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BANK PO ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Compiled & Edited by
Arihant 'Expert Team'



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PREFACE

Institute of Banking Personnel Selection , often known as IBPS is an autonomous body in India. It is envisioned as a self governed academic and research oriented institute with a mission of enhancing human resource through personnel assessment. From 2011 onwards a common written examination (CWE) organised by the IBPS for the post of Probationary Officers. The examination is held every year. This CWE conducted by IBPS is now mandatory for anyone who seeks an employment in 20 public sector banks and some private banks also. IBPS periodically accepts the examination applications from the candidates at their website and the exams are organised at various locations throughout the country in online mode.

English Language is an equally weighted section in the examination. English Language tests your Grammatical Knowledge and Vocabulary. Importance of English Language is constantly getting the center stage in today's competitive environment. English Language, thus forms an integral part of the Banking examination and it can be a hard nut to crack, if the students are not familiar with the nuances of the subject.

The book in your hand helps in cracking this hard nut by gradually building up the core Grammatical concepts, starting from a very basic level. Examination papers of the past 20 years have been fully solved and a fine topical division ensures that no section has been left uncovered. Each chapter begins with an overview of the key concepts that would be used in the chapter. The book doesn't require the reader to have advanced Grammatical abilities, instead helps the reader to develop such knowledge in due course. The language used is kept simple and intricacies have been avoided as far as possible.

A thorough study of this book would not only pave the way for you in this era of cut-throat competition but would also help you untangle the intricacies of English Language.

Author

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Topicwise Distribution of Questions asked in the **PREVIOUS YEARS' EXAMS**

Held in 2019, 2018 and 2017

S. NO.	TOPIC \ EXAMS	IBPS (PO) Mains 2019	IBPS (PO) Pre. 2019	SBI (PO) Mains 2019	SBI (PO) Pre. 2019	IBPS (PO/MT) Pre. 2018
1.	Spotting the Error	5			5	4
2.	Sentence Improvement	5	5		5	4
3.	Double Fillers			3		6
4.	Sentence Rearrangement	5	5	5		4
5.	Cloze Test	3	5			6
6.	Reading Comprehension	10	5	21	7	6
7.	Idioms and Phrases			4	2	
8.	Synonyms and Antonyms	2				
9.	Miscellaneous	5	10		5	
	Total	35	30	33	24	30

S. NO.	TOPIC \ EXAMS	CANARA BANK (PO) 2018	IBPS (SO) Pre. 2017	SBI (PO) Pre. 2017	SBI (PO) Mains 2017	IBPS (PO) Pre. 6 OCT 2017
1.	Spotting the Error		10		5	10
2.	Sentence Improvement	8	10	10	2	
3.	Double Fillers	5	5		5	
4.	Sentence Rearrangement	11	5		2	5
5.	Cloze Test		10	10		8
6.	Reading Comprehension	22	10	10	10	7
7.	Idioms and Phrases					
8.	Synonyms and Antonyms					
9.	Miscellaneous	4			11	
	Total	50	50	30	35	30

Rule 4. These collective nouns are always used in plural with plural verbs.

Cattle, Gentry, Peasantry, Poultry, Clergy, Folk, People, Majority.

- e.g. (i) Cattle are grazing. (ii) Poultry are sold here.
(iii) Folk were dancing.

Rule 5. These collective nouns may be used singularly as well as plurally. If they are shown as a body or group then they are singular, but if they are shown as individual members then they are plural.

Public, Board, Team, Mob, Audience, Ministry, Jury, Staff, Police, Number, Crowd, Family, House, Committee.

- e.g. (i) The public was angry. (Public used as a whole)
The public were reading different books.
(Public used individuals)
(ii) Family is on a holiday. (Family used as a whole)
Family are working in the houses.
(Family used as individual members)

Rule 6. The number of some nouns are expressed by the use of verb after it.

- e.g. (i) Sheep are grazing. (Plural)
A sheep is walking. (Singular)
(ii) Fish live in water. (Plural)
Fish is a part of diet. (Singular)

Rule 7. Some nouns that end with 's' or 'es' look like a plural one but used with singular verb.

Physics, Economics, Mathematics, Mechanics, Politics, Statistics, Statics, Summons, News, Series, Innings, Mumps, Measles, Rickets, Athletics, Billiards, United States, Aquatics, Gymnastics, United Arab Emirates.

- e.g. (i) Physics is an interesting subject.
(ii) He wants to study economics as it is his favourite subject.

Note *'Statistics' as a subject - singular verb*
but

'Statistics' as a collection of data - plural verb.

Politics, Physics, Mathematics, Economics become plural subject when used in possessive case.

- e.g. (i) *Madhu's Mathematics are very good.*
(ii) *Politics of India are very complicated.*

Rule 8. Name of books that reflect plurality is used as a singular noun with singular verb.

- e.g. (i) War and peace is loved by people.
(ii) The Arabian Nights has a bulk sale.

Rule 9. Some nouns are always used in plural number with plural verb.

Jeans, Trousers, Pants, Breeches, Scales, Shears, Scissors, Spectacles, Alms, Thanks, Proceeds, Riches, Contents, Surroundings, Orders, Ashes, Credentials, Auspices, Refreshments, Savings, Requirements, Outskirts,

Customs, Rations, Annals, Archives, Manners, Earnings, Quarters, Assets, Arrears, Spirits, Stairs.

- e.g. (i) His trousers are dirty.
(ii) Scissors are used widely.
(iii) Riches are left on the Earth after the death.

Rule 10. In a compound noun, if a noun qualified by a quantitative adjective is used as an adjective of another noun then it is kept in singular form since adjectives are never used in plural forms.

- e.g. (i) We are planning a ten-day tour. (not days)
(ii) She ran a forty-mile race. (not miles)
(iii) A fifty rupee note was lying these. (not rupees)

Note *In the above examples, day, mile and rupee have been used as adjectives of tour, race and note respectively. Therefore they can't be used in plural forms.*

Some other examples

- Ruchi is seven years old.
- Ruchi is a seven year old girl.
- We went to six shops of books.
- We went to six book shops.
- Mr Tyagi has four boys as servants.
- Mr Tyagi has four boy servants.
- However depending upon the qualifier (or another quantitative adjective) the noun can be made plural.

- e.g. (i) We are planning three ten-day tours this years.
(ii) Ten fifty-rupee notes were given him as a reward.

Rule 11. Avoid using apostrophe with 's' if the noun is a non-living thing, but it can be used with living thing, Time, Weight, Distance, Amount or with personified nouns.

- e.g. (i) Car's tyre is old now. (wrong)
Tyre of the car is old now. (right)
(ii) None can change nature's laws.
(iii) You must know time's worth.

Rule 12. If a singular noun is qualified by two different adjectives then it is considered plural and used with a plural verb.

- e.g. (i) Social and political value in India are changing these days.
(ii) Summer and winter sale are in vogue these days.

Rule 13. If same noun is to come after a preposition and before the preposition then the noun remains singular.

- e.g. (i) I want word to word copied.
(ii) He went door to door to sell things.
(iii) Her condition is improving day-by-day.

Rule 14. Some nouns have different usage when they are in singular and when they are in plural see the table below

Noun (Singular)	Used as	Noun (Plural)	Used as
Wood	Material	Woods	Forest
Water	Material	Waters	Sea
Asset	Quality	Assets	Property
Sand	Material	Sands	Land
Iron	Material	Irons	Chains
Cloth	Material	Clothes	Dress
Abuse	Indecent words	Abuses	Misuses
Work	Labour	Works	Literary writings
Air	Element	Airs	Behaviour
Advice	Suggestion	Advices	Bills
Custom	Habit	Customs	Tax
Effect	Result	Effects	Goods
Colour	Material	Colours	Flag
Fruit	Edible thing	Fruits	Results
Wit	Ability to talk	Wits	Intelligence
Arm	Organ	Arms	Weapons
Good	Advantage/ use	Goods	Articles

Rules Related to Pronouns

Rule 1. When the subject becomes the receiver of the action, then the verb becomes reflexive. In case a verb is being used reflexively, we use reflexive pronouns.

