise 2**

1. The correct preposition here is 'by'. Hence, (E).
2. (D) is the most clear and concise phrase. Hence, (D)
3. Despite of is wrong usage. Hence, (B).
4. Exercise (singular) therefore 'makes', since the sentence speaks of "mice" the pronoun should be 'them'. Hence, (D).
5. The verb 'needed' would have been right if the sentence had been an assertive one. Hence, (B).
6. Unnecessary shift in tense. Past tense is required. Hence, (E).
7. This sentence has a confused structure. It is to be rewritten as shown in (B). Hence, (B).
8. A comparative phrase needs to have 'as' or 'to' as the context demands. Hence, (D).
9. The dangling modifier needs a Subject to modify. Hence, (C).
10. The sentence is ambiguous. (D) makes the meaning clear and is grammatically correct. Hence, (D).
11. No error. Hence, (A).
12. Parallel construction needs to have similarity in the construction of phrases. Hence, (D).
13. 'Should' does not fit the context. The next phrase has 'could', which is appropriate because of 'If'.
14. No error. Hence, (A).
15. Wrong usage of pronoun 'one's'. 'Held accountable' is the correct idiomatic expression. Hence, (C).
16. Considering that a third person plural verb 'genes' is present, 'contribute' should be used. (C) and (E) are therefore grammatically correct. However, (C) is more compact and concise. Hence, (C).
17. In official parlance 'approval' is more appropriate than 'consent' or 'assent'. One takes approval 'from' somebody. Hence, (B).
18. Error of tense and usage. Fictionalization is incorrect. Hence, (D).
19. No error. Hence, (A).
20. 'Calls for a sympathetic understanding' is the right usage. Hence, (B).
21. No error. Hence, (A).
22. To avoid wordiness, co-ordinate clauses should be compressed wherever possible. Hence, (B).
23. No error. Hence, (A).
24. Even in the shortened clause, the verb with its subject must be repeated after 'as' or 'than'. In this case, 'It was', hence, (C).
25. The rule is that there should be a possessive pronoun before parts of the body and personal possessions. Hence, (D).

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## Exercise –3

**Directions (Q.1 to 50):** Read each of the following sentences some part or all the sentence is underlined. Below each sentence is given five ways to phrasing the underlined part. Select the answer from among the choices, which produces the most effective sentence, one that is clear and exact. If there is no error in the underlined part, 'A' is answer

1. The second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century would have been a different and much more ugly place would it not for this epochal triumph of historical communism over European Fascism.

- A) would is not for this epochal triumph of historical communism over European Fascism.
- B) would it have not been for this epochal triumph of historical communism over European Fascism?
- C) 'had' it not been for this epochal triumph of historical communism over European Fascism?
- D) was it not for this epochal triumph of historic communism over European Fascism?
- E) would it not have for this epochal triumph of historical communism over European Fascism?

2. The advances in science are leading to restructuring of agricultural research, redefining educational needs and technological opportunity and to realign the roles for private and public research.

- A) and to realign the roles for private and public research.
- B) and realigning the roles for private and public research.
- C) And realigned the roles for private and public research.
- D) realigning the roles of private and public research.
- E) that to realign the roles of private and public research.

3. More of the funs and excitement comes from use of your senses.

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- A) More of the fun and excitement in the life comes.
- B) More of the fun and excitement in the life come.
- C) Many of the funs and excitement in the life comes.
- D) Much of the fun and excitement in the life comes.
- E) Much of the fund and excitement in the life comes.

4. Three distressing trends have dominated global politics in the last decade; communalization of polity, rise of class consciousness and the tendency to encourage unprincipled alliances and defections.

- A) in the last decade; communalization of polity, rise of class consciousness.
- B) for the last decade; communalization of polity, rise of class consciousness.
- C) over the last decade; communalization of polity, rise of class consciousness.
- D) in the last decade; the communalization of polity, rise in class consciousness
- E) over the last decade; the communalization of polity, the rise in class consciousness

5. Its consequences will continue to influence greatly the early decades of the coming century.

- A) to influence greatly the early decades of the coming century.
- B) to influence greatly the early decades of coming century.
- C) to greatly influence the early decades of coming century.
- D) greatly to influence the early decades of the coming century.
- E) influencing greatly the early decades of coming century.

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6. Of course, socialism was not congruent to communism but not was the former divorced from the latter that it could avoid suffering in some significant way from its debacle.

- A) of course, socialism was not congruent to communism
- B) of course, socialism was not congruent with communism
- C) of course, the socialism was not congruent to communism
- D) of course, the socialism was not congruent of the communism.
- E) of course, socialism was not congruent about communism.

7. It was the favorite place for my dog who loved running along side my car over the ancient bridge into the car park in the center.

- A) along side my car over the ancient bridge.
- B) besides my car over the ancient bridge.
- C) along my car over the ancient bridge
- D) beside my car on ancient bridge.
- E) in the side of my car on the ancient bridge.

8. All its four entrances are clogged by cars

- A) entrances are clogged by cars.
- B) entrances are clogged with cars.
- C) Entrances is clogged by cars.
- D) Entrances are clogged by cars.
- E) Entrances are clogged off by cars

9. She is far away the best actress in the movie.

- A) far away the best actress in the movie.
- B) far away the best actress of the movie.
- C) far and away the best actress in the movie.
- D) far and away best actress of the movie.

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- E) far off the best actress of the movie.
10. For days, at end, I have sat on the step of an old mosque, facing the same crumbled remains of plastic water bottles and empty bags of plastic chips.
- A) For days, at end, I have sat on the step of an old mosque
  - B) For days, at end, I have sat on the steps of an old mosque
  - C) For days, in the end, I have sat on the steps of an old mosque
  - D) For days, in the end, I have sat out the steps of an old mosque
  - E) For days, on the end, I have sat on the steps of an old mosque.
11. He called for a ban on the book and threatened to burn down the theaters that screened the film when made.
- A) He called for ban on the book and threatened to burn down the theaters.
  - B) He called to a ban on the book and threatened to burn down the theaters.
  - C) He called for a ban of the book and threatened to burn out the theaters.
  - D) He called of a ban of the book and threatened for burning out the theaters.
  - E) He called upon for a ban on the book and threatened to burn the theaters.
12. The walls of the subway have been plastered with light yellow plaster which rob it out of its antiquity
- A) plastered with light yellow plaster which rob it out of its antiquity.
  - B) plastered over with light yellow plaster which robs it out of its antiquity.
  - C) plastered over with light yellow plaster which robs them out of their antiquity.
  - D) plastered with light yellow plaster which rob them out of their antiquity.
  - E) plastered by light yellow plaster which robs them out of their antiquity.
13. The government needs to focus on cutting unnecessary red tapism rather than to worry about a partly reduction in card fees.
- A) rather than to worry about a partly reduction in card fees.
  - B) rather then to worry about a partly reduction in card fees

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- C) rather than to worry about a part reduction in card fees.
- D) rather than worrying about a partly reduction in card fees.
- E) Rather than to worry for a part reduction

14. Rotary is often scoffed off as rich man's YMCA and Rotarians as middle aged Boy scouts.

- A) is often scoffed off as rich man's YMCA.
- B) is scoffed of often as rich man's YMCA
- C) is often scoffed of as rich man's YMCA
- D) is often scoffed at as rich man's YMCA
- E) is often scoffed to as rich man's YMCA

15. We should appreciate China's support to Russia in the latter's iron will and clenched fist to do away secessionist and disintegrators of a nation.

- A) in the latter's iron will and clenched fist to do away
- B) in the latter's iron will and clenched fist to do with
- C) in the latter's iron will and clenched fist of doing with
- D) in the latter's iron will and clenched fist to do
- E) in the latter's iron will and clenched fist to do away with

16. No doubt, the Islamic rhetoric will be accompanied by any clandestine deal with Mr. Ali Massoum Khaled and talk of social engineering.

- A) be accompanied by any clandestine deal with Mr. Ali Massoum Khaled
- B) being accompanied by any clandestine deal with Mr. Ali Massoum Khaled
- C) be accompanied by some clandestine deal with Mr. Ali Massoum Khaled
- D) be accompanied with some clandestine deal with Mr. Ali Massoum Khaled
- E) accompany with some clandestine deal with Mr. Ali Massoum Khaled

17. Police ransacks their homes looking for arms; they brutalize men and insult women.

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- A) Police ransacks their homes looking for arms.
- B) Police ransacks their homes looking for arms
- C) Police ransacks their homes to look for arms
- D) Police has ransacks their homes looking for arms
- E) Police ransacks their home in the look for arms

18. She continued her singing, dancing and acting in plays since her school and college years but greatly get more and more involved in social work.

- A) since her school/and college year but greatly get
- B) since her school/and college year but greatly got
- C) throughout her school and colleges years but greatly got
- D) for her school and colleges years but greatly get
- E) through her school and college year but get greatly

19. I am unable to forgive a man who fails to return a book he had taken from my shelf

- A) to return a book he had taken from my shelf.
- B) Returning a book he had taken from my shelf
- C) To return a book he had taken out from my shelf
- D) To return a book he has taken from my shelf
- E) To return a book he took from my shelf

20. He left his studies; he has not able to resume his studies and possibly with never be able to resume his studies again.

- A) he has not able to resume his studies and possibly will never be able to resume his studies again.
- B) he has not able to resume his studies and possibly never will be able resume again.
- C) he has not been and possibly will never be able to resume his studies.
- D) he has not been able to resume and will never be able to resume his studies again.

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- E) he has not and possibly will never be able to resume his studies again.
21. The shopkeeper has not hardly some of those kind of costly books.
- A) has not hardly some of those kind of
  - B) has hardly some of those kind of
  - C) has hardly any of those kinds of
  - D) has hardly some of those kinds of
  - E) has not hardly any of those kinds of
22. Having failed to qualify the entrance test twice, the decision was taken by him not to try again.
- A) Having failed to qualify the entrance test twice, the decision was taken by him not to try again.
  - B) Having failed to qualify the entrance test twice, he took the decision not to try again.
  - C) Being failed to qualify the entrance test twice, he was taken the decision not to try again.
  - D) Being failed to qualify the entrance test twice, the decision was taken by him not to try again.
  - E) Having failed to qualify the entrance test twice, the decision had been taken by him not to try again.
23. I would not hesitate to tell him precisely what did I think of him
- A) what did I think of him
  - B) what had I thought of him
  - C) what did I think about him
  - D) what I thought of him

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- E) what does I think about him?
24. I have not still read it, but would like to, if I may.
- A) I have not still read it , but would like to
  - B) I have not read it still, but would like to
  - C) Still I have not read it, would like to
  - D) I have not yet read it , but would like to
  - E) Yet I have not read it, will like to.
25. Large numbers those educated are not able to make any use of their education because they are unemployed.
- A) Large numbers those who are educated are not to make
  - B) Large numbers who are educated are not able to make
  - C) Large numbers those who are educated are not able to making
  - D) Large numbers who are educated are not able to making
  - E) Large numbers who are not able to making
26. It is time we Americans stop looking at the things negatively
- A) We Americans stop looking at the things negatively.
  - B) We Americans stopped looking at the things negatively
  - C) We Americans stop to look at the things negatively
  - D) We Americans to stop looking at the things negatively
  - E) We Americans stop looking on the things negatively.
27. We are committed to eradicate the cause of recidivism at the end of first decade of the new century.
- A) committed to eradicate the cause of recidivism at the end of the first decade.
  - B) committed to eradicate the cause of recidivism in the end of the first decade
  - C) committed to eradicate the cause of recidivism at the end of the first decade.

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- D) committed for eradicating cause of recidivism at the end of first decade  
E) Committed to eradicate the cause of recidivism
28. Later it develops aversion both for the book and the man who lent him it.
- A) aversion both for the book and the man  
B) aversion for the book and for the man  
C) an aversion both for the book and for the man  
D) an aversion both for the book and the man  
E) aversion for both the book and the man
29. Being aggressive in behavior, arrogant in manners and harsh in language are a manifestation of savagery.
- A) are a manifestation of savagery.  
B) is a manifestation of savagery  
C) are a manifestation of savagery  
D) is a manifestation to savagery  
E) are a manifestation for savagery
30. A man of virtue, judgment and the prejudice speaks not until there is silence.
- A) the prejudice speaks not until there is silence  
B) the prejudice speak not until there is silence  
C) prejudice speaks not until there is silence  
D) prejudice speaks not unless there is silence  
E) the prejudice speak unless there is silence



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31. Even though I grumble and bemoan my fate from day to day and wish my circumstances are not quite so modest, thank you Lord for the peaceful life.