List of reflexive verbs

Acquit, Absent, Avail, Amuse, Avenge, Apply, Adapt, Adjust, Enjoy, Exert, Overreach, Pride, Resign, Revenge.

List of non-reflexive verbs

Keep, Stop, Turn, Hide, Rest, Move, Qualify, Bathe.

e.g. (i) We enjoyed ourselves during the picnic.

(ii) She availed herself of this chance.

Here, 'enjoy' and 'avail' are the reflexive verbs and therefore we have used pronoun 'ourselves' and 'herself' here.

Rule 2. Reflexive pronouns can't be used as the subject of a sentence.

e.g. (i) Yourself and he reached that place. [×]

You and he reached that place. [√]

(ii) Himself cannot teach him. [×]

He cannot teach himself. [√]

Rule 3. If there is a complement in the sentence then the verb 'to be' is followed by the subjective case pronoun.

e.g. (i) It is I who will do this.

(ii) It was she who helped me.

(iii) It was we who are shouting.

Rule 4. Verbs and prepositions are followed by the objective case of pronoun.

e.g. (i) I am teaching you and her.

(ii) Let them sleep.

(iii) Between you and me, he is clever.

Rule 5. When all the three pronouns are used altogether in singular number, then we observe following order

[231] = [2nd person, 3rd person, 1st person]

e.g. (i) You, Hari and I will go there.

(ii) You, Rama and we are to perform.

Rule 6. When all the three pronouns are used altogether in plural number or if there is confession unpleasant act to be mentioned, then we observe following order

[123] = [1st person, 2nd person, 3rd person]

e.g. (i) I and you will be punished.

(ii) You and he are the main culprit.

Rule 7. Possessive case of pronoun will be used according to the first subject if the two subjects are joined by the followings

As well as, Together with, Along with, Like and not, in addition to, Rather than, Except, No less than, nothing but, More than one.

e.g. (i) Sheena as well as her husband has returned to her house.

(ii) My brother along with his friends is doing his part of duty.

Rule 8. Possessive case of pronoun is used according to the nearest subject if two subjects are joined by the followings

Either - or, Neither - nor, not only - but also, none-but.

e.g. (i) Neither the chef nor the cooks were in their uniform.

(ii) Not only he but also his sisters are responsible for their ruin.

Rule 9. Possessive case will be third person singular if the following pronouns are used as subject Each, Every, Either, Neither, Anyone, Many a, More than one

e.g. (i) Each boy is supposed to clean his desk.

(ii) Anyone can donate his property to me.

Rule 10. When a pronoun is used for more than one noun or pronouns of different persons then the possessive case is in the form of first person plural (our) and second person plural (your).

e.g. (i) Only you and I have brought our books.

(ii) You and he completed your work.

Rule 11. Pronouns Either, Neither, Each other are used for two persons or things. Pronouns anyone, none, one another are used for more than two persons or things.

- e.g. (i) The two brothers love each other.
 (ii) Either of the two men is a thief.
 (iii) Anyone from the class is to be appointed as a monitor.
 (iv) Indians love one another unconditionally.

Rule 12. Subject of a question tag is always a pronoun agreed to the number, gender and person.

- e.g. (i) He is reading, isn't he?
 (ii) She has not eaten, has she?
 (iii) They were not playing, were they?

Rule 13. If the subject of the sentence contains 'Both' then it will be followed by 'And'. Also, negatives are avoided with 'Both'.

- e.g. (i) Both Ram and Hari are criminals. [✓]
 (ii) Both the boys are not working. [×]
 Neither of the boys is working. [✓]

Rule 14. We generally use [who, whom and whose] for person and [which] for things. [That] is used for both persons and things. But, if we refer to a choice between two or among more than two then 'which' will be used.

- e.g. (i) Of the two countries which is the more developed?
 (ii) Which is your best friend in this class?

Rule 15. Noun is used only after possessive adjective but it is not used after possessive pronouns.

- e.g. (i) This book is yours.
 (ii) That school is hers.
 (iii) Ours is a populous country.

Rule 16. 'But' can be used as a relative pronoun.

- e.g. (i) There is nothing but flowers.
 (ii) There is no man but lies.

Rule 17. 'Same' can't be used as a pronoun.

- e.g. (i) I want a leave and the same is sanctioned. [×]
 I want a leave and it is sanctioned. [✓]
 (ii) She bought a frock and wearing the same. [×]
 She bought a frock and wearing it. [✓]

Rule 18. 'What' is used without an antecedent and it refers to things only.

- e.g. (i) It is incredible what she said.
 (ii) I don't believe in what you say.

Rules Related to Adjective

Rule 1. Some adjectives don't accept a comparative or a superlative degree. These types of adjectives denote absolute position. Here is the list of such adjectives Perfect, Unique, Ideal, Chief, Universal, Extreme, Complete, Entire, Excellent, Absolute, Eternal, Impossible, Supreme.

- e.g. (i) India is the supreme power.
 (ii) The entire valley is desolated.

Rule 2. These adjectives are followed by 'to' in their comparative degree and not by 'than'. Inferior, Superior, Prior, Senior, Junior, Prefer, Preferable.

- e.g. (i) A notice was issued prior to the meeting.
 (ii) These goods are inferior to those.
 (iii) I prefer coffee to tea.

Rule 3. When two adjectives qualify the same noun then both the adjectives should be in the same degree. However if both the adjectives are in comparative or superlative degree then, than or the should be used only once.

- e.g. (i) She is beautiful and intelligent girl.
 (ii) Maya is the most clever and most cunning employee of the office.

Rule 4. Ordinals are placed before cardinals.

- e.g. (i) I was asked to read the first four lines of the poem.
 (ii) She has crossed the first two rounds of this game.

Rule 5. The Comparative degrees that ends in 'er' should be used as 'more + positive degree' while comparing the two qualities of one and the same thing or a person.

- e.g. (i) She is more clever than honest.
 (ii) She is cleverer than I.

Rule 6. 'These' and 'Those' should not be used with the singular nouns 'kind', 'type' and 'sort'.

- e.g. (i) She will not do this kind of dance.
 (ii) We can do this sort of work.

Rule 7. 'All' and 'Both' take 'the' after them while 'whole' takes it before when these are used as adjectives.

- e.g. (i) All the girls are beautiful.
 (ii) Both the boys were clever.
 (iii) The whole world is a rat trap.

Rule 8. 'All' and 'Both' take possessive case after them.

- e.g. (i) All my work ended in nothing.
 (ii) Both my brothers are clever.

Rule 9. Following will be used immediately before the words they qualify.

Either, Neither, Only, Both, Even, But also.

- e.g. (i) She came not only to dance but also to sing there.
(ii) She is either clever or cunning.

Rule 10. 'As' is used in the positive degree to denote equality while 'than' is used in the comparative degree. Both 'as' and 'than' are required to be used when a sentence contains adjective in positive and comparative forms.

- e.g. (i) She is as clever as, if not cleverer than me.
(ii) I am as honest as, if not more honest than you.

Rule 11. When two adjectives require different prepositions then appropriate prepositions should be used with both the adjectives.

- e.g. (i) I am senior to and older than he.
(ii) His pen is different from and cheaper than mine.

Rule 12. We should use an adjective after noun when the noun is followed by preposition.

- e.g. (i) The subject is a matter worthy of note.
(ii) She is the girl suitable for this role.

Rule 13. If the comparison of weight, quantity and number is implied and 'times' is used with it then we use positive degree, but when 'times' is not used then comparative is implied in the sentence.

- e.g. (i) My book is three times as cheap as yours.
(ii) My book is five rupees cheaper than yours.

Rule 14. Some adjectives are used only predicatively and using them attributively is wrong.

Here is the list of such adjectives.

Afraid, Asleep, Alike, Aware, Alone, Due, Glad, Ill, Ready, Unable, Sorry, Sure, Well, Worth.

- e.g. (i) She alone can't do this.
(ii) I found the boy asleep.
(iii) The boy is afraid of snakes.

Rule 15. If many adjectives are used to qualify a noun then we observe the following order of the adjectives

Size, Shape, Age, Colour, Nationality, Material.

- e.g. (i) Thirteen year old whitish Indian boy is the main attraction.
(ii) A big round black American plastic table has been bought for me.
(iii) I live in a large glass house near a bank.

Rules Related to Adverbs

Rule 1. Adverbs of time are generally placed before the verb they modify.

List of Adverbs of time

Always, Recently, Often, Usually, Already, Seldom, Just, Hardly, Never, Rarely, Ever, Normally, Sometimes, Frequent, Generally.

- e.g. (i) My brother often comes on Sunday.
(ii) He is always satisfied.
(iii) He never abuses anybody.

Rule 2. Adverbs of manner are placed only after the intransitive verb. However, adverbs can be placed before or after the transitive verb.

- e.g. (i) He wept bitterly yesterday.

↓

↓

Intransitive verb Adverb

- (ii) He played joyfully the game.

↓

↓

Transitive verb Adverb

- (iii) He joyfully played the game.

↓

↓

Adverb Transitive verb

Rule 3. If the introductory subject of a sentence is an adverb then the verb is used in the inverted form in order to show the emphasis lying there upon.

- e.g. (i) Seldom does he watch TV.
(ii) Never will I see her face again.
(iii) No sooner did she reach the park than she met that boy.
(iv) Hardly had I gone there when it started raining.

Rule 4. 'Else' should be followed by 'but' while 'other' and 'otherwise' is followed by 'than'.

- e.g. (i) This is nothing else but an alien.
(ii) I have no option other than stealing.

Rule 5. Both 'Never' and 'not' are adverbs. Use of 'never' in place of 'not' is incorrect.

- e.g. (i) I never went to Patna last year. [×]
I did not go to Patna last year. [√]
(ii) I remember never to have caught this.

Rule 6. Adverbial phrases are used in this way seldom or never, seldom if ever, little or nothing, little if anything.

- e.g. (i) Seldom or never I go to my village.
(ii) Seldom if ever I go to my village.
(iii) The rain left little or nothing of the crop.
(iv) The rain left little if anything of the crop.

Rule 7. Double negatives are avoided in a sentence. Here are the negative adverbs
Seldom, Nowhere, Never, Nothing, Hardly, Scarcely, Neither, Barely, Rarely.

- e.g. (i) I rarely go to meet anybody.
(ii) She scarcely knows anything.
(iii) He could be seen nowhere.

Rule 8. The following words are adjectives and should not be used as adverbs
Manly, Masterly, Slovenly, Monthly, Weekly, Sickly, Friendly, Orderly, Gentlemanly.

- e.g. (i) I have paid my monthly bill.
(ii) His friendly attitude attracts everyone.

Rule 9. See the below table to note the distinction between adjective and adverb.

Adjective	Adverb
Cowardly	Cowardly manner
Miserly	Miserly manner
Niggardly	Niggardly manner

- e.g. (i) Cowardly people die many times before their death.
(ii) It is really shameful for a brave to die in a cowardly manner.

Rule 10. The following words can be used both as adjective and as an adverb
Fast, Safe, High, Quiet, Straight, Outright, Direct, Hard, Hardly, Light, Late.

- e.g. (i) I took the safe passage.
(ii) Drive carefully to reach safe.

Rule 11. 'Loud' is adjective while, 'Loudly' and 'Aloud' are adverbs.

- e.g. (i) I woke up with a loud sound.
(ii) She spoke loudly to him.
(iii) Singing aloud is never melodious.

Rule 12. 'Late' can be used as both adjective and adverb while 'Lately' can be used as an adverb only in the sense of 'recently'.

- e.g. (i) He always arrives late.
(ii) Late coming is not accepted.
(iii) I have moved to a new house lately.

Rule 13. 'Hard' can be used as both adjective and adverb while 'Hardly' can be used as an adverb in the negative sense.

- e.g. (i) UPSC is a hard nut to crack.
(ii) He hit him hard on his head.
(iii) She knew hardly anything then.

Rule 14. 'Very' is used to modify present participle, adverb and adjective in the positive degree.

- e.g. (i) This book is very interesting.
(ii) This is a very good book.
(iii) She can read this very quickly.

Rule 15. 'Much' is used with comparative degree and past participle.

- e.g. (i) I am much exhausted now.
(ii) He is much wiser than his sister.

Rule 16. 'So' is used with 'that' and 'too' is used with 'to', 'very' and "much" may be used in the place of 'so' and 'too'.

- e.g. (i) He is so weak that he can't walk.
(ii) I am too weak to walk.
(iii) My brother is very healthy.

Rule 17. 'Enough' is both an adjective and an adverb. As an adjective it is placed before a noun and as an adverb it is placed after the adjective.

- e.g. (i) He has enough money.
↓
Adjective
(ii) He is wise enough to do this.
↓
Adverb

Rule 18. 'Rather' is an adverb of degree like fairly, quite, pretty (to some extent)

- e.g. (i) She is rather honest.
(ii) We are doing the work rather slowly.

Rule 19. 'Too', 'As well' and 'Also' are used in the sense of 'besides' or 'in addition to' in the Affirmative sentence. 'Too' and 'As well' can be used in the end position but 'also' can't be used in the end position.

- e.g. (i) I found my money and book as well.
(ii) She got her degree and certificates too.
(iii) We found the car and also the truck.

Rule 20. If two persons are doing one action then [so + helping verb + subject] is used in the affirmative sentence.

- e.g. (i) I won the game and so did he.
(ii) She cooks good and so do I.

Rule 21. If neither of the two persons are doing an action then [neither/nor + helping verb + subject] is used in negative sentence.

- e.g. (i) I did not win the game and neither did he.
(ii) She does not cook good and neither do I.

Rule 22. 'As' should be used to introduce predicative of the verbs in the case of following verbs
Regard, Describe, Define, Treat, View, Know

- e.g. (i) I regard her as my sister.
(ii) She defined it as tissue.

Rule 23. 'As' should be avoided to introduce predicative of the verbs in the case of followings.
Name, Elect, Think, Consider, Call, Appoint, Make, Choose.

- e.g. (i) They appointed him captain.
(ii) He is chosen secretary.

Rules Related to Preposition

Rule 1. When the object in the interrogative pronoun is understood then preposition is placed after the object.

- e.g. (i) Whom are you talking to?
(ii) What are you looking for?

Rule 2. When the object of a preposition is relative pronoun 'that' then preposition is placed afterwards.

- e.g. (i) He is the boy that everybody talks of.
(ii) This is the book that I was looking for.

Rule 3. When an infinitive qualifies a noun then the preposition should be placed after the infinitive.

- e.g. (i) This is a better place to live in.
(ii) He gave me a pen to write with.

Rule 4. These verbs are not used with a preposition Stress, Emphasise, Discuss, Investigate, Comprise, Accompany, Consider, Violate, Demand, Pervade, Resemble, Precede, Resign, Concern, Regret, Await, Lack, Describe, Ensure, Join.

- e.g. (i) He has ordered his transfer.
(ii) She is accompanying me.
(iii) I joined this organisation yesterday.

Rule 5. 'Than' and 'But' are generally conjunction but they can be used as prepositions.

- e.g. (i) There was none other than Rakhi.
(ii) There was no one else but Rakhi.