- A) wish my circumstances are not quite so modest
- B) wish my circumstances were not quite so modest
- C) wished my circumstances were not quite so modest
- D) wishing my circumstances were not quite so modest
- E) wished my circumstances was not quite so modest .

32. Views may vary, but the extreme nature of his current and the wide divergence between his view and established historians show that former view is based more on blind prejudice than on a serious study of subject.

- A) established historians show that former view is based more on blind prejudice
- B) established historians show that former's view was based more on blind prejudice
- C) established historians show that former view was based more on blind prejudice
- D) that of established historians show that former's view is based more on blind prejudice
- E) that of established historian's show that earlier view has been based more on blind prejudice

33. America will continue extend political, moral and diplomatic support to the struggling people of Iraq for their right for self- determination.

- A) to the struggling people of Iraq for their right for self determination.
- B) to the struggling people of Iraq to their right for self determinations
- C) of the struggling people of Iraq to their right for self determination.
- D) to the struggling people of Iraq for their right to self- determination.
- E) to the struggling people of Iraq about their right of self- determination

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34. I am aware that there are difficulties in the way, quite few of them of his own creations.

- A) quite few of them of his own creations.
- B) quite a few of them of his own creations.
- C) quite a few of them of their own creation.
- D) quite few of them of their own creations.
- E) quite few of these of his own creation.

35. Showtrails of persons arrested by military regime will not help to building confidence that the army intend to restore democracy in the country.

- A) help to building confidence that the army intend to restore.
- B) help to build confidence that the army intend to restore.
- C) help in building confidence that the army intends to restore.
- D) help in building confidence that the army intend to restore.
- E) help for building confidence that the army intended to restore.

36. In Rushdie's case, the prejudices have deepened although his liberal education and adoption of a liberal as his permanent place of residence makes him better placed than most people to shed them.

- A) makes him better placed than most people to shed them.
- B) makes him better placed than more people to shed them.
- C) makes him better placed than most people who shed them.
- D) makes him better placed than the most people to shed them.
- E) make him better place than moist people who shed them.

37. Starvation is the oldest issue on the UN agenda and people there are disappointed on the cold attitude of the world body.

- A) on the UN agenda and people there are disappointed on
- B) of the UN agenda and people there are disappointed at
- C) on the UN agenda and the people there are disappointed at

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- D) at the UN agenda and the people there are disappointed on  
E) on the UN agenda and people are disappointed at
38. By the summer of 1998, normalcy had returned to the towns if not yet to the remoter part of the state, such as Tennessee, which was close to Ohio.
- A) such as Tennessee, which was close to Ohio.  
B) such as Tennessee, which were close to Ohio.  
C) such as Tennessee, which is close to Ohio.  
D) such as Tennessee, which are close to Ohio.  
E) such as Tennessee, that was close to Ohio.
39. The hope that all the separation end as beautiful as this, is the toast raised by this piece.
- A) all the separation end as beautiful as this,  
B) all separation end as beautiful as this,  
C) all the separation ends as beautiful as this,  
D) the all separation ends as beautiful as this,  
E) all the separation ends as beautiful this.
40. The Aussie victory aborted the first and the third objectives and turned the fourth against England.
- A) the first and the third objectives and turned the fourth  
B) the first and third objectives and turned the fourth  
C) first and the third objectives and turned he fourth  
D) first and third objectives and turned fourth  
E) the first and third objective and turned the fourth
41. Iowa resident Janet Delilah was besides her with joy at the prospect of night viewing of the Louvre.
- A) was besides her with joy.

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- B) was besides herself with joy.  
C) was beside herself with joy  
D) was beside herself about the joy  
E) was besides herself about joy
42. The team management has asked for a substitute wicketkeeper before the first Test at Adelaide held earlier this month following Ian's knee injury.
- A) before the first test at Adelaide held earlier this month  
B) before the first test at Adelaide to be held earlier this month  
C) due to the first test at Adelaide held earlier this month  
D) before the first test in Adelaide held earlier this month  
E) prior to the first test at Adelaide held earlier this month
43. Illness we can put in with but justice makes us want to pull things down.
- A) Illness we can put in with  
B) Illness we can put through  
C) Illness we can put up with  
D) Illness we can put with  
E) Illness that we can put with
44. If any one dared to suggest that he or she was not against women but only against reservation, nobody was wiling to listen.
- A) If anyone dared to suggest      B) If anyone was dared to suggest  
C) If anyone dared to suggesting      D) If any one dared suggest
45. She must also know that the woman's Reservation Bill has a very little chance of being passed because the nature of the opposition to it from all quarters.
- A) has a very little chance of being passed because  
B) has a very little chance of passing because

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- C) has very little chance of being passed because
- D) has very little chance of being passed because of
- E) has little chance of being passed because

46. It might be a first good step for BBA to asses how many of their own members are responsible for NPA.

- A) It might be a first good step for
- B) It might be a good first step for
- C) It might have been a first good step for
- D) It may have been a first good step for
- E) It may be a first good step

47. The money in nationalized banks is public money and if it were being lost because industrialists do not repay their loans, the public has the right to know the truth.

- A) and if it were being lost because
- B) and if it was being lost because
- C) and if it is being lost because
- D) and if it is being lost because of
- E) and if it were being lost because of

48. And only CNN, with its vaster resources and vaster reach can do justice with John Grisham's masterwork.

- A) with its vaster resources and vaster reach can do justice with
- B) with its vast resources and vaster reach can do justice with
- C) with its vaster resources and vast reach can do justice with
- D) with its vaster resources and vaster reach can do justice to
- E) with its vaster resources and vaster reach could do justice to

49. In all big cities, there is a flood of health clubs which claim to build stamina, decrease stress level and weight is reduced.

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- A) decrease stress level and weight is reduced
- B) decrease stress level and weight reduces
- C) decrease stress level and reduce weight
- D) decreases stress level and reduces weight
- E) decreasing stress level and reducing weight

50. After signing for many music shows, his first music album was released.

- A) After singing for many music shows
- B) After he sang for many music shows
- C) Since he had sung for many shows
- D) After he had sung for many music shows
- E) Though he sang for many shows.

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## Exercise-3 Answers

1. C; Corrects the error of conditional sentence or sentence of past subjunctive mood. In such sentence, one clause contains verb would/ would have been which shows effect while another clause with verb had/had been /were shows 'cause'.

2. B; Corrects the error of parallel construction of gerund. (restructuring...redefining. realigning).

3. D; Corrects the error of adjective. 'More' is generally used in comparing things while 'much' is used before uncountable nouns and 'many' is used before countable nouns.

4. E; Corrects the error of preposition and definite article. When there is talk of more than specified time through out a period, preposition 'over' should be used. Definite article 'the' should be used before 'communalization' and 'rise' because both are made particular by polity and class consciousness. Use of 'the' also corrects error in parallel construction as (the communalization...the rise... and the tendency...)

5. D; Corrects the error of placing of adverb. Because an adverb is usually placed before the word to which it modifies. In the sentence, greatly modifies 'to influence', not 'the early decades'.

6. B; Corrects the error of preposition.

7. A; The sentence is correct.

8. B; Corrects the error of preposition. 'Clog' means to 'block' something or become blocked with something'.

9. C; Corrects the idiomatic error. 'Far and away' (means very much) is usually followed by an adjective in comparative or superlative degree.

10. E; Corrects the idiomatic error. 'On end' means 'continuously'. 'On end' expresses the meaning of the sentence, as the action of sitting on the steps of old mosque has continued for days.

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11. A;      The sentence is correct.
12. C;      Corrects the error of preposition, subject verb agreement, and pronoun. Because plaster is done over the wall, so 'plastered over' is the correct use. Verb 'robs' refers to 'plaster' (singular) and pronoun 'it' and 'its' refer to 'the walls' (plural noun) so 'it' and 'its' should be replaced by 'them' and 'their'.
13. D;      Corrects the error of parallel construction of 'gerund' (on cutting than worrying about)
14. D;      Corrects the error of preposition. 'Scoff at' means 'to speak with contempt about somebody'.
15. E;      Corrects the error phrasal verb, 'to do away with' means 'to stop doing something or cause something to end'.
16. C;      Corrects the error in the use of adjective. Both 'some' and 'any' have the same meaning. But 'some' is used in affirmative sentences while 'any' is used in negative sentences and in expression of doubt or if.
17. B;      Corrects the error of sub-verb agreement. 'Police' is a plural noun and is followed by a plural verb. So 'ransack' (plural verb) is the correct use.
18. C;      Corrects the error of preposition and tense. Preposition 'since' refers to 'point of time' while 'throughout' means 'during the whole period of something'. According to the sentence, she continued her singing, dancing and acting during the whole period of her studies'. So 'throughout' expresses the proper meaning required in the sentence. 'Get' should agree with the verb 'continued' (in principle clause), so it should also be in past form 'got'.
19. D;      Corrects the error of tense. Because there is a sense of continuity in the sentence as, "I am unable to forgive who fails to return a book he has taken". So it is a case of sequence of tense. All the clauses are dependent or related to principal clause.
20. C;      Corrects the error of omission of past participle 'been' and avoids the repetition of 'his studies' to make the sentence more effective and clear. And delete 'again' since 'resume' conveys the meaning.

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21. C; Corrects error of double negative, adjective and plural noun. 'Hardly' is an adverb having negative meaning, so it should not be preceded by another negative 'not'. In a negative sentence or with a negative verb, adjective 'any' is used instead of 'some'. 'Those' is a plural pronoun, and is used for 'kind', (s singular noun). So 'kind' should also be made plural.
22. B; Corrects the error of dangling participle. Because, it is not clear from the sentence 'who failed the entrance' 'the decision' or 'he'. 'B' corrects this error.
23. D; Corrects the error of assertive clause. In the given sentence a question is not being asked but an opinion is being expressed 'what I thought of him' (which acts as direct object to the verb 'tell') beginning with an interrogative pronoun.
24. D; Corrects the error of adverb. 'Still' is chiefly used in the affirmative and interrogative. It is used in negative sentence to emphasize non-continuance of action. While 'yet' means 'upto the time of speaking'. 'Yet' is used with negative and interrogative sentence. According to sentence, still expresses the meaning 'though I am reading it yet I have not finished it'. It is contrary to the meaning of 'but would like to, if I may, which expresses that 'I have not read the book up to the time of speaking', but I would like to, if I may'. 'Yet' corrects the error.
25. B; Corrects error by deleting 'those' because it is superfluous.
26. B; Corrects the error of verb. Because the verb should be used in past form which comes after 'It is time' Clause to imply that it is late.
27. E; Corrects the idiomatic error.
28. C; Corrects the use of indefinite article 'an' before the noun 'aversion' and parallel construction 'both for the book and for the man'.
29. B; Corrects the error of sub-verb agreement. Because all the qualities refer to (or are manifestation of) one quality 'savagery'. So it denotes one idea. Therefore, it will take a singular verb.
30. C; Corrects the error in the use of definite article before abstract noun (prejudice).

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31. B; Corrects the error of past subjunctive mood. Because after 'wish' to indicate a situation which is unreal or contrary to fact, the past subjunctive is used. According to sentence 'It is a wish contrary to my fate or circumstance from day to day. So in such case after 'wish' past subjunctive is used.
32. D; Corrects the error of omission of 'that of pronoun and possessive case. Because, in the sentence, views are compared not with individual, but between his view and view of established historians. So in such case, to avoid the repetition of the word 'view' that of is used. In the sentence, former's view is being talked, not former view.
33. D; Corrects the error of preposition. Because 'right' is followed by preposition 'to'.
34. B; Corrects the use of 'a few'. Because 'few' has a negative meaning 'not any'. But according to preceding clause there are some difficulties. So use of 'a few' which means 'some', correct the error.
35. C; Corrects the error of preposition and sub verb agreement, 'Army' is a singular noun, and will take a singular verb. You can help in building something.
36. D; Corrects the error of sub verb agreement. Because the subject of the verb 'make' (plural) is 'his liberal education and adoption of a liberal country' (plural).
37. C; Corrects the error of definite article 'the' and preposition. In the sentence, 'the people of Kashmir are being talked'. So the use of 'the' before 'people' is correct. You may be disappointed at something with someone.
38. B; Corrects the error of sub-verb agreement. Because, 'which' refers to 'towns', not Tennessee.
39. C; Corrects the error of subject-verb agreement by replacing 'end' to ends' as the subject 'all separation' convey 'one idea'.
40. B; Corrects error of definite article. Because, when two or more adjective qualify the same noun. 'the' article is used before the adj 'first' only. If the article is used before both 'the first' and 'the third', then noun should be used in singular 'objective' as the first and the third objective'.