Rule 6. Words take certain preposition with them. See the list below

- Assent to (a proposal)
- Avail ourselves of (an opportunity)
- Addicted to (drinking, something)
- Abstain from (food, indulgence, etc.)
- Acquiesce (an opinion in proposal)
- Afraid of (a ghost) • Accession to (throne)
- Absorbed in (study)
- Acquaintance with (a person)
- Abundance of (wealth) • Accustomed to (work)
- Attain to (a position) • Accede to (a request)
- Absolved from (a promise, a sin)
- Adhere to (principles)
- Abhorrent to (good nature)
- Assure of (a thing)
- Acquit (someone) of a charge
- Beware of (cheating)
- Comply with (one's wishes)
- Cured of (a disease) • Conducive to (health)
- Condemn to (death) • Comply with (wishes)
- Desirous of (doing something)
- Devoid of (quality) • Despair of (success)

- Deprive of (something)
- Eligible for (a post)
- Exchange a thing (with a person)
- Exception to (a rule)
- Envious of (a person or a thing)
- Elder to (some family member)
- Fatal to (one's cause)
- Fearful of (death)
- Heir to (ancestral property)
- Hopeful of (success)
- Hostile to (a person)
- Insist on a (thing)
- Innocent of (a crime)
- Intimate with (person)
- Insight into (a matter or thing)
- Keep to (the left, the point)
- Match for (a person)
- Mad with (anger)
- Notorious for (drinking, doing)
- Overwhelmed with (sorrow, grief)
- Passion for (study)
- Pleased with (a person)
- Prefer to (a thing)
- Rob (a person) of (a thing)
- Short of (money)
- Sure of (some fact)
- Invite to (dinner)
- Knock at (the door)
- Match for (a person)
- Need of (a thing)
- Pay for (One's mistakes)
- Peculiar to (a person or a thing)
- Pity for (poor, downtrodden)
- Preface to (a book)
- Refrain from (doing some wrong)
- Respectful to (a person)
- Sentence to (punishment)
- Side with (a person)
- Search for (a thing)
- Duty of (the country)
- Excuse for (a fault)
- Furnish with (clothes)
- Greedy for (wealth)
- Healed of (a disease)
- Intimate with (a person)
- Impertinent to (elders)
- Invite to (dinner)
- Mourn for (the dead)
- Need for (help)
- Persist in (doing)
- Proud of (a thing)
- Repent of (a mistake)
- Shocked at (a loss)
- Sacred to (a cause)
- Jealous of (a person)
- Key to (success)
- Motive for (an action)
- Occur to (mind)
- Pride (on a thing)
- Superior to (a thing)

Rule 7. 'For', 'of', 'To', 'From', 'In', 'with', 'On' are called high frequency prepositions because they are used widely. Below is a list of high frequency preposition with the words they are used.

Preposition 'FOR'

(A) The following nouns take the preposition 'for' after them apology, appetite, affection, blame, candidate, contempt, craving, capacity, compassion, compensation, desire, esteem, fondness, guarantee, leisure, liking match, motive, need, opportunity, partiality, pretext, passion, predilection, remorse, relish.

(B) The following verbs take the preposition 'for' after them Atone, canvass, care, clamour, feel, mourn, pine, start, stipulate, sue, wish, yearn.

- (C) The following adjectives and participles take the preposition 'for' after them anxious, conspicuous, customary, designed, destined, eager, eligible, eminent, fit, good, grateful, prepared, proper, penitent, qualified, ready, sorry, sufficient, useful, zealous.

Preposition 'OF'

- (A) The following nouns take the preposition 'of' after them assurance, abhorrence, charge, doubt, experience, failure, observance, proof, result, want.
- (B) The following adjectives and participles take the preposition 'of' after them accused, afraid, apprehensive, apprised, assured, aware, bereft, bought, cautious certain, characteristic, confident, conscious, convicted, convinced, covetous, defrauded, deprived, desirous, destitute, diffident, distrustful, dull, easy, envious, fearful, fond, greedy, guilty, heedless, ignorant, informed, irrespective, lame, lavish, negligent, productive, proud, regardless, sanguine, sensible, sick, sow, sure, suspicious, tolerant, vain, vapid weary, worthy.
- (C) The following verbs take the preposition 'of' after them acquit, beware, boast, complain, die, disapprove, dispose, divest, dream, heal, judge, repent, taste.

Preposition 'TO'

- (A) The following nouns take the preposition 'to' after them allegiance, approach, assent, access, accession, antidote, antipathy, exception, incentive, indifference, invitation, key, likeness, limit, menace, obedience, opposition, objection, obstruction, postscript, preface, resemblance, repugnance, sequel, submission, supplement, succession, traitor, temptation.
- (B) The following adjectives and participles take the preposition 'to' after them acceptable, accustomed, abhorrent, addicted, adequate, adjacent, affectionate, agreeable, akin, alien, alive, analogous, applicable, appropriate, beneficial, callous, common, comparable, condemned, conducive, conformable, congenial, consecrated, contrary creditable, deaf, derogatory, devoted, disastrous, due, entitled, equal, essential, exposed, faithful, fatal, foreign, hostile, incidental, inclined, indebted, indifferent, indispensable, indulgent, inimical, insensible, injured, irrelevant, favourable, immaterial, impervious, indigenous, liable, limited, lost, loyal, material, natural, necessary.

Offensive, opposite, obedient, obliged, painful, partial, peculiar, pertinent, pledged, preferable, prior, profitable, prone, relevant, repugnant, redused, related, responsible, restricted, sacred, sensitive, serviceable, suited, supplementary, true, tantamount.

- (C) The following verbs take the preposition 'to' after them accede, adhere, allot, assent, attain, allude, apologise, adapt, appoint, ascribe, attend, attribute, belong, consent, conduce, conform, lead, listen, object, occur, prefer, pretend, refer, revert, stoop, succumb, testify, yield.

Preposition 'FROM'

- (A) The following nouns take the preposition 'from' after them abstinence, deliverance, descent, digression, escape, exemption, inference.
- (B) The following verbs take the preposition 'from' after them abstain, alight, cease, derive, derogate, desist, detract, deviate, differ, dissent, elicit, emerge, escape, exclude, preserve, prohibit, protect, recoil, recover, refrain.

Preposition 'IN'

- (A) The following adjectives and participles take the preposition 'in' after them accomplished, accurate, assiduous, absorbed, abstemious, backward, bigot, correct, defective, deficient, experienced, enveloped, fertile, foiled, honest, implicated, interested involved, lax, remiss, versed.
- (B) The following verbs take the preposition 'in' after them acquiesce, delight, excel, fall, glory, increase, indulge, involve, persevere, persist.

Preposition 'WITH'

- (A) The following adjectives and participles take the preposition 'with' after them acquainted, affected, beset, busy, compatible, complaint, contemporary, contented, conversant, convulsed, delighted, deluged, disgusted, drenched, endowed, fatigued, fired, gifted, infected, infested, inspired, intimidated, invented, overcome, popular, replete, satisfied, touched.
- (B) The following verbs take the preposition 'with' after them associate, bear, clash, comply, condole, cope, correspond, credit, deluge, disagree, dispense, expostulate, fill, grapple meddle, quarrel, remonstrate, side, sympathise, trifle, vie.

Preposition 'ON'

The following verbs take the preposition 'on' after them comment, deliberate, decide, determine, dwell, enlarge, embark, encroach, impose, insist, intrude, subsist, trample.

Rules Related to Conjunctions

Rule 1. 'That' is used when 'The same' is used with a noun both in the case of qualification and resemblance.

- e.g. (i) I shall buy the same car that my brother bought. (Resemblance)
(ii) He is the same boy that asked me for a lift yesterday. (Qualification)

Rule 2. 'As' is used when 'The same' is used either without a noun or when the verb is unexpressed in the case of resemblance.

- e.g. (i) Just write the same as I do. (Resemblance)
(ii) I like the same car as he. (Resemblance)

Rule 3. Avoid using 'not' if the clause is beginning with 'until' and 'unless'.

- e.g. (i) Please wait until I return.
(ii) Please do not go unless I say.

Rule 4. If one clause is conditionally dependent upon another then we use 'and'.

- e.g. (i) Use your credit cards carelessly and soon you will be in debt.
(ii) Waste your time idly and soon you will have no time to prepare for exams.

Rule 5. Expression 'No Sooner' is followed by 'than'.

- e.g. (i) No sooner did I get my salary than I started making my purchases.
(ii) No sooner does she reach her house than she begins to read her e-mails.

Rule 6. Expression 'Hardly/scarcely' is followed by 'when'.

- e.g. (i) Hardly had I reached the stadium when the match started.
(ii) Hardly had she touched her feet when it started to pain.

Rule 7. If 'No/Not/Never' is being used in any sentence and we are to introduce alternative conjunction then it will be 'or' and we should not use 'nor'.

- e.g. (i) I have no books or pencil.
(ii) He did not say or write this.
(iii) I have never done this or planned to do this.

Rule 8. We should not use 'but' with 'however'.

- e.g. (i) His behaviour however has not changed.
(ii) Her drawings however seem awesome.

Rule 9. We should not use 'but' with 'though/ although /even though'. 'Yet' can be used with them.

- e.g. (i) Although he is poor, yet he is honest.
(ii) Though he is rich, yet he has no will to part with.

Rule 10. Only past conditionals will be used after 'as if/ as though'.

- e.g. (i) He talks as if he were my boss.
(ii) He behaves as though he were the prince of this city.

Rules Related to Tenses, Verbs and Non-Finites

Rule 1. To denote Habit, Custom, Practice, Repeating, Actions, Permanent, Activity, General, Truth, Historical, Present, Future, Arrangement; we use simple present tense.

- e.g. (i) I go for a walk daily.
(ii) 15th August is celebrated every year.
(iii) Here comes Arjun to shoot arrow.
(iv) He leaves his job next week.

Rule 2. Stative verbs should not be conjugated to present participle form.

See, Taste, Smell, Hear, Prefer, Please, Possess, Become, Face, Stand, Require, Resemble, Affect, Think, Mean, Mind Own, Belong, Comprise, Love, Desire, Hate, Believe, Want, Wish.

- e.g. (i) I prefer tea to coffee.
(ii) She hates me for no reason.

Rule 3. Past continuous tense is used for definite arrangement for future in the past.

- e.g. (i) He was leaving that night.
(ii) I asked her what she was doing next day.

Rule 4. Some of the verbs and adjectives are followed by infinitives.

Agree, Happy, Desire, Need, Dare, Hope, Expect, Decede, Want, Wish, Refuse, Eager, Fail, Glad, Happy, Heard, Easy.

Rule 5. How + Infinitive

When Infinitive is used to express manner, the full forms of infinitive is 'how to' the verbs implying manner/method are

'Know, Learn, Explain, Teach, Discover, Wonder, Show, Ask, Remember, Forget, etc.

- e.g. (i) He knows how to write English.
(ii) We taught him how to cook food.

Rule 6. For + Gerund is used for actions showing cause. (Action in the past).

- e.g. (i) He will punish you for breaking the pen.
(ii) He punished you for coming late.

Rule 7. For + Gerund is used for showing purpose for which the subject is used.

- e.g. (i) This book is to read. [×]
This book is for reading. [√]
(ii) This machine is to measure height.[×]
This machine is for measuring height. [√]

Rule 8. For + Noun is used for purpose in place of to + verb when verb is made to serve as noun.

- e.g. (i) We come here for a drive.
(ii) Sameer requested for a rest.

Rule 9. To + Gerund is also used with certain verbs and phrases.

- e.g. (i) She is used to swimming at dawn.
(ii) Esha came here with a view to studying.

Rule 10. 'Direct Infinitive' is used after the verbs— 'Let, Bid, Make, Know, Help, Feel, Hear, Watch, See'.

'Direct Infinitive' is used only when these verbs are used in active voice (not in passive voice except the verb 'let'.) The verb 'let' is followed by direct infinitive both in active and passive voice.

- e.g. (i) I made the student write an essay.
(ii) The student was made to write an essay. (Passive voice)
(iii) The teacher let him go out.
(iv) He was let go out by the teacher. (Passive voice)

Rule 11. The following phrases are also used with Direct Infinitive 'had better, had rather, would rather would better, as soon, sooner than (prefer)'.

- e.g. (i) I would/had better leave your house at once.
(ii) She would/had rather stay than leave now.

Rule 12. Direct Infinitive is used with, 'but, than, and, except, as, or'.

- e.g. (i) He did nothing but cry. (correct)
(i) She did no more than sleep the whole day. (correct)

Rule 13. Direct infinitive is used with phrases, 'Why not and Why'.

- e.g. (i) Why not rest now.(suggestion)
(ii) Why not stay here. (suggestion)

Rule 14. Have + object (used in the sense of 'wish') is followed by direct infinitive, e.g.

- (i) I will have him believe it.
(ii) She will have me recite this poem.

Rule 15. Won't + have + object + gerund (Used in the sense of won't allow)

- e.g. (i) I won't have you talking like that.
(ii) I won't have you staying at Meerut.

Rule 16. Perfect infinitive should be used if the action expressed by the infinite precedes the action of the finite verb.

- e.g. (i) Yesterday I intended to have gone to Delhi. [×]
Yesterday, I intended to go to Delhi. [√]
(ii) He admitted to have uttered these words against me.

Rule 17. The verbs where perfect infinitive may be; if needed; used.

Deny, Confess, Admit, Recollect, Remember, Recall, Claim, Regret, Seen, Appear, Report, Believe, Understand, Say, Allege, Suspect Learn, Require, Suppose, etc.

- e.g. (i) She denied to have seen him yesterday.
(ii) He appears to have been rich earlier.

Rule 18. Adjective 'enough' is used after adjective or 'too' before adjective when infinitive expresses negative meaning.

- (i) She is too ill to go out.
(ii) She is good enough to help me.

Rule 19. Noun Preposition should be used, if required, after the infinitive when infinitive qualifies the noun.

- e.g. (i) These days no airlines is safe to travel by.
(ii) I gave him a pen to write with.

Rule 20. 'To' should not be separated from its verb by inserting any adverb between the two. Split infinitive is grammatically wrong.

- e.g. (i) You are requested to kindly stay for sometime. (Use 'kindly' to stay)
(ii) You are required at least to obey your parents. (Correct)
(iii) I advised him to carefully carry the bag. (Say to 'carry carefully')
(iv) The students were required to seriously study for examination. (Say 'to study, seriously')

Rule 21. Continuous Infinitive can be used with the following verbs and Modal auxiliaries.

Appear, Seem, Believe, Consider, Think, Report, Happen, Arrange, Hope, Pretend, say, etc. May be, Might be, Should be, Could be, Must be, etc.

- e.g. (i) Malini appears to be running temperature.
(ii) I happened to be sitting with my daughters.
(iii) She must be waiting for her husband.
(iv) You should be sleeping now instead of watching TV.

Rule 22. Gerund is a verb form which functions as a noun. It is formed by adding 'ing' with a verb. It is used in place of Infinitive in certain cases.

- e.g. (i) I do not believe in talking rubbish. (Preposition + gerund)
(ii) I do not like riding. (Direct gerund)
(iii) She is used to swimming. (To + gerund)
(iv) Smoking is not good for health. (Subject)

Rule 23. Infinitives and gerunds are easily replaceable. However, certain rules have to be followed for replacing infinitives and gerunds by each other.

- e.g. (i) I like to swim today. (At a particular time)
(ii) I like swimming. (General/habitual statement)

Rule 24. The following phrases and certain verbs are followed by direct gerund.

'Avoid, Mind, Detest, Can't Help, Can't bear, Resist, Enjoy, Resent, Stop, Start, Postpone, Defer, Worth, Prefer, Consider, Practise, Finish, Risk, Pardon, Excuse, Forgive, It is no use/good, Propose, Miss imagine, Regret, Means, Anticipate, Love, Like, Hate, Dislike.'