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41. C; Corrects the idiomatic error, 'beside herself with' means 'having lost her control of herself because of the intensity of joy or emotion she is feeling'.
42. E; Corrects the error of predicative adjective. "Before" is used to perform prepositional functions while 'prior to' is used to perform functions of predicative adj. In the given sentence, 'the first test at Adelaide held earlier this month following Prasad's knee injury' acts as a part of predicate with 'had' asked for a substitute wicket-keeper'.
43. C; Corrects the error of phrasal verb. "Put up with" means to 'tolerate or to endure, to bear'.
44. D; Corrects the error of auxiliary verb 'dare'. Because, when conjugated without 'do', dare is followed by an infinitive'.
45. D; Corrects the error of negative and preposition. Because 'a very little chance' meaning 'some change of Bill being passed'. While according to the sentence 'there is very little chance of Bill being passed because of the nature of opposition to it. 'D' corrects the use of preposition. 'Because' as cause connector is not used before the noun which is not followed by a verb (or it is used to join two clause not a phrase or noun). In such cases, preposition is correct.
46. B; Corrects the error of placing of adjective 'good'. An adjective is generally placed before a noun if qualifies. In the above sentence 'a good' is modifying 'first step'.
47. C; Corrects the error of tense. Because the past subjunctive tense is used after clause beginning with 'if' in the case of unreal, or contrary to fact case . But the given sentence is not expressing anything unreal or contrary to fact. Instead the principal clause is in present tense and the subordinate clause is also expressing the continuation of action of principal clause So the clause beginning with 'if' should be in same tense as principal clause. Because it is expressing a supposition which is assumed as a fact. So indicative mood is used. And verb remains in simple form or present tense.
48. B; Corrects the error in the use of adjective. Because you 'resources' could only be vast or limited, not vaster while 'reach' could only be vaster or greater not vast.
49. C; Corrects the error of parallel construction as (build stamina, decrease stress-level and reduce weight).

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50. D; Corrects the error of dangling modifier. Because modifier 'singing' is not attached to any proper subject. In the sentence, it is modifying 'his first album' which is corrected by using 'a subject' and a past perfect verb in (D) because his first album was released only after he had sung for many music shows. It shows completed action.

## Exercise-4

Directions (Q. 1 to 50): Read each of the followings sentences, some part or whole sentences is underlined. Below each sentence is given five ways of phrasing the underlined part. Select the answer from among the choices which produces the most effective sentence, one that is clear and exact. If there is no error in the underlined part, 'A' is the answer.

1. The fact that the terrorists left no pamphlets has laid credence to the apprehension in certain quarters that it may have been orchestrated to discredit the security forces.
  - A) has laid credence to the apprehension
  - B) was laid credence to the apprehension
  - C) had laid credence to the apprehension
  - D) had lent credence to the apprehension
  - E) has lent credence to the apprehension
2. The good people of the United Kingdom usually know what is the right response, from what their common sense and idea of fair play tells them.
  - A) Their common sense and ideas of fair play tells them.
  - B) their common sense and idea of fair play tells them
  - C) Their common sense and their idea of fair play being told them.
  - D) Their common sense and their idea of fair play tells them.
  - E) Their common senses and idea of fair play told them.
3. He is married and has family responsibilities and he manages time to play soccer.
  - A) He is married and has family responsibilities and he
  - B) He is married and he has family responsibilities and he

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- C) Although he is married and has family responsibilities, he  
D) Being married and having family responsibilities, he  
E) Despite being married and family responsibilities, he
4. During the Miss World contest in London, it was a difficult moment for judges to decide whether Miss India or Miss Greece is the most beautiful.
- A) To decide whether Miss India or Miss Greece is the most beautiful.  
B) To decide as to whether Miss India or Miss Greece is the most beautiful.  
C) To decide whether Miss India or Miss Greece is more beautiful.  
D) To decide whether Miss India or Miss Greece was more beautiful.  
E) To decide whether Miss India or Miss Greece were beautiful.
5. In the normal course of events, my son will graduate law school with a degree in law, he will join court in three years.
- A) my son will graduate law school with a degree in law, he will join  
B) my son will have graduated from law school with a degree in law and joined  
C) my son will graduate from law school with degree in law, he will join  
D) my son graduates law school with a degree in law and will join  
E) my son will become graduate from law school in law-degree, he will join
6. In the era of globalization, the rich and poor of the United States is a part of the global village and simply cannot break free from it.
- A) the rich and poor of India is  
B) the rich and poor of India are  
C) the rich and the poor of India are  
D) the rich and the poor of India is  
E) the rich and poor of India's is
7. The idea, something derived from obsolete technologies is now to be replaced by new technologies.
- A) something derived from obsolete technologies is  
B) something derived of obsolete technologies is  
C) something derived of obsolete technologies are  
D) something derived off obsolete technologies is  
E) something derived in obsolete technologies are
8. The differences in the two groups of Congress had reached a level where one group had to part one's way.
- A) The differences in the two groups of Congress had  
B) The differences of the two groups of congress had  
C) The differences between two groups of Congress had

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- D) The differences between two groups of Congress was  
E) The differences from the two groups of Congress had
9. The audience at the children's film festival were amused to watch their performance on the stage.
- A) The audience at the children's film festival were  
B) The audience in children's film festival was  
C) The audience at children film festival was  
D) The audiences at children film festival were  
E) The audiences of children's film festival
10. Tom Smith could go to any extent to deter his supporters going to support the new Chief Minister
- A) to deter his supporters going to support  
B) to deter his supporters from going to support  
C) to deter his supporters for going to support  
D) to deter his supporters to go to support  
E) from deterring his supporters to go to support
11. The government cannot be successful in containing the fiscal deficit until it does not slash the subsidy.
- A) until it does not slash the subsidy.  
B) until it didn't slash the subsidy.  
C) till it does not slash the subsidy.  
D) until it slashed the subsidy.  
E) until the subsidy is not slashed.
12. Japan, in fact, continues to be firm on keeping sanctions in place unless Japan does not sign the CTBT.
- A) in place unless Japan does not sign the CTBT.  
B) In place unless Japan did sign the CTBT.  
C) to place until Japan signs the CTBT.  
D) to place till Japan didn't sign the CTBT.  
E) In place as long as Japan does not sign the CTBT.
13. The instinct for survival and a hardy inner strength that come from long years of deprivation.
- A) that come from lone years of deprivation.  
B) that comes from long years of deprivation.  
C) which comes from long years of deprivation.

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- D) that come in from long years of deprivation.  
E) which come out from long years of deprivation.
14. Tragedies bring in the best and worst in different human beings.
- A) Tragedies bring in the best and worst  
B) Tragedies bring out the best and worst  
C) Tragedies bring out the best and the worst  
D) Tragedies bring about the best and worst  
E) Tragedies bring forth the best and the worst
15. It would require a careful and hard planning to rebuild a shattered economy and create assets for future super cyclone.
- A) and cerate assets for future super cyclone.  
B) and create assets about future super cyclone.  
C) to create assets about future super cyclone.  
D) and for creating assets for future super cyclone  
E) and create assets against super cyclone.
15. No victory is possible until the loser loses the battle.
- A) until the loser loses the battle.  
B) until the loser does not lose the battle.  
C) until the loser lost the battle.  
D) unless loser loses the battle.  
E) unless the loser didn't lose the battle.
17. But nothing is more dissolving of tradition but the permanent revolution of the market forces.
- A) but the permanent revolution of the market forces.  
B) but the permanent revolution in the market forces.  
C) than the permanent revolution of the marker forces.  
D) than the permanent revolution in market forces.  
E) than the permanent revolution about the market forces.
18. The president has been advised rest for two to three days by the doctors attending for him.
- A) for two to three days by the doctors attending for him.  
B) for two or three days by the doctors attending for him.  
C) of two or three days by the doctors attending to him.  
D) for two to three days by doctors attending to him.  
E) For two to three days by the doctors attending on him.
19. Whereas, the entire blame cannot be led on the doors of the state.

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- A) Cannot be led on the doors of the state.  
B) Cannot be laid at the doors of the state.  
C) Cannot be led of the doors of the state.  
D) Cannot be lay at the doors of the state.  
E) Cannot be lied on the doors of the state.
20. It obviously did not result from the Supreme Court's order placing a limit on noise level from crackers or appeals by our beloved political leaders.
- A) placing a limit on noise level.  
B) to place a limit on noise level.  
C) to place a limit to noise level.  
D) placing a limit to noise level.  
E) placed a limit on noise level.
21. Few years ago, no body had even heard out them, and today they rank among the richest Americans at home.
- A) Few years ago, nobody had even heard out them  
B) Few years before, nobody had even heard out them  
C) A few years ago, nobody had even heard of them.  
D) The few years ago, nobody had even heard about them.  
E) A few years ago, nobody had even heard about them
22. The government has not been able to decide on the shape of Broadcasting Bill despite being brooded over it for years.
- A) despite being brooded over it for years.  
B) despite having brooded over it for years.  
C) despite brooded over it for years.  
D) despite being brooding on it for years.  
E) despite brooding over it for years.
23. This necessitated their regular keep-up and maintenance resulting in the emergence of the whole crop of crafts and mechanics.
- A) This necessitated their regular keep-up and maintenance  
B) This made necessary their regular keep-up and maintenance  
C) This necessitated their regular keep-up and maintenance  
D) This necessitated their regular keeping-up and maintaining



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24. The Congress leadership is wary about spelling out end goals it has in mind.

- A) is wary about spelling out end goals
- B) is wary about spelling off end goals
- C) is wary of spelling out end goals
- D) is wary to spell out end goals
- E) is wary about spelling the end goals

25. The factory workers remitted not only a part of their earnings back home, but also took with them the appetites, aspirations and out look of their places of work.

- A) The factory workers remitted not only a part of their earning back home
- B) The factory workers not remitted only a part of their earning back home
- C) The factory workers remitted a part of not only their earning back home
- D) The factory workers not only remitted a part of their earning back home
- E) Not only factory workers remitted a part of their earning back home

26. And the most important point of these success stories is that they owe very little to any state patronage and is inspiring examples of small people making big on their own.

- A) and inspiring examples of small people making big on their own.
- B) and is inspiring examples of small people making big at his own.
- C) and are inspiring examples of small people making big on their own.
- D) and are inspiring examples of small people making big at their own.
- E) and has been as inspiring example of small people making big at their own.

27. The Labor Party is put hard to justifying the enormous amount of money spent on the cultural extravaganza a get up to usher in the next millennium with the message of peace, harmony and progress.

- A) The Labor Party is put hard to justifying
- B) The Labor Party is put hard to justify

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C) The Labor Party is put to justify                      D) The Labor Party is hard put to justifying

F) The Labor Party is hard up for justifying

28. The popular view here is that, the military is more powerful than all the segments of the Japanese society.

A) than all the segments of the Japanese society

B) than any segment of the Japanese society

C) than any other segment of the Japanese society

D) than all other segments of the Japanese society

E) from all other segments of the Japanese society

29. I held no brief for they who say that violence can be justified.

A) I held no brief for they who

B) I held no brief for they whom

C) I hold no brief for they who

D) I hold no brief for those who

F) I held no brief for those whom

30. The passengers and crew were brought out by the Dover life boat.

A) were brought out by the Dover life boat.

B) were brought in by the Dover life boat.

C) were brought up by the Dover life boat.

D) had brought out by the Dover life boat.

E) were brought off by the Dover life boat.

31. For years, officials in Scotland have had to fend suggestion that he be invited to mediate between Scotland and Ireland.

A) have had to fend suggestions that he be invited

B) have to fend suggestions that he be invited

C) have to fend suggestions that he should be invited

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- D) have had to fend off suggestions that he be invited  
E) have had to fend out suggestions that he must be invited
32. The relationship between the Conservative Party and the Liberal Democrats, which had earlier formed an alliance of sort, are currently somewhat strained.
- A) An alliance of sort, are currently somewhat strained.  
B) An alliance of sort, was currently somewhat strained.  
C) An alliance of sort, is currently somewhat strained.  
D) An alliance of sort, is currently somewhat strained.  
E) An alliance of sorts, are currently somewhat strained.
33. The first lesson I learned from my assignment to Michigan was that public morality of a high degree prevailed in the state.
- A) I learned from my assignment to Michigan was that  
B) I learned of my assignment of Michigan is that  
C) I learnt from my assignment of Michigan is that  
D) I learned on my assignment to Michigan was that  
E) I learned on my assignment of Michigan were that
34. She had the cheek to tell me latter that she had deliberately treated him badly for no particular reason.
- A) the cheek to tell me latter that she had  
B) the cheek to tell me later that she had  
C) the cheek to tell me later that she was  
D) the cheek for telling me latter that she had  
E) the cheek of telling me latter that she had
35. The people seems to become disillusioned with the going on that they have begun to live such political banality.
- A) The people seems to become disillusioned with

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- B) The people seem to become disillusioned with
- C) The people seem to have become disillusioned with
- D) The people seems to have become disillusioned with
- E) The people seem having become disillusioned with

36. The trade fair provides many opportunities of meeting young entrepreneurs, displaying latest technological developments and allure foreign investments.

- A) displaying latest technological developments and allure foreign investments.
- B) displays latest technological development and allures foreign investments.
- C) display latest technological developments and alluring foreign investments.
- D) displaying latest technological developments and alluring foreign investments.
- E) to display of latest technological developments and alluring foreign investments.

37. All one can gather from government's initiative on economic reforms are that government is seriously pursuing second phase of economic reforms.

- A) on economic reforms are that government is seriously pursuing
- B) on economic reforms is that government is seriously pursuing
- C) on economic reforms are that government is pursuing seriously
- D) for economic reforms is that government is pursuing seriously
- E) for economic reforms are that government is seriously being pursued.

38. The rate of inflation has dropped sharply this week even though the drop may be only temporarily.

- A) even though the drop may be only temporarily.
- B) even though the drop may have been only temporarily.
- C) even though the drop may be only temporary.
- D) though the drop might be only temporarily.
- E) the drop may be only temporarily, though.

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39. In ancient times, the north-west region of India was the principle corridor from where the Muslim invaders entered into India.

- A) the principle corridor from where the Muslim invaders.
- B) the principle corridor from where Muslim invaders
- C) the principal corridor from where the Muslim invaders
- D) the principal corridor from which Muslim invaders
- E) the principle corridor through which the Muslim invaders.

40. Everyone of them know that he is more efficient than any other man in the party.

- A) Everyone of them know that
- B) Everyone of them knew that
- C) Everyone of them knows that
- D) Every one of them know
- E) Every one of them had known

41. They all fetched into at her birthday party yesterday night.

- A) They all fetched into      B) They all fetched in
- C) They all fetched up      D) All they fetched up
- F) They all fetched

42. She will remain in London until her husband is not freed and democracy is restored in Iraq.

- A) until her husband is not frees      B) Unless her husband is not free
- C) Until her husband is free      D) until her husband is being freed
- F) until her husband is freed

43. Now they are not facing only a dilemma over leadership but also a danger to their very existence.

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- A) over leadership but also a danger to their very existence.
- B) about leadership but also a danger to their very existence.
- C) but also about leadership a danger to their very existence.
- D) of leadership but a danger also to their very existence.
- E) over leadership but a danger also to their very existence.

44. The economic survey of China attributes the radical changes in the Chinese Economy to the opening of the market and above all, to the changes in the attitude of the people of China.

- A) to the opening of the market and above all, to the change in the attitude of the people of China.
- B) to the open of the market and above all, to the change in the attitude of the people of China.
- C) to the opening of the market and above all, to the changing in the attitude of the people of China.
- D) to the opening of the market, and the change in that attitude of people in China.
- E) to the opening of the market and above all, change of the attitude of people of China.

45. The principal of the mission school is an old-fashioned man and is very strictly with their student.

- A) is very strictly with their students .
- B) is very strictly towards their students.
- C) is very strict with their students.
- D) is very strict against his students .
- E) is very strict with his students .

46. The forth coming assembly election in Wales has many surprises in store, for whom ever tries to know the future from the events of past and from the sign of present.

- A) for whomever tries to know the future.

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- B) to whom ever tries to know the future
- C) for whoever try to know the future
- D) for whoever tries to know the future
- E) to whomever try to know the future .

47. The deposed CEO of the ABCD Corporation has not only been charged with hijacking and kidnapping but also with corruption.

- A) has not only been charged with hijacking and kidnapping but also with corruption .
- B) has been not only charged with hijacking and kidnapping but also with corruption .
- C) has been charged not only with hijacking and kidnapping but also with corruption .
- D) has been charged of not only hijacking and kidnapping but also of corruption.
- E) has been not only charged of hijacking and of kidnapping but also of corruption .

48. George Bush must be the first to rejoice that Bush and Rice both had exonerated in arms scam Supreme Court.

- A) Bush and Rice both had exonerated in arms scam by Supreme Court.
- B) Bush and Rice both had been exonerated in arms scam by Supreme Court.
- C) both Bush and Rice had been exonerated in arms scam from Supreme court.
- D) both Bush and Rice have been exonerated in arms scam by Supreme Court .
- E) both Bush and Rice had exonerated in arms scam by Supreme court.

49. In a report issued by the World Health Organization, India has the largest number of AIDS patients.

- A) In a report issued by the World Health Organization.
- B) According to report issued by the World Health Organization.
- C) By a report issued from the World Health Organization.
- D) From a report issued by the World Health Organization.
- E) Of the report issued of the World Health Organization.

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50. Everyone expressed doubt that he was involved in hijacking.
- A) that he was involved in hijacking .
  - B) that he had been involved in hijacking .
  - C) that he were involved in hijacking
  - D) whether he was involved in hijacking .
  - E) he was involved in hijacking .

## Exercise –4 Answers

1. E; Corrects the error in diction. “lent’ is past participle form of ‘lend’ meaning ‘to give support’ or ‘a guard.’
2. A; The sentence is correct. The underlined part expresses one or a unified idea, so it takes a singular verb ‘tells’.
3. C; subordinating conjunction ‘although’ connects the clauses properly and brings clarity in the sentence to connect the clauses.
4. D; Corrects the error in comparative degree of comparison and tense. Because, when the comparison is instituted between two (Miss India and Miss Greece), the comparative degree of comparison should be used. The clause beginning with ‘whether’ should follow the same tense as that of principal clause.
5. B; Corrects the error of future perfect tense and preposition. Because, the action of graduating and joining court, in normal course of event, will be completed sometime in ‘future (three years)’. So it a case of future perfect tense. Preposition ‘from’ should be used after ‘graduated’ because you are taking degree from an institution.
6. C; Corrects the error of definite article and subject verb agreement. Definite article ‘the’ is used before an adjective when it is used as noun and is always followed by a plural verb. In the sentence, the subject is ‘the rich and the poor.’
7. A; The sentence is correct.

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8. C; Corrects the error of preposition.
9. A; The sentence is correct, 'audience' mean a group of people or people is large number. It is considered as a whole group or as an individual. So both singular and plural verbs are used .
10. B; Corrects prepositional error. Because 'deter' is always followed by preposition 'from' and a verb with .....ing.
- 11.C; Corrects the error of double negative , 'until' means 'till not'. So use either 'until it slashed the subsidy', or 'till it does not slash the subsidy'.
12. E; Corrects the error of compound conjunction 'as long as' to show 'till the time when Japan does not sign CTBT.
13. B; Corrects the error of Sub- Verb agreement.
14. C; Corrects the use of phrasal verb and use of definite article 'the' before the adjective in superlative (worst). 'Bring out' means 'to produce as a result'.
15. E; Corrects the error of preposition. Because you are preparing assets to protect yourself against super cyclone.
16. D; Corrects the error of conjunction, 'unless' is a conjunction of condition meaning 'if ....not' while 'until' is a conjunction of time. The sentence, expresses a sense of condition , that 'if the loser does not lose, the victory is not possible' or 'victory is possible only when the loser loses'. So the sentence expresses condition, not the time for victory.
17. C; Nothing should follow by 'than', not by 'but'.
18. E; Corrects prepositional error, use either 'to' or 'on'.
19. B; Corrects the error of diction and preposition, 'led' is the past form of 'lead' which means 'to show the way or to guide'. 'Laid' is past form of 'lay' meaning 'to put'.
20. A; The sentence is correct .
21. C; Corrects the error of double negative and phrasal verb. Use of 'a few' corrects the error of double negative and phrasal verb ' heard of' means 'to be told' or ' have knowledge of somebody or something while 'heard out' means listens until somebody have finished saying'.
22. B; Corrects the error of perfect participle. Because present participle expresses an action as going on while a perfect participle expresses an action as completed in

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some recent past. In the sentence, the govt. has not been able to decide on the shape of the bill while it has already spend much of the time on it.

23. C; Corrects the error in diction, up-keep (noun) means 'the cost of keeping something in good condition' while keep up (a phrasal verb) means 'to continue without stopping' and it is object to the verb 'necessitated'.
24. C; 'Wary' is always followed by preposition 'of'.
25. D; Corrects the error of parallel construction. A correlative conjunction 'not only but also' should follow the parallel construction. Since 'not only and but also' are used before the word they limit. In the given sentence they limit ("not only remitted .....but also took".) verb words in past form..
26. C; Corrects the error of subject verb agreement. Because the subject of the verb 'are' is 'the success stories.'
27. D; Corrects the idiomatic error. The correct idiom is 'be hard put' (to do something meaning)'to find it very difficult to do something.'
- 28.C; Corrects the error of comparative degree of comparison. Because comparison is made between military and any other segment of Japanese society.
29. D; Corrects the idiomatic and the error of pronoun of third person plural. The correct idiom is 'hold no brief for ' meaning not to support or be in favour of somebody or something', use those instead of they as the relative they as the antecedent of who and that relative pronoun.
30. E; Corrects the error of phrasal verb 'to bring out' means 'to make somebody stop working in protest against something' while 'to bring off' means 'to rescue somebody'.
31. D; Corrects the error of phrasal verb, 'to fend off' means 'to avoid'
32. D; Corrects the error of idiom (of a sort of sorts meaning of a poor or inferior type) and error of the subject verb agreement. Because the subject is 'the relationship'. So verb should be 'is' instead of 'are'.
33. D; Corrects the prepositional error.
34. B; Corrects the error in diction. 'Latter' refers to 'position' while 'later' refers to 'time'.
35. C; Corrects the error of subject verb agreement and use of 'to have' ( meaning experiencing) to convey or express the disillusionment. As people have experienced disillusionment with.

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36. D; Corrects the error of parallel construction of gerund. ( meeting, displaying .....and alluring)
37. B; Corrects the error of subject verb agreement. The subject of the verb 'is' is 'All one can gather' clause giving 'and idea of one whole'.
38. C; Corrects the misuse of adverb for adjective. Because, in the clause, 'only' acts as an adverb modifying 'temporarily'. While 'temporarily' is an adverb which is modifying ' the drop' (noun). So by changing 'temporarily' to an adjective 'temporary' the error is corrected.
39. E; Corrects the error in diction. 'Principle' means 'a theory or moral or ethical stand' while 'principal' means 'main' or 'chief'. Corridor serves as medium , so use 'through which ' instead of 'from where'. Because 'from where' or 'from which' gives impression that they belongs to that (north- west) region.
40. C; 'Everyone' is followed by a singular verb.
41. C; Corrects the error of phrasal verb. 'Fetch up' means 'to arrive at a certain place often by chance'.
42. E; Corrects the error of double negative. Either delete 'not' or use 'till' instead of 'until'.
43. A; The sentence is correct as 'not only....but also' follows the parallel construction or used before the word they limit.
44. A; The sentence is correct as it follows the parallel construction ( of noun) 'to the opening and to the change'.
45. E; Corrects the misuse of adverb for adjective. In the sentence, 'strictly' an adverb is qualifying 'principal' noun. An adverb can not modify a noun, but 'strict '. It also corrects the error of pronoun 'their' because 'their' refers to noun 'principal'. So 'his' should be used instead of 'their'.
46. D; Corrects the error of correlative pronoun. Because the object to the preposition 'for' is not only 'whomever' but the entire clause 'whomever tries'. So it should be in nominative case because it acts as a subject to the following clause 'to know the future'.
47. C; Corrects the error in the parallel construction of 'not only.....but also'.
48. D; Corrects the error of tense and use of adjective 'both'. In the given sentence, principal clause with verb 'must be' express meaning in present tense, so

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following subordinate clause should also be in present tense 'have been'. 'Both' as an adjective should be used before the word to which it modifies.