Rule 25. Gerund is used after certain verbs/phrases that are followed by appropriate prepositions instead of 'to'.

desirous of	intent on	justified in
disqualify from	bent on	hesitate in
refrain from	keen on	a hope of
prevent from	aim at	
debar from	confident of	fortunate in
desist from	confidence of	harm in
restrain from	insist on	assist in
prohibit from	persist in	a chance of
dissuade from	succeed in	fond of
abstain from	successful in	take/feel pleasure in
point in	sense in	give pleasure to (infinitive)
deter from	interested in	

- e.g. (i) I prohibited him to go there.
(Use 'from going' in place of 'to go')
- (ii) She is bent to harm her friend.
(Use 'on harming' in place of 'to harm')
- (iii) She is confident to get success.
(Use 'of getting' in place of 'to get')
- (iv) She insisted to pay money to her mother.
(Use 'on paying' in place of 'to pay')

Rule 26. Followings are used with gerund
Used to, Accustomed to, averse to, With a view to, addicted to, Devoted to, In addition to, Look forward to, Object to, Owing to, Given to, Taken to, Disposed to, Prone to

- e.g. (i) He is addicted to smoking.
(ii) We went there with a view to playing.

Rule 27. The noun or pronoun before a gerund should be in the possessive case.

- e.g. (i) I don't like his wasting time.
(ii) She insisted on my going with her.

Rule 28. When two subjects together express one idea, singular verb is used.

- e.g. Time and tide waits for none.

Rule 29. If the given nouns look like plurals (i.e., they end in 's') but they are, in fact, singular nouns, then we use a singular verb.

- e.g. Economics is my favourite subject.

Rule 30. "Words such as audience, congregation, crowd, group and family take a singular or plural verb depending upon the sentence, but it is always safe to use a plural verb with these nouns.

- e.g. The family are our strongest support.

Rule 31. Everybody, somebody, nobody, anybody and anyone, each take a singular verb.

- e.g. Nobody is perfect in this world.

Rule 32. Nouns joined by 'and' take a plural verb.

- e.g. Apples and oranges are his favourite fruits.

Rule 33. If subjects are joined by or, nor, either, neither, the verb agrees with the subjects nearest to it .

- e.g. (i) Neither he nor his sister was there.
(ii) He or his friends are to be blamed.

Rule 34. The title of a book, play, story or a musical composition, even though plural, takes a singular verb.

- e.g. (i) The Arabian nights is worth reading.
(ii) The Gulliver's Travels is an interesting book.

Rule 35. When a plural noun comes between a singular subject and its verb, the verb agrees with the farther singular.

- e.g. (i) Each of the apples is juicy.
(ii) Neither of the men was a thief.

Rule 36. Words joined to a singular subject by with, as well as, etc are *parenthetical*. The verb should therefore be put in the singular.

- e.g. The Prime Minister, with his cabinet colleagues, is to be present.

Rule 37. The verb must agree with the first subject, irrespective of whether it is singular or plural. When the two are joined by as well as together with and along with.

- e.g. (i) My friends as well as I are going abroad.
(ii) Mr Sinha along with his friends is going to Pune.

Rule 38. Two nouns qualified by each or every, even though connected by 'and', require a singular verb.

- e.g. Every boy and each girl was given vaccination.

Rule 39. None is singular, but takes a plural/singular verb according to the sense involved in the sentence.

- e.g. (i) None are so deaf as those who will not hear.
(ii) I asked for a maid, but none was there.

Rule 40. When the plural noun is a proper name for some single object or some collective unit, it must be followed by a singular verb.

e.g. The United Nations is not an effective body for world peace.

Rule 41. Nouns like glasses (Spectacles), pants, trousers, shoes, people, police, scissors always take a plural verb. Also, *descriptive nouns* like the rich, the blind, the guilty are always plural.

e.g. (i) Your shoes are glossy.
But when used with 'a pair of', they are singular.
(ii) A pair of branded shoes is quite expensive these days.

Rule 42. Uncountable nouns like advice, news, media stationary, weather, progress are singular and take a singular verb.

e.g. (i) The weather is pleasant today.
(ii) Advice is valued when it is asked for.

Rule 43. A collective noun takes a singular verb when the collection is thought of as one whole. It takes a plural verb when the stress is on the individuals.

(i) The cartel of oil supplying countries has submitted its report.
(ii) The cartel of oil supplying countries are divided over the issue.

Rule 44. A singular verb is used when a plural noun denotes some specific quantity or amount,

e.g. (i) One fifty rupees is too much for this bag.
(ii) Two-thirds of the city is in ruins.

Rule 45. Unfulfilled wishes are a kind of imaginary conditionals. These types of conditionals take "if/as if/as though/ it is time/I wish/ it is high time" as the expression. It uses 'were'.

e.g. (i) I wish I were a mermaid.
(ii) He talks to me as if he were my boss.

Rule 46. If 'wh' words like which, who, whom are used as a relative pronoun then the verb follows the antecedent's number and person.

e.g. (i) Rita, who is a doctor, lives here.
(ii) The students, who are absent today, have gone to stadium.

Rule 47. There' and 'It' used as introductory subjects. When these two words come as the subject then the verb agrees to the number and person of the noun that comes after 'there'

e.g (i) There are trees in the forest.
 ↓ ↓
 Plural verb Plural noun
(ii) There is a Pen lying on the table.
 ↓ ↓
 Singular Singular
 verb noun

Rule 48. When the expression 'more than one' is used in the sentence, noun and verb both are used as singular

e.g. (i) More than one Book is to be bought
 ↓ ↓
 Singular noun Singular verb
(ii) More than one computer is not working
 ↓ ↓
 Singular noun Singular verb

Rule 49. When 'more than one' comes as parts, verb is plural e.g.

Structure More + Plural noun + than one + plural verb

More parents than one are
 ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓
More + Plural noun + than one + Plural verb

Rule 50. Expression having 'Half of/two thirds of/one fourth of' etc takes plural verb when the noun is countable, but if the noun is uncountable then verb is singular.

e.g. (i) Three fourths of the work is done.
(ii) Half of the boys from the class were absent.

Rule 51. Statements having "many of/ both of / few of/ a few of" in it takes a plural noun or pronoun followed by a plural verb.

e.g. (i) Many of the boys are playing.
(ii) Both of the girls have danced.

Rule 52. Statements that contain "some/some of / plenty of/ lots of/ a lot of/ all/ all of/ most/ most of/ enough/ a great deal of" take both singular and plural verb depending upon the verb.

e.g. (i) All girls are beautiful.
(ii) A lot of every has been saved.

Rule 53. Statements that have "many/ a great many/ a good many" take plural nouns along with plural verb.

e.g. (i) A great many farmers are working.
(ii) Many boys were accused.

Rule 54. Statements that contain "a number of/a large number of", etc., takes plural noun and plural verb.

e.g. (i) A number of people have gone to fair.
(ii) A large number of candidates have appeared in the examination.

QUESTIONS *with* Detailed Explanation

Directions (Q. Nos. 1-10) Read these sentences to find out whether there is any grammatical mistake/error in them. The error, if any, will be in are part of the sentence. Mark the part with the error in your answer. If there is no error mark 'No error' as your answer. (Ignore the error of punctuations, if any.) [IBPS PO (Pre)2017]

1. In a short span of time, this startup/ website has entrenched itself as the/ go-to abode for cloth that are/well-designed with care and attention.
 - (a) In a short span of time, this startup
 - (b) website has entrenched itself as the
 - (c) go-to abode for cloth that are
 - (d) well-designed with care and attention
 - (e) No error

⊗ (c) The helping verb 'are' is in plural noun. So, 'cloth' is to be changed into 'clothes'.
2. The battery-operated scooter/equipped on Lithium-ion batteries that/provide it with a longer life/as compared to the conventional ones.
 - (a) The battery-operated scooter
 - (b) equipped on Lithium-ion batteries that
 - (c) provide it with a longer life
 - (d) as compared to the conventional ones
 - (e) No error