49. B; Corrects the used of 'according to'. Because, the information about the number of patients is, according to the report issued by WHO.
50. D; Corrects the error of conjunction. In affirmative sentence with 'doubt and doubtful'. 'whether' is used while in negative and interrogative sentence, 'that' is used to join the clauses.

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## Exercise-5

Directions (Q. 1 to 50): Read each of the followings sentences, some part or whole sentences is underlined. Below each sentence is given five ways of phrasing the underlined part. Select the answer from among the choices which produces the most effective sentence, one that is clear and exact. If there is no error in the underlined part, 'A' is the answer.

1. The fact that the terrorists left no pamphlets has laid credence to the apprehension in certain quarters that it may have been orchestrated to discredit the security forces.
  - F) has laid credence to the apprehension
  - G) was laid credence to the apprehension
  - H) had laid credence to the apprehension
  - I) had lent credence to the apprehension
  - J) has lent credence to the apprehension
  
2. The good people of the United Kingdom usually know what is the right response, from what their common sense and idea of fair play tells them.
  - F) Their common sense and ideas of fair play tells them.
  - G) their common sense and idea of fair play tells them
  - H) Their common sense and their idea of fair play being told them.
  - I) Their common sense and their idea of fair play tells them.
  - J) Their common senses and idea of fair play told them.
  
3. He is married and has family responsibilities and he manages time to play soccer.
  - F) He is married and has family responsibilities and he
  - G) He is married and he has family responsibilities and he
  - H) Although he is married and has family responsibilities, he
  - I) Being married and having family responsibilities, he
  - J) Despite being married and family responsibilities, he
  
4. During the Miss World contest in London, it was a difficult moment for judges to decide whether Miss India or Miss Greece is the most beautiful.
  - F) To decide whether Miss India or Miss Greece is the most beautiful.
  - G) To decide as to whether Miss India or Miss Greece is the most beautiful.
  - H) To decide whether Miss India or Miss Greece is more beautiful.

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- I) To decide whether Miss India or Miss Greece was more beautiful.  
J) To decide whether Miss India or Miss Greece were beautiful.
5. In the normal course of events, my son will graduate law school with a degree in law, he will join court in three years.
- F) my son will graduate law school with a degree in law, he will join  
G) my son will have graduated from law school with a degree in law and joined  
H) my son will graduate from law school with degree in law, he will join  
I) my son graduates law school with a degree in law and will join  
J) my son will become graduate from law school in law-degree, he will join
6. In the era of globalization, the rich and poor of the United States is a part of the global village and simply cannot break free from it.
- F) the rich and poor of India is  
G) the rich and poor of India are  
H) the rich and the poor of India are  
I) the rich and the poor of India is  
J) the rich and poor of India's is
7. The idea, something derived from obsolete technologies is now to be replaced by new technologies.
- F) something derived from obsolete technologies is  
G) something derived of obsolete technologies is  
H) something derived of obsolete technologies are  
I) something derived off obsolete technologies is  
J) something derived in obsolete technologies are
8. The differences in the two groups of Congress had reached a level where one group had to part one's way.
- F) The differences in the two groups of Congress had  
G) The differences of the two groups of congress had  
H) The differences between two groups of Congress had  
I) The differences between two groups of Congress was  
J) The differences from the two groups of Congress had
9. The audience at the children's film festival were amused to watch their performance on the stage.
- A) The audience at the children's film festival were  
B) The audience in children's film festival was  
F) The audience at children film festival was  
G) The audiences at children film festival were

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- H) The audiences of children's film festival
10. Tom Smith could go to any extent to deter his supporters going to support the new Chief Minister
- F) to deter his supporters going to support
  - G) to deter his supporters from going to support
  - H) to deter his supporters for going to support
  - I) to deter his supporters to go to support
  - J) from deterring his supporters to go to support
11. The government cannot be successful in containing the fiscal deficit until it does not slash the subsidy.
- F) until it does not slash the subsidy.
  - G) until it didn't slash the subsidy.
  - H) till it does not slash the subsidy.
  - I) until it slashed the subsidy.
  - J) until the subsidy is not slashed.
12. Japan, in fact, continues to be firm on keeping sanctions in place unless Japan does not sign the CTBT.
- F) in place unless Japan does not sign the CTBT.
  - G) In place unless Japan did sign the CTBT.
  - H) to place until Japan signs the CTBT.
  - I) to place till Japan didn't sign the CTBT.
  - J) In place as long as Japan does not sign the CTBT.
13. The instinct for survival and a hardy inner strength that come from long years of deprivation.
- F) that come from lone years of deprivation.
  - G) that comes from long years of deprivation.
  - H) which comes from long years of deprivation.
  - I) that come in from long years of deprivation.
  - J) which come out from long years of deprivation.
14. Tragedies bring in the best and worst in different human beings.
- F) Tragedies bring in the best and worst
  - G) Tragedies bring out the best and worst
  - H) Tragedies bring out the best and the worst
  - I) Tragedies bring about the best and worst
  - J) Tragedies bring forth the best and the worst

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15. It would require a careful and hard planning to rebuild a shattered economy and create assets for future super cyclone.  
F) and cerate assets for future super cyclone.  
G) and create assets about future super cyclone.  
H) to create assets about future super cyclone.  
I) and for creating assets for future super cyclone  
J) and create assets against super cyclone.
16. No victory is possible until the loser loses the battle.  
A) until the loser loses the battle.  
B) until the loser does not lose the battle.  
F) until the loser lost the battle.  
G) unless loser loses the battle.  
H) unless the loser didn't lose the battle.
17. But nothing is more dissolving of tradition but the permanent revolution of the market forces.  
F) but the permanent revolution of the market forces.  
G) but the permanent revolution in the market forces.  
H) than the permanent revolution of the marker forces.  
I) than the permanent revolution in market forces.  
J) than the permanent revolution about the market forces.
18. The president has been advised rest for two to three days by the doctors attending for him.  
F) for two to three days by the doctors attending for him.  
G) for two or three days by the doctors attending for him.  
H) of two or three days by the doctors attending to him.  
I) for two to three days by doctors attending to him.  
J) For two to three days by the doctors attending on him.
19. Whereas, the entire blame cannot be led on the doors of the state.  
F) Cannot be led on the doors of the state.  
G) Cannot be laid at the doors of the state.  
H) Cannot be led of the doors of the state.  
I) Cannot be lay at the doors of the state.  
J) Cannot be lied on the doors of the state.
20. It obviously did not result from the Supreme Court's order placing a limit on noise level from crackers or appeals by our beloved political leaders.



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- F) placing a limit on noise level.  
G) to place a limit on noise level.  
H) to place a limit to noise level.  
I) placing a limit to noise level.  
J) placed a limit on noise level.
21. Few years ago, no body had even heard out them, and today they rank among the richest Americans at home.
- F) Few years ago, nobody had even heard out them  
G) Few years before, nobody had even heard out them  
H) A few years ago, nobody had even heard of them.  
I) The few years ago, nobody had even heard about them.  
J) A few years ago, nobody had even heard about them
22. The government has not been able to decide on the shape of Broadcasting Bill despite being brooded over it for years.
- F) despite being brooded over it for years.  
G) despite having brooded over it for years.  
H) despite brooded over it for years.  
I) despite being brooding on it for years.  
J) despite brooding over it for years.
23. This necessitated their regular keep-up and maintenance resulting in the emergence of the whole crop of crafts and mechanics.
- E) This necessitated their regular keep-up and maintenance  
F) This made necessary their regular keep-up and maintenance  
G) This necessitated their regular keep-up and maintenance  
H) This necessitated their regular keeping-up and maintaining
24. The Congress leadership is wary about spelling out end goals it has in mind.
- F) is wary about spelling out end goals  
G) is wary about spelling off end goals  
H) is wary of spelling out end goals  
I) is wary to spell out end goals

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J) is wary about spelling the end goals

25. The factory workers remitted not only a part of their earnings back home, but also took with them the appetites, aspirations and out look of their places of work.

F) The factory workers remitted not only a part of their earning back home

G) The factory workers not remitted only a part of their earning back home

H) The factory workers remitted a part of not only their earning back home

I) The factory workers not only remitted a part of their earning back home

J) Not only factory workers remitted a part of their earning back home

26. And the most important point of these success stories is that they owe very little to any state patronage and is inspiring examples of small people making big on their own.

G) and inspiring examples of small people making big on their own.

H) and is inspiring examples of small people making big at his own.

I) and are inspiring examples of small people making big on their own.

J) and are inspiring examples of small people making big at their own.

K) and has been as inspiring example of small people making big at their own.

27. The Labor Party is put hard to justifying the enormous amount of money spent on the cultural extravaganza a get up to usher in the next millennium with the message of peace, harmony and progress.

A) The Labor Party is put hard to justifying B) The Labor Party is put hard to justify

C) The Labor Party is put to justify D) The Labor Party is hard put to justifying

L) The Labor Party is hard up for justifying

28. The popular view here is that, the military is more powerful than all the segments of the Japanese society.

G) than all the segments of the Japanese society

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- H) than any segment of the Japanese society  
I) than any other segment of the Japanese society  
J) than all other segments of the Japanese society  
K) from all other segments of the Japanese society
29. I held no brief for they who say that violence can be justified.
- A) I held no brief for they who      B) I held no brief for they whom  
C) I hold no brief for they who      D) I hold no brief for those who  
L) I held no brief for those whom
30. The passengers and crew were brought out by the Dover life boat.
- F) were brought out by the Dover life boat.  
G) were brought in by the Dover life boat.  
H) were brought up by the Dover life boat.  
I) had brought out by the Dover life boat.  
J) were brought off by the Dover life boat.
31. For years, officials in Scotland have had to fend suggestion that he be invited to mediate between Scotland and Ireland.
- F) have had to fend suggestions that he be invited  
G) have to fend suggestions that he be invited  
H) have to fend suggestions that he should be invited  
I) have had to fend off suggestions that he be invited  
J) have had to fend out suggestions that he must be invited
32. The relationship between the Conservative Party and the Liberal Democrats, which had earlier formed an alliance of sort, are currently somewhat strained.
- F) An alliance of sort, are currently somewhat strained.  
G) An alliance of sort, was currently somewhat strained.

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- H) An alliance of sort, is currently somewhat strained.
- I) An alliance of sort, is currently somewhat strained.
- J) An alliance of sorts, are currently somewhat strained.

33. The first lesson I learned from my assignment to Michigan was that public morality of a high degree prevailed in the state.

- F) I learned from my assignment to Michigan was that
- G) I learned of my assignment of Michigan is that
- H) I learnt from my assignment of Michigan is that
- I) I learned on my assignment to Michigan was that
- J) I learned on my assignment of Michigan were that

34. She had the cheek to tell me latter that she had deliberately treated him badly for no particular reason.

- F) the cheek to tell me latter that she had
- G) the cheek to tell me later that she had
- H) the cheek to tell me later that she was
- I) the cheek for telling me latter that she had
- J) the cheek of telling me latter that she had

35. The people seems to become disillusioned with the going on that they have begun to live such political banality.

- F) The people seems to become disillusioned with
- G) The people seem to become disillusioned with
- H) The people seem to have become disillusioned with
- I) The people seems to have become disillusioned with
- J) The people seem having become disillusioned with

36. The trade fair provides many opportunities of meeting young entrepreneurs, displaying latest technological developments and allure foreign investments.

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- F) displaying latest technological developments and allure foreign investments.
- G) displays latest technological development and allures foreign investments.
- H) display latest technological developments and alluring foreign investments.
- I) displaying latest technological developments and alluring foreign investments.
- J) to display of latest technological developments and alluring foreign investments.

37. All one can gather from government's initiative on economic reforms are that government is seriously pursuing second phase of economic reforms.

- F) on economic reforms are that government is seriously pursuing
- G) on economic reforms is that government is seriously pursuing
- H) on economic reforms are that government is pursuing seriously
- I) for economic reforms is that government is pursuing seriously
- J) for economic reforms are that government is seriously being pursued.

38. The rate of inflation has dropped sharply this week even though the drop may be only temporarily.

- F) even though the drop may be only temporarily.
- G) even though the drop may have been only temporarily.
- H) even though the drop may be only temporary.
- I) though the drop might be only temporarily.
- J) the drop may be only temporarily, though.

39. In ancient times, the north-west region of India was the principle corridor from where the Muslim invaders entered into India.

- G) the principle corridor from where the Muslim invaders.
- H) the principle corridor from where Muslim invaders
- I) the principal corridor from where the Muslim invaders
- J) the principal corridor from which Muslim invaders
- K) the principle corridor through which the Muslim invaders.

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40. Everyone of them know that he is more efficient than any other man in the party.
- G) Everyone of them know that
  - H) Everyone of them knew that
  - I) Everyone of them knows that
  - J) Every one of them know
  - K) Every one of them had known
41. They all fetched into at her birthday party yesterday night.
- A) They all fetched into      B) They all fetched in
  - C) They all fetched up      D) All they fetched up
  - L) They all fetched
42. She will remain in London until her husband is not freed and democracy is restored in Iraq.
- A) until her husband is not frees      B) Unless her husband is not free
  - C) Until her husband is free      D) until her husband is being freed
  - L) until her husband is freed
43. Now they are not facing only a dilemma over leadership but also a danger to their very existence.
- F) over leadership but also a danger to their very existence.
  - G) about leadership but also a danger to their very existence.
  - H) but also about leadership a danger to their very existence.
  - I) of leadership but a danger also to their very existence.
  - J) over leadership but a danger also to their very existence.
44. The economic survey of China attributes the radical changes in the Chinese Economy to the opening of the market and above all, to the changes in the attitude of the people of China.

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F) to the opening of the market and above all, to the change in the attitude of the people of China.

G) to the open of the market and above all, to the change in the attitude of the people of China.

H) to the opening of the market and above all, to the changing in the attitude of the people of China.

I) to the opening of the market, and the change in that attitude of people in China.

J) to the opening of the market and above all, change of the attitude of people of China.

45. The principal of the mission school is an old-fashioned man and is very strictly with their student.

A) is very strictly with their students .

F) is very strictly towards their students.

G) is very strict with their students.

H) is very strict against his students .

I) is very strict with his students .

46. The forth coming assembly election in Wales has many surprises in store, for whom ever tries to know the future from the events of past and from the sign of present.

F) for whomever tries to know the future.

G) to whom ever tries to know the future

H) for whoever try to know the future

I) for whoever tries to know the future

J) to whomever try to know the future .

47. The deposed CEO of the ABCD Corporation has not only been charged with hijacking and kidnapping but also with corruption.

F) has not only been charged with hijacking and kidnapping but also with corruption .

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- G) has been not only charged with hijacking and kidnapping but also with corruption .
- H) has been charged not only with hijacking and kidnapping but also with corruption .
- I) has been charged of not only hijacking and kidnapping but also of corruption.
- J) has been not only charged of hijacking and of kidnapping but also of corruption .

48. George Bush must be the first to rejoice that Bush and Rice both had exonerated in arms scam Supreme Court .

- F) Bush and Rice both had exonerated in arms scam by Supreme Court.
- G) Bush and Rice both had been exonerated in arms scam by Supreme Court.
- H) both Bush and Rice had been exonerated in arms scam from Supreme court.
- I) both Bush and Rice have been exonerated in arms scam by Supreme Court .
- J) both Bush and Rice had exonerated in arms scam by Supreme court.

49. In a report issued by the World Health Organization, India has the largest number of AIDS patients.

- F) In a report issued by the World Health Organization.
- G) According to report issued by the World Health Organization.
- H) By a report issued from the World Health Organization.
- I) From a report issued by the World Health Organization.
- J) Of the report issued of the World Health Organization.

50. Everyone expressed doubt that he was involved in hijacking.

- F) that he was involved in hijacking .
- G) that he had been involved in hijacking .
- H) that he were involved in hijacking
- I) whether he was involved in hijacking .
- J) he was involved in hijacking .

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## *Exercise –5 Answers*

1. E; Corrects the error in diction. “lent’ is past participle form of ‘lend’ meaning ‘to give support’ or ‘a guard.’
2. A; The sentence is correct. The underlined part expresses one or a unified idea, so it takes a singular verb ‘tells’.
3. C; subordinating conjunction ‘although’ connects the clauses properly and brings clarity in the sentence to connect the clauses.
4. D; Corrects the error in comparative degree of comparison and tense. Because, when the comparison is instituted between two (Miss India and Miss Greece), the comparative degree of comparison should be used. The clause beginning with ‘whether’ should follow the same tense as that of principal clause.
5. B; Corrects the error of future perfect tense and preposition. Because, the action of graduating and joining court, in normal course of event, will be completed sometime in ‘future (three years)’. So it a case of future perfect tense. Preposition ‘from’ should be used after ‘graduated’ because you are taking degree from an institution.
6. C; Corrects the error of definite article and subject verb agreement. Definite article ‘the’ is used before an adjective when it is used as noun and is always followed by a plural verb. In the sentence, the subject is ‘the rich and the poor.’
7. A; The sentence is correct.
8. C; Corrects the error of preposition.
9. A; The sentence is correct, ‘audience’ mean a group of people or people is large number. It is considered as a whole group or as an individual. So both singular and plural verbs are used .
10. B; Corrects prepositional error. Because ‘deter’ is always followed by preposition ‘from’ and a verb with .....ing.
- 11.C; Corrects the error of double negative , ‘until’ means ‘till not’. So use either ‘until it slashed the subsidy’, or ‘till it does not slash the subsidy’.

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12. E; Corrects the error of compound conjunction 'as long as' to show 'till the time when Japan does not sign CTBT.
13. B; Corrects the error of Sub- Verb agreement.
14. C; Corrects the use of phrasal verb and use of definite article 'the' before the adjective in superlative (worst). 'Bring out' means 'to produce as a result'.
15. E; Corrects the error of preposition. Because you are preparing assets to protect yourself against super cyclone.
16. D; Corrects the error of conjunction, 'unless' is a conjunction of condition meaning 'if ....not' while 'until' is a conjunction of time. The sentence, expresses a sense of condition , that 'if the loser does not lose, the victory is not possible' or 'victory is possible only when the loser loses'. So the sentence expresses condition, not the time for victory.
17. C; Nothing should follow by 'than', not by 'but'.
18. E; Corrects prepositional error, use either 'to' or 'on'.
19. B; Corrects the error of diction and preposition, 'led' is the past form of 'lead' which means 'to show the way or to guide'. 'Laid' is past form of 'lay' meaning 'to put'.
20. A; The sentence is correct .
21. C; Corrects the error of double negative and phrasal verb. Use of 'a few' corrects the error of double negative and phrasal verb 'heard of' means 'to be told' or 'have knowledge of somebody or something while 'heard out' means listens until somebody have finished saying'.
22. B; Corrects the error of perfect participle. Because present participle expresses an action as going on while a perfect participle expresses an action as completed in some recent past. In the sentence, the govt. has not been able to decide on the shape of the bill while it has already spend much of the time on it.
23. C; Corrects the error in diction, up-keep (noun) means 'the cost of keeping something in good condition' while keep up (a phrasal verb) means 'to continue without stopping' and it is object to the verb 'necessitated'.
24. C; 'Wary' is always followed by preposition 'of'.
25. D; Corrects the error of parallel construction. A correlative conjunction 'not only but also' should follow the parallel construction. Since 'not only and but also" are used before the word they limit. In the given sentence they limit ("not only remitted .....but also took".) verb words in past form..

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26. C; Corrects the error of subject verb agreement. Because the subject of the verb 'are' is 'the success stories.'
27. D; Corrects the idiomatic error. The correct idiom is 'be hard put' (to do something meaning) 'to find it very difficult to do something.'
- 28.C; Corrects the error of comparative degree of comparison. Because comparison is made between military and any other segment of Japanese society.
29. D; Corrects the idiomatic and the error of pronoun of third person plural. The correct idiom is 'hold no brief for ' meaning not to support or be in favour of somebody or something', use those instead of they as the relative they as the antecedent of who and that relative pronoun.
30. E; Corrects the error of phrasal verb 'to bring out' means 'to make somebody stop working in protest against something' while 'to bring off' means 'to rescue somebody'.
31. D; Corrects the error of phrasal verb, 'to fend off' means 'to avoid'
32. D; Corrects the error of idiom (of a sort of sorts meaning of a poor or inferior type) and error of the subject verb agreement. Because the subject is 'the relationship'. So verb should be 'is' instead of 'are'.
33. D; Corrects the prepositional error.
34. B; Corrects the error in diction. 'Latter' refers to 'position' while 'later' refers to 'time'.
35. C; Corrects the error of subject verb agreement and use of 'to have' ( meaning experiencing) to convey or express the disillusionment. As people have experienced disillusionment with.
36. D; Corrects the error of parallel construction of gerund. ( meeting, displaying .....and alluring)
37. B; Corrects the error of subject verb agreement. The subject of the verb 'is' is 'All one can gather' clause giving 'and idea of one whole'.
38. C; Corrects the misuse of adverb for adjective. Because, in the clause, 'only' acts as an adverb modifying 'temporarily'. While 'temporarily' is an adverb which is modifying ' the drop' (noun). So by changing 'temporarily' to an adjective 'temporary' the error in corrected.

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39. E; Corrects the error in diction. 'Principle' means 'a theory or moral or ethical stand' while 'principal' means 'main' or 'chief'. Corridor serves as medium, so use 'through which' instead of 'from where'. Because 'from where' or 'from which' gives impression that they belongs to that (north- west) region.
40. C; 'Everyone' is followed by a singular verb.
41. C; Corrects the error of phrasal verb. 'Fetch up' means 'to arrive at a certain place often by chance'.
42. E; Corrects the error of double negative. Either delete 'not' or use 'till' instead of 'until'.
43. A; The sentence is correct as 'not only....but also' follows the parallel construction or used before the word they limit.
44. A; The sentence is correct as it follows the parallel construction ( of noun) 'to the opening and to the change'.
45. E; Corrects the misuse of adverb for adjective. In the sentence, 'strictly' an adverb is qualifying 'principal' noun. An adverb can not modify a noun, but 'strict'. It also corrects the error of pronoun 'their' because 'their' refers to noun 'principal'. So 'his' should be used instead of 'their'.
46. D; Corrects the error of correlative pronoun. Because the object to the preposition 'for' is not only 'whomever' but the entire clause 'whomever tries'. So it should be in nominative case because it acts as a subject to the following clause 'to know the future'.
47. C; Corrects the error in the parallel construction of 'not only.....but also'.
48. D; Corrects the error of tense and use of adjective 'both'. In the given sentence, principal clause with verb 'must be' express meaning in present tense, so following subordinate clause should also be in present tense ' have been'. 'Both' as an adjective should be used before the word to which it modifies.
49. B; Corrects the used of 'according to'. Because, the information about the number of patients is, according to the report issued by WHO.
50. D; Corrects the error of conjunction. In affirmative sentence with 'doubt and doubtful'. 'whether' is used while in negative and interrogative sentence, 'that' is used to join the clauses.

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## Exercise –6

**Directions (Q.1 to 50):** Read each of the following sentences some part or all the sentence is underlined. Below each sentence is given five ways to phrasing the underlined part. Select the answer from among the choices, which produces the most effective sentence, one that is clear and exact. If there is no error in the underlined part, 'A' is answer

1. The second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century would have been a different and much more ugly place would it not for this epochal triumph of historical communism over European Fascism.

- F) would is not for this epochal triumph of historical communism over European Fascism.
- G) would it have not been for this epochal triumph of historical communism over European Fascism?
- H) 'had' it not been for this epochal triumph of historical communism over European Fascism?
- I) was it not for this epochal triumph of historic communism over European Fascism?
- J) would it not have for this epochal triumph of historical communism over European Fascism?