⊗ (b) 'Equipped' is followed by 'with' and not by 'on'.
3. Despite being such a small/country, Japan have been gone on to conquer/South-East Asia almost entirely/during the mid-twentieth century.
 - (a) Despite being such a small
 - (b) Country, Japan have been gone on to conquer
 - (c) South-East Asia almost entirely
 - (d) during the mid-twentieth century
 - (e) No error

⊗ (b) Japan has gone on is the correct phrase.
4. Scientists are increasingly concerned/about the potential long-term effects/of global warming on our/natural environment and on the planet.
 - (a) Scientists are increasingly concerned
 - (b) about the potential long-term effects
 - (c) of global warming on our
 - (d) natural environment and on the planet
 - (e) No error

⊗ (e) None of the portion has any error, hence option (e) is correct.
5. The most powerful advantage/of the internet is that it/decentralises work centres and/therefore makes widespread empowerment.
 - (a) The most powerful advantage
 - (b) of the internet is that it
 - (c) decentralises work centres and
 - (d) therefore makes widespread empowerment
 - (e) No error

⊗ (b) Use of article 'the' is superfluous. So, it is to be deleted.
6. The youngster has proven his ability as/an aggressive sportsperson and age being/on his sides, he has a huge/chance of succeeding in the near future.
 - (a) The youngster has proven his ability as
 - (b) an aggressive sportsperson and age being
 - (c) on his sides, he has a huge
 - (d) chance of succeeding in the near future
 - (e) No error

⊗ (d) The use of 'succeeding' is inappropriate. It should be 'success' which will make it correct.
7. Every year in summer, many/tourists visit to Kumartull in North/Kolkata to watch the artisans/prepare the idols of Goddess Durga.
 - (a) Every year in summer, many
 - (b) tourists visit to Kumartull in North
 - (c) Kolkata to watch the artisans
 - (d) prepare the idols of Goddess Durga.
 - (e) No error

⊗ (b) Use of 'to' after 'visit' is wrong. So, 'to' is to be deleted.
8. A partnership has been signed by/ an Indian pharmaceutical company with/ a one from Japan in order to/develop a vaccine for the chikungunya virus,
 - (a) A partnership has been signed by
 - (b) an Indian pharmaceutical company with
 - (c) a one from Japan in order to
 - (d) develop a vaccine for the chikungunya virus
 - (e) No error

⊗ (c) 'A one from Japan' is wrong usage. It is to be changed into 'a Japanese company that will make it correct.'
9. The new government has repealed/ the policy of free speech in/ the country, which has invited/ nationwide criticism from all and sundry.
 - (a) The new government has repealed
 - (b) the policy of free speech in
 - (c) the country, which has invited
 - (d) nationwide criticism from all and sundry
 - (e) No error

⊗ (e) As no portion is incorrect, option (e) is the correct answer.
10. Nothing can be built in this area since/ its soil is saline and contains minerals that/ would eat into any concrete structure/ that coming into contact with this soil.

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- (a) Nothing can be built in this area since
- (b) its soil is saline and contains minerals that
- (c) would eat into any concrete structure
- (d) that coming into contact with this soil
- (e) No error

⊗ (d) 'coming' is the wrong usage. It must be changed into 'comes' that will make it correct.

Directions (Q. Nos. 11-20) Identify the error in the sentences given below, if there is no error, choose option (e). [IBPS PO (Pre)2016]

11. (a) The need to set-up
(b) a good library in the locality
(c) has been in the minds of people
(d) for some time now
(e) No error
- ⊗ (d) Replace 'for some time now' by 'from some time'. The origin of a need should be shown by the use of 'from'.
12. (a) Most people would have
(b) attended the union meeting
(c) if they had
(d) had longer notice of it
(e) No error
- ⊗ (d) Use prior in place of 'had longer' to make it meaningful.
13. (a) He took to (b) reading times
(c) for better knowledge
(d) of the facts (e) No error
- ⊗ (c) Facts are 'understood.' It should not be collocated with 'knowledge'. Hence, (c) has error. We should use 'understanding' in place of 'knowledge'.
14. (a) When children have difficulty understanding
(b) a certain mathematical process, it is often because
(c) their teachers do not understand it conceptually
(d) themselves and do not present it in a way that children can understand
(e) No error
- ⊗ (e) No error
15. (a) Studies show that the lives of millions of mothers
(b) and their children could be saved if countries would
(c) invest in programmes that ensures a healthy pregnancy
(d) and safe childbirth
(e) No error

⊗ (b) The principal clause is in present tense. Therefore, 'could' should be replaced by 'can' to make the syntax correct.

16. (a) Film viewers claim that
(b) the number of scenes depicting alcohol consumption
(c) have increased dramatically over
(d) the last decade
(e) No error

⊗ (c) Replace preposition 'over' by 'to', as 'increased to' means to take an amount and add to it, stopping when you reach a certain level.

17. (a) Fourty per cent of the people alive today have
(b) never made a phone call but
(c) thirty percent still have no electricity connections
(d) to their homes
(e) No error

⊗ (b) Replace 'but' by 'and' because but shows contradiction between two clause.

18. (a) Workers with less
(b) personal problems are
(c) likely to be
(d) more productive in their work
(e) No error

⊗ (a) 'Less should be replaced by 'few' to make the sentence meaningful as less shows quality and few shows quantity.

19. (a) Everyone who visits Singapore
(b) is impressed by its cleanliness
(c) which is mainly a result of rigorous implementation
(d) of their strict laws (e) No error

⊗ (d) 'Their' should be replaced by 'its' because Singapore is singular noun. So, pronoun related to it will also be singular.

20. (a) The bridal dress was
(b) most unique: the prince
(c) designed it and his
(d) mother provided the lace fabric
(e) No error

⊗ (b) Use of 'most' and 'unique' makes the sentence incorrect. It is superflous to use both of them. So, remove 'most' from the sentence.

Directions (Q. Nos. 21-25) Read each sentence to find out whether there is any grammatical error in it. The error, if any, will be in one part of the sentence. Mark the part with the error as your answer. If there is no error, mark 'No error' as your answer. (Ignore the errors of punctuation, if any).

[SBI PO (Pre)2016]

21. The progress of the South-West monsoon/is relatively slow as it is/not getting a favourable system/for move forward.

- (a) The progress of the South-West monsoon
- (b) is relatively slow as it is
- (c) not getting a favourable system
- (d) for move forward
- (e) No error

⊗ (d) Part (d) has error of use of preposition. Remove 'for' and replace it with 'to'.

22. Authorities have/denied requests/for private hospital care/to the accuse.

- (a) Authorities have
- (b) denied requests
- (c) for private hospital care
- (d) to the accuse
- (e) No error

⊗ (d) "Accuse" is wrong here. It should be 'accused' which means some person charged of some crime.

23. The drive intended to creating/an awareness of/the perks of riding two wheelers/without a helmet.

- (a) The drive intended to creating
- (b) an awareness of
- (c) the perks of riding two wheelers
- (d) without a helmet
- (e) No error

⊗ (a) Part (a) has error of use of correct tense with infinitive to we always use first form of verb, so it should be 'to create'.

24. Gold continued its rising streak/for the fourth straight session/to reclaim the/psychologically significant thirty thousand mark.

- (a) Gold continued its rising streak
- (b) for the fourth straight session
- (c) to reclaim the
- (d) psychologically significant thirty thousand mark
- (e) No error

⊗ (e) No error

25. The system, which keeps/a record for personal and professional details/of all community members/was hacked.

- (a) The system, which keeps
- (b) a record for personal and professional details
- (c) of all community members
- (d) was hacked
- (e) No error

- ⊗ (b) Part (b) has error of use of correct preposition. Remove 'for' and replace it with preposition 'of'.