2. The advances in science are leading to restructuring of agricultural research, redefining educational needs and technological opportunity and to realign the roles for private and public research.

- F) and to realign the roles for private and public research.
- G) and realigning the roles for private and public research.
- H) And realigned the roles for private and public research.

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- I) realigning the roles of private and public research.  
J) that to realign the roles of private and public research.
3. More of the funs and excitement comes from use of your senses.
- F) More of the fun and excitement in the life comes.  
G) More of the fun and excitement in the life come.  
H) Many of the funs and excitement in the life comes.  
I) Much of the fun and excitement in the life comes.  
J) Much of the fund and excitement in the life comes.
4. Three distressing trends have dominated global politics in the last decade; communalization of polity, rise of class consciousness and the tendency to encourage unprincipled alliances and defections.
- F) in the last decade; communalization of polity, rise of class consciousness.  
G) for the last decade; communalization of polity, rise of class consciousness.  
H) over the last decade; communalization of polity, rise of class consciousness.  
I) in the last decade; the communalization of polity, rise in class consciousness  
J) over the last decade; the communalization of polity, the rise in class consciousness
5. Its consequences will continue to influence greatly the early decades of the coming century.
- F) to influence greatly the early decades of the coming century.  
G) to influence greatly the early decades of coming century.  
H) to greatly influence the early decades of coming century.  
I) greatly to influence the early decades of the coming century.

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- J) influencing greatly the early decades of coming century.
6. Of course, socialism was not congruent to communism but not was the former divorced from the latter that it could avoid suffering in some significant way from its debacle.
- F) of course, socialism was not congruent to communism
  - G) of course, socialism was not congruent with communism
  - H) of course, the socialism was not congruent to communism
  - I) of course, the socialism was not congruent of the communism.
  - J) of course, socialism was not congruent about communism.
7. It was the favorite place for my dog who loved running along side my car over the ancient bridge into the car park in the center.
- F) along side my car over the ancient bridge.
  - G) besides my car over the ancient bridge.
  - H) along my car over the ancient bridge
  - I) beside my car on ancient bridge.
  - J) in the side of my car on the ancient bridge.
8. All its four entrances are clogged by cars
- F) entrances are clogged by cars.
  - G) entrances are clogged with cars.
  - H) Entrances is clogged by cars.
  - I) Entrances are clogged by cars.
  - J) Entrances are clogged off by cars
9. She is far away the best actress in the movie.
- F) far away the best actress in the movie.
  - G) far away the best actress of the movie.

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- H) far and away the best actress in the movie.
- I) far and away best actress of the movie.
- J) far off the best actress of the movie.

10. For days, at end, I have sat on the step of an old mosque, facing the same crumbled remains of plastic water bottles and empty bags of plastic chips.

- F) For days, at end, I have sat on the step of an old mosque
- G) For days, at end, I have sat on the steps of an old mosque
- H) For days, in the end, I have sat on the steps of an old mosque
- I) For days, in the end, I have sat out the steps of an old mosque
- J) For days, on the end, I have sat on the steps of an old mosque.

11. He called for a ban on the book and threatened to burn down the theaters that screened the film when made.

- F) He called for ban on the book and threatened to burn down the theaters.
- G) He called to a ban on the book and threatened to burn down the theaters.
- H) He called for a ban of the book and threatened to burn out the theaters.
- I) He called of a ban of the book and threatened for burning out the theaters.
- J) He called upon for a ban on the book and threatened to burn the theaters.

12. The walls of the subway have been plastered with light yellow plaster which rob it out of its antiquity

- F) plastered with light yellow plaster which rob it out of its antiquity.
- G) plastered over with light yellow plaster which robs it out of its antiquity.
- H) plastered over with light yellow plaster which robs them out of their antiquity.
- I) plastered with light yellow plaster which rob them out of their antiquity.
- J) plastered by light yellow plaster which robs them out of their antiquity.

13. The government needs to focus on cutting unnecessary red tapism rather than to worry about a partly reduction in card fees.

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- F) rather than to worry about a partly reduction in card fees.
- G) rather then to worry about a partly reduction in card fees
- H) rather than to worry about a part reduction in card fees.
- I) rather than worrying about a partly reduction in card fees.
- J) Rather than to worry for a part reduction

14. Rotary is often scoffed off as rich man's YMCA and Rotarians as middle aged Boy scouts.

- F) is often scoffed off as rich man's YMCA.
- G) is scoffed of often as rich man's YMCA
- H) is often scoffed of as rich man's YMCA
- I) is often scoffed at as rich man's YMCA
- J) is often scoffed to as rich man's YMCA

15. We should appreciate China's support to Russia in the latter's iron will and clenched fist to do away secessionist and disintegrators of a nation.

- F) in the latter's iron will and clenched fist to do away
- G) in the latter's iron will and clenched fist to do with
- H) in the latter's iron will and clenched fist of doing with
- I) in the latter's iron will and clenched fist to do
- J) in the latter's iron will and clenched fist to do away with

16. No doubt, the Islamic rhetoric will be accompanied by any clandestine deal with Mr. Ali Massoum Khaled and talk of social engineering.

- F) be accompanied by any clandestine deal with Mr. Ali Massoum Khaled
- G) being accompanied by any clandestine deal with Mr. Ali Massoum Khaled
- H) be accompanied by some clandestine deal with Mr. Ali Massoum Khaled
- I) be accompanied with some clandestine deal with Mr. Ali Massoum Khaled
- J) accompany with some clandestine deal with Mr. Ali Massoum Khaled

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17. Police ransacks their homes looking for arms; they brutalize men and insult women.

- F) Police ransacks their homes looking for arms.
- G) Police ransacks their homes looking for arms
- H) Police ransacks their homes to look for arms
- I) Police has ransacks their homes looking for arms
- J) Police ransacks their home in the look for arms

18. She continued her singing, dancing and acting in plays since her school and college years but greatly get more and more involved in social work.

- F) since her school/and college year but greatly get
- G) since her school/and college year but greatly got
- H) throughout her school and colleges years but greatly got
- I) for her school and colleges years but greatly get
- J) through her school and college year but get greatly

19. I am unable to forgive a man who fails to return a book he had taken from my shelf

- F) to return a book he had taken from my shelf.
- G) Returning a book he had taken from my shelf
- H) To return a book he had taken out from my shelf
- I) To return a book he has taken from my shelf
- J) To return a book he took from my shelf

20. He left his studies; he has not able to resume his studies and possibly with never be able to resume his studies again.

- F) he has not able to resume his studies and possibly will never be able to resume his studies again.
- G) he has not able to resume his studies and possibly never will be able resume again.

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- H) he has not been and possibly will never be able to resume his studies.
- I) he has not been able to resume and will never be able to resume his studies again.
- J) he has not and possibly will never be able to resume his studies again.
21. The shopkeeper has not hardly some of those kind of costly books.
- F) has not hardly some of those kind of
- G) has hardly some of those kind of
- H) has hardly any of those kinds of
- I) has hardly some of those kinds of
- J) has not hardly any of those kinds of
22. Having failed to qualify the entrance test twice, the decision was taken by him not to try again.
- F) Having failed to qualify the entrance test twice, the decision was taken by him not to try again.
- G) Having failed to qualify the entrance test twice, he took the decision not to try again.
- H) Being failed to qualify the entrance test twice, he was taken the decision not to try again.
- I) Being failed to qualify the entrance test twice, the decision was taken by him not to try again.
- J) Having failed to qualify the entrance test twice, the decision had been taken by him not to try again.
23. I would not hesitate to tell him precisely what did I think of him
- F) what did I think of him
- G) what had I thought of him

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- H) what did I think about him  
I) what I thought of him  
J) what does I think about him?
24. I have not still read it, but would like to, if I may.
- F) I have not still read it , but would like to  
G) I have not read it still, but would like to  
H) Still I have not read it, would like to  
I) I have not yet read it , but would like to  
J) Yet I have not read it, will like to.
25. Large numbers those educated are not able to make any use of their education because they are unemployed.
- F) Large numbers those who are educated are not to make  
G) Large numbers who are educated are not able to make  
H) Large numbers those who are educated are not able to making  
I) Large numbers who are educated are not able to making  
J) Large numbers who are not able to making
26. It is time we Americans stop looking at the things negatively
- F) We Americans stop looking at the things negatively.  
G) We Americans stopped looking at the things negatively  
H) We Americans stop to look at the things negatively  
I) We Americans to stop looking at the things negatively  
J) We Americans stop looking on the things negatively.
27. We are committed to eradicate the cause of recidivism at the end of first decade of the new century.
- F) committed to eradicate the cause of recidivism at the end of the first decade.

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- G) committed to eradicate the cause of recidivism in the end of the first decade
- H) committed to eradicate the cause of recidivism at the end of the first decade.
- I) committed for eradicating cause of recidivism at the end of first decade
- J) Committed to eradicate the cause of recidivism

28. Later it develops aversion both for the book and the man who lent him it.

- F) aversion both for the book and the man
- G) aversion for the book and for the man
- H) an aversion both for the book and for the man
- I) an aversion both for the book and the man
- J) aversion for both the book and the man

29. Being aggressive in behavior, arrogant in manners and harsh in language are a manifestation of savagery.

- F) are a manifestation of savagery.
- G) is a manifestation of savagery
- H) are a manifestation of savagery
- I) is a manifestation to savagery
- J) are a manifestation for savagery

30. A man of virtue, judgment and the prejudice speaks not until there is silence.

- F) the prejudice speaks not until there is silence
- G) the prejudice speak not until there is silence
- H) prejudice speaks not until there is silence
- I) prejudice speaks not unless there is silence
- J) the prejudice speak unless there is silence

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31. Even though I grumble and bemoan my fate from day to day and wish my circumstances are not quite so modest, thank you Lord for the peaceful life.

- F) wish my circumstances are not quite so modest
- G) wish my circumstances were not quite so modest
- H) wished my circumstances were not quite so modest
- I) wishing my circumstances were not quite so modest
- J) wished my circumstances was not quite so modest .

32. Views may vary, but the extreme nature of his current and the wide divergence between his view and established historians show that former view is based more on blind prejudice than on a serious study of subject.

- F) established historians show that former view is based more on blind prejudice
- G) established historians show that former's view was based more on blind prejudice
- H) established historians show that former view was based more on blind prejudice
- I) that of established historians show that former's view is based more on blind prejudice
- J) that of established historian's show that earlier view has been based more on blind prejudice

33. America will continue extend political, moral and diplomatic support to the struggling people of Iraq for their right for self- determination.

- F) to the struggling people of Iraq for their right for self determination.
- G) to the struggling people of Iraq to their right for self determinations
- H) of the struggling people of Iraq to their right for self determination.
- I) to the struggling people of Iraq for their right to self- determination.
- J) to the struggling people of Iraq about their right of self- determination

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34. I am aware that there are difficulties in the way, quite few of them of his own creations.

- F) quite few of them of his own creations.
- G) quite a few of them of his own creations.
- H) quite a few of them of their own creation.
- I) quite few of them of their own creations.
- J) quite few of these of his own creation.

35. Show trails of persons arrested by military regime will not help to building confidence that the army intend to restore democracy in the country.

- F) help to building confidence that the army intend to restore.
- G) help to build confidence that the army intend to restore.
- H) help in building confidence that the army intends to restore.
- I) help in building confidence that the army intend to restore.
- J) help for building confidence that the army intended to restore.

36. In Rushdie's case, the prejudices have deepened although his liberal education and adoption of a liberal as his permanent place of residence makes him better placed than most people to shed them.

- F) makes him better placed than most people to shed them.
- G) makes him better placed than more people to shed them.
- H) makes him better placed than most people who shed them.
- I) makes him better placed than the most people to shed them.
- J) make him better place than moist people who shed them.

37. Starvation is the oldest issue on the UN agenda and people there are disappointed on the cold attitude of the world body.

- F) on the UN agenda and people there are disappointed on
- G) of the UN agenda and people there are disappointed at
- H) on the UN agenda and the people there are disappointed at

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- I) at the UN agenda and the people there are disappointed on  
J) on the UN agenda and people are disappointed at
38. By the summer of 1998, normalcy had returned to the towns if not yet to the remoter part of the state, such as Tennessee, which was close to Ohio.
- F) such as Tennessee, which was close to Ohio.  
G) such as Tennessee, which were close to Ohio.  
H) such as Tennessee, which is close to Ohio.  
I) such as Tennessee, which are close to Ohio.  
J) such as Tennessee, that was close to Ohio.
39. The hope that all the separation end as beautiful as this, is the toast raised by this piece.
- F) all the separation end as beautiful as this,  
G) all separation end as beautiful as this,  
H) all the separation ends as beautiful as this,  
I) the all separation ends as beautiful as this,  
J) all the separation ends as beautiful this.
40. The Aussie victory aborted the first and the third objectives and turned the fourth against England.
- F) the first and the third objectives and turned the fourth  
G) the first and third objectives and turned the fourth  
H) first and the third objectives and turned he fourth  
I) first and third objectives and turned fourth  
J) the first and third objective and turned the fourth
41. Iowa resident Janet Delilah was besides her with joy at the prospect of night viewing of the Louvre.
- F) was besides her with joy.

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- G) was besides herself with joy.
- H) was beside herself with joy
- I) was beside herself about the joy
- J) was besides herself about joy

42. The team management has asked for a substitute wicketkeeper before the first Test at Adelaide held earlier this month following Ian's knee injury.

- F) before the first test at Adelaide held earlier this month
- G) before the first test at Adelaide to be held earlier this month
- H) due to the first test at Adelaide held earlier this month
- I) before the first test in Adelaide held earlier this month
- J) prior to the first test at Adelaide held earlier this month

43. Illness we can put in with but justice makes us want to pull things down.

- F) Illness we can put in with
- G) Illness we can put through
- H) Illness we can put up with
- I) Illness we can put with
- J) Illness that we can put with

44. If any one dared to suggest that he or she was not against women but only against reservation, nobody was wiling to listen.

- A) If anyone dared to suggest
- B) If anyone was dared to suggest
- C) If anyone dared to suggesting
- D) If any one dared suggest

45. She must also know that the woman's Reservation Bill has a very little chance of being passed because the nature of the opposition to it from all quarters.

- F) has a very little chance of being passed because
- G) has a very little chance of passing because

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- H) has very little chance of being passed because
- I) has very little chance of being passed because of
- J) has little chance of being passed because

46. It might be a first good step for BBA to asses how many of their own members are responsible for NPA.

- F) It might be a first good step for
- G) It might be a good first step for
- H) It might have been a first good step for
- I) It may have been a first good step for
- J) It may be a first good step

47. The money in nationalized banks is public money and if it were being lost because industrialists do not repay their loans, the public has the right to know the truth.

- F) and if it were being lost because
- G) and if it was being lost because
- H) and if it is being lost because
- I) and if it is being lost because of
- J) and if it were being lost because of

48. And only CNN, with its vaster resources and vaster reach can do justice with John Grisham's masterwork.

- F) with its vaster resources and vaster reach can do justice with
- G) with its vast resources and vaster reach can do justice with
- H) with its vaster resources and vast reach can do justice with
- I) with its vaster resources and vaster reach can do justice to
- J) with its vaster resources and vaster reach could do justice to

49. In all big cities, there is a flood of health clubs which claim to build stamina, decrease stress level and weight is reduced.

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- F) decrease stress level and weight is reduced
- G) decrease stress level and weight reduces
- H) decrease stress level and reduce weight
- I) decreases stress level and reduces weight
- J) decreasing stress level and reducing weight

50. After signing for many music shows, his first music album was released.

- F) After singing for many music shows
- G) After he sang for many music shows
- H) Since he had sung for many shows
- I) After he had sung for many music shows
- J) Though he sang for many shows.

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## *Exercise-9 ANSWERS*

1. C; Corrects the error of conditional sentence or sentence of past subjunctive mood. In such sentence, one clause contains verb would/ would have been which shows effect while another clause with verb had/had been /were shows 'cause'.

2. B; Corrects the error of parallel construction of gerund. (restructuring...redefining. realigning).

3. D; Corrects the error of adjective. 'More' is generally used in comparing things while 'much' is used before uncountable nouns and 'many' is used before countable nouns.

4. E; Corrects the error of preposition and definite article. When there is talk of more than specified time through out a period, preposition 'over' should be used. Definite article 'the' should be used before 'communalization' and 'rise' because both are made particular by polity and class-consciousness. Use of 'the' also corrects error in parallel construction as (the communalization...the rise... and the tendency...)

5. D; Corrects the error of placing of adverb. Because an adverb is usually placed before the word to which it modifies. In the sentence, greatly modifies 'to influence', not 'the early decades'.

6. B; Corrects the error of preposition.

7. A; The sentence is correct.

8. B; Corrects the error of preposition. 'Clog' means to 'block' something or become blocked with something'.

9. C; Corrects the idiomatic error. 'Far and away' (means very much) is usually followed by an adjective in comparative or superlative degree.

10. E; Corrects the idiomatic error. 'On end' means 'continuously'. 'On end' expresses the meaning of the sentence, as the action of sitting on the steps of old mosque has continued for days.

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11. A; The sentence is correct.
12. C; Corrects the error of preposition, subject verb agreement, and pronoun. Because plaster is done over the wall, so 'plastered over' is the correct use. Verb 'robs' refers to 'plaster' (singular) and pronoun 'it' and 'its' refer to 'the walls' (plural noun) so 'it' and 'its' should be replaced by 'them' and 'their'.
13. D; Corrects the error of parallel construction of 'gerund' (on cutting than worrying about)
14. D; Corrects the error of preposition. 'Scoff at' means 'to speak with contempt about somebody'.
15. E; Corrects the error phrasal verb, 'to do away with' means 'to stop doing something or cause something to end'.
16. C; Corrects the error in the use of adjective. Both 'some' and 'any' have the same meaning. But 'some' is used in affirmative sentences while 'any' is used in negative sentences and in expression of doubt or if.
17. B; Corrects the error of sub-verb agreement. 'Police' is a plural noun and is followed by a plural verb. So 'ransack' (plural verb) is the correct use.
18. C; Corrects the error of preposition and tense. Preposition 'since' refers to 'point of time' while 'throughout' means 'during the whole period of something'. According to the sentence, she continued her singing, dancing and acting during the whole period of her studies'. So 'throughout' expresses the proper meaning required in the sentence. 'Get' should agree with the verb 'continued' (in principle clause), so it should also be in past form 'got'.
19. D; Corrects the error of tense. Because there is a sense of continuity in the sentence as, "I am unable to forgive who fails to return a book he has taken". So it is a case of sequence of tense. All the clauses are dependent or related to principal clause.
20. C; Corrects the error of omission of past participle 'been' and avoids the repetition of 'his studies' to make the sentence more effective and clear. And delete 'again' since 'resume' conveys the meaning.

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21. C; Corrects error of double negative, adjective and plural noun. 'Hardly' is an adverb having negative meaning, so it should not be preceded by another negative 'not'. In a negative sentence or with a negative verb, adjective 'any' is used instead of 'some'. 'Those' is a plural pronoun, and is used for 'kind', (s singular noun). So 'kind' should also be made plural.
22. B; Corrects the error of dangling participle. Because, it is not clear from the sentence 'who failed the entrance' 'the decision' or 'he'. 'B' corrects this error.
23. D; Corrects the error of assertive clause. In the given sentence a question is not being asked but an opinion is being expressed 'what I thought of him' (which acts as direct object to the verb 'tell') beginning with an interrogative pronoun.
24. D; Corrects the error of adverb. 'Still' is chiefly used in the affirmative and interrogative. It is used in negative sentence to emphasize non-continuance of action. While 'yet' means 'upto the time of speaking'. 'Yet' is used with negative and interrogative sentence. According to sentence, still expresses the meaning 'though I am reading it yet I have not finished it'. It is contrary to the meaning of 'but would like to, if I may, which expresses that 'I have not read the book up to the time of speaking', but I would like to, if I may'. 'Yet' corrects the error.
25. B; Corrects error by deleting 'those' because it is superfluous.
26. B; Corrects the error of verb. Because the verb should be used in past form which comes after 'It is time' Clause to imply that it is late.
27. E; Corrects the idiomatic error.
28. C; Corrects the use of indefinite article 'an' before the noun 'aversion' and parallel construction 'both for the book and for the man'.
29. B; Corrects the error of sub-verb agreement. Because all the qualities refer to (or are manifestation of) one quality 'savagery'. So it denotes one idea. Therefore, it will take a singular verb.
30. C; Corrects the error in the use of definite article before abstract noun (prejudice).

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31. B; Corrects the error of past subjunctive mood. Because after 'wish' to indicate a situation which is unreal or contrary to fact, the past subjunctive is used. According to sentence 'It is a wish contrary to my fate or circumstance from day to day. So in such case after 'wish' past subjunctive is used.
32. D; Corrects the error of omission of 'that of pronoun and possessive case. Because, in the sentence, views are compared not with individual, but between his view and view of established historians. So in such case, to avoid the repetition of the word 'view' that of is used. In the sentence, former's view is being talked, not former view.
33. D; Corrects the error of preposition. Because 'right' is followed by preposition 'to'.
34. B; Corrects the use of 'a few'. Because 'few' has a negative meaning 'not any'. But according to preceding clause there are some difficulties. So use of 'a few' which means 'some', correct the error.
35. C; Corrects the error of preposition and sub verb agreement, 'Army' is a singular noun, and will take a singular verb. You can help in building something.
36. D; Corrects the error of sub verb agreement. Because the subject of the verb 'make' (plural) is 'his liberal education and adoption of a liberal country' (plural).
37. C; Corrects the error of definite article 'the' and preposition. In the sentence, 'the people of Kashmir are being talked'. So the use of 'the' before 'people' is correct. You may be disappointed at something with someone.
38. B; Corrects the error of sub-verb agreement. Because, 'which' refers to 'towns', not Tennessee.
39. C; Corrects the error of subject-verb agreement by replacing 'end' to ends' as the subject 'all separation' convey 'one idea'.
40. B; Corrects error of definite article. Because, when two or more adjective qualify the same noun. 'the' article is used before the adj 'first' only. If the article is used before both 'the first' and 'the third', then noun should be used in singular 'objective' as the first and the third objective'.

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41. C; Corrects the idiomatic error, 'beside herself with' means 'having lost her control of herself because of the intensity of joy or emotion she is feeling'.
42. E; Corrects the error of predicative adjective. "Before" is used to perform prepositional functions while 'prior to' is used to perform functions of predicative adj. In the given sentence, 'the first test at Adelaide held earlier this month following Prasad's knee injury' acts as a part of predicate with 'had' asked for a substitute wicket-keeper'.
43. C; Corrects the error of phrasal verb. "Put up with" means to 'tolerate or to endure, to bear'.
44. D; Corrects the error of auxiliary verb 'dare'. Because, when conjugated without 'do', dare is followed by an infinitive'.
45. D; Corrects the error of negative and preposition. Because 'a very little chance' meaning 'some change of Bill being passed'. While according to the sentence 'there is very little chance of Bill being passed because of the nature of opposition to it. 'D' corrects the use of preposition. 'Because' as cause connector is not used before the noun which is not followed by a verb (or it is used to join two clause not a phrase or noun). In such cases, preposition is correct.
46. B; Corrects the error of placing of adjective 'good'. An adjective is generally placed before a noun if qualifies. In the above sentence 'a good' is modifying 'first step'.
47. C; Corrects the error of tense. Because the past subjunctive tense is used after clause beginning with 'if' in the case of unreal, or contrary to fact case . But the given sentence is not expressing anything unreal or contrary to fact. Instead the principal clause is in present tense and the subordinate clause is also expressing the continuation of action of principal clause So the clause beginning with 'if' should be in same tense as principal clause. Because it is expressing a supposition which is assumed as a fact. So indicative mood is used. And verb remains in simple form or present tense.
48. B; Corrects the error in the use of adjective. Because you 'resources' could only be vast or limited, not vaster while 'reach' could only be vaster or greater not vast.
49. C; Corrects the error of parallel construction as (build stamina, decrease stress-level and reduce weight).

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50. D; Corrects the error of dangling modifier. Because modifier 'singing' is not attached to any proper subject. In the sentence, it is modifying 'his first album' which is corrected by using 'a subject' and a past perfect verb in (D) because his first album was released only after he had sung for many music shows. It shows completed action.

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