Directions (Q. Nos. 26-447) Read these sentences to find out whether there is any grammatical mistake/error in them. The error, if any, will be in one part of the sentence. Mark the part with the error as your answer. If there is no error, mark 'No error' as your answer. (Ignore the errors of punctuation, if any)

26. After his term in the Department of Defence/ he was appointed Secretary of Energy/ a job in which he was strongly supported the use/ of alternate sources of energy such as nuclear energy. [SBI (PO) 2015]

- (a) after his term in the Department of Defence
- (b) he was appointed Secretary of Energy
- (c) a job in which he was strongly supported the use
- (d) of alternate sources of energy such as nuclear energy
- (e) No error

- ⊗ (c) Use of 'was' is inappropriate here. The sentence is in active voice and using 'was' makes it passive. Hence, (c) is correct choice.
e.g. The management strongly supported the use of computers in the offices.

27. As GDP growth is half of what it/ is just a few years ago, the country/ desperately needs to cut red tape and improve/infrastructure to boost investment and growth. [SBI (PO) 2015]

- (a) as GDP growth is half of what it.
- (b) is just a few years ago, the country
- (c) desperately needs to cut red tape and improve
- (d) infrastructure to boost investment and growth
- (e) No error

- ⊗ (b) Context of the sentence at part 'b' is in past tense and therefore use of 'was' is suitable here.
e.g. The growth of media is twice as compared to what it was in the 90's.

28. When elections in the country are due shortly/ people are determined to register as voters and to vote for/ candidates based on their track record and the programmes/ that

they intend to implement for the betterment of the country.

[SBI (PO) 2015]

- (a) when elections in the country are due shortly
 - (b) people are determined to register as voters and to vote for
 - (c) candidates based on their track record and the programmes
 - (d) that they intend to implement for the betterment of the country
 - (e) No error
- ⊗ (a) Use of 'due shortly' is superfluous and inappropriate too. Use 'near' here.
e.g. The series is very near and three of our main batsmen are out of form.

29. At least a quarter of the World's corals have lost/ over the past 25 years and as climate change warms/ the oceans the additional carbon dioxide will make/ the water more acidic further destroying coral reefs. [SBI (PO) 2015]

- (a) At least a quarter of the World's corals have lost
- (b) over the past 25 years and as climate change warms
- (c) the oceans the additional carbon dioxide will make
- (d) the water more acidic further destroying coral reefs
- (e) No error

- ⊗ (a) 'A quarter' has been used as a whole. So, use 'has' in place of 'have'.
e.g. Three fourths of the work has been done by me.

30. The Prime Minister's speech laid out how/ it is important to encourage female participated/in the economy yet the percentage of female lawmakers in/ the lower House of Parliament has fallen to 8%. [SBI (PO) 2015]

- (a) The Prime Minister's speech laid out how
- (b) it is important to encourage female participated
- (c) in the economy yet the percentage of female lawmakers in
- (d) the Lower House of Parliament has fallen to 8%
- (e) No error

- ⊗ (b) Use 'participation' in place of 'participated' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. The participation of the citizen should be made necessary for preparing the budget.

31. He identified the most important machines required/ for modern life and worked on making a prototype/'do it yourself' version of each because he believed that if people/could build these themselves, it would improve their way of life. [SBI (PO) 2015]

- (a) He identified the most important machines required
- (b) for modern life and worked in making a prototype
- (c) 'do it yourself' version of each because he believed that if people
- (d) could build these themselves, it would improve their way of life
- (e) No error

- ⊗ (b) Remove 'for' by 'in' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. The skills that are required in teaching profession are one's confidence and presentation.

32. Natural disasters will not turn into a catastrophe/if we invest in building infrastructure that/can withstand the devastating impacts of storms/ which have become more severe. [SBI (PO) 2015]

- (a) Natural disasters will not turn into a catastrophe
- (b) if we invest in building infrastructure that
- (c) can withstand the devastating impacts of storms
- (d) which have become more severe
- (e) No error

- ⊗ (d) With 'has/have/had' we should use 'V₃'. So, 'became' should be replaced by 'become'.

e.g. It has become quite evident for the people to know the propaganda adopted by the politicians.

33. Many goods are being manufactured quickly without/any regard for quality and as consumers we must be/ aware of our rights and the government/should penalise them who indulge in unscrupulous business practices. [SBI (PO) 2015]

- (a) Many goods are being manufactured quickly without
- (b) any regard for quality and as consumers we must be
- (c) aware of our rights and the government
- (d) should penalise them who indulge in unscrupulous business practices
- (e) No error

- ⊗ (b) 'Regard' should be followed by the preposition 'to' and not by 'for'.
e.g. The statement has been made in regard to the rising violence in Dadri.
- 34.** The European Central Bank has said that if all/Euro-zone nation continue to carry out/economic reforms as Portugal and Ireland have/then the Central Bank will guarantee future bailouts. [SBI (PO) 2015]
- (a) The European Central Bank has said that if all
(b) Euro-zone nation continue to carry out
(c) economic reforms as Portugal and Ireland have
(d) then the Central Bank will guarantee future bailouts
(e) No error
- ⊗ (b) Use 'Euro-zone nations' in place of 'Euro-zone nation' as the noun is being preceded by 'all'.
e.g. If all the politicians start sending their kids to government school then only level of education will rise-up.
- 35.** While farmers are struggling/to cope with severe drought/crop companies are researched/ways to breed crops that thrive in drought. [SBI (PO) 2015]
- (a) While farmers are struggling
(b) to cope with severe drought
(c) crop companies are researched
(d) ways to breed crops that thrive in drought
(e) No error
- ⊗ (c) When an action is going on at the time of speaking then we should use present continuous tense. So, 'researched' should be replaced by 'researching'.
e.g. Scientists are developing theories to control the breeding of dengue mosquitoes.
- 36.** Attributing rise in inflation partly for withholding of food stocks by traders/ the minister said that/he was committed/to easing this supply side bottleneck. [SBI (PO) 2014]
- (a) Attributing rise in inflation partly for withholding of food stocks by traders
(b) the minister said that
(c) he was committed
(d) to easing this supply side bottleneck
(e) No error
- ⊗ (d) 'Easing' should be replaced by 'ease' as stative verbs should not be used in progressive form.
e.g. He has done a great work to ease off things.
- 37.** India's largest utility vehicle and tractor maker/ is again in the race to acquire/for stake in Swedish company/which is a premium car maker. [SBI (PO) 2014]
- (a) India's largest utility vehicle and tractor maker
(b) is again in the race to acquire
(c) for stake in Swedish company
(d) which a premium car maker
(e) No error
- ⊗ (c) 'For stake' should be replaced by 'stakes' which alone is sufficient for sense.
e.g. A small company always tries to get stakes in a larger company.
- 38.** With sale of branded or premium petrol becoming almost nil/due to high duties/a government appointed panel has recommended/ slashing excise duty to make them at par with regular fuel. [SBI (PO) 2014]
- (a) With sale of branded or premium petrol becoming almost nil
(b) due to high duties
(c) a government appointed panel has recommended
(d) slashing excise duty to make them at par with regular fuel
(e) No error
- ⊗ (c) 'Government appointed panel' should be written as 'panel appointed by government'.
e.g. A team appointed by the principal will leave for the hockey match.
- 39.** Keeping in mind/ that power cuts are on different days in different areas/the change in the factory law would enable individual factories within an area/ to determining their own weekly holidays. [SBI (PO) 2014]
- (a) Keeping in mind
(b) that power cuts are on different days in different areas
(c) the change in the factory law would enable individual factories within an area
(d) to determining their own weekly holidays
(e) No error
- ⊗ (d) Use 'determine' after 'to' as per the rules of infinitives.
e.g. We can hold a test in order to determine the suitable candidate.
- 40.** Police officers have refused on identify the bystander,/who is the only eyewitness to the crime,/ but have said that the investigating team would explore/ if he could be a witness in the case. [SBI (PO) 2014]
- (a) Police officers have refused on identify the bystander,
(b) who is the only eyewitness to the crime
(c) but have said that the investigating team would explore
(d) if he could be a witness in the case
(e) No error
- ⊗ (a) 'On' should be replaced by 'to' as per the rules of infinitives.
e.g. One of my friends could not help me to identify the correct frame of lens.
- 41.** Though the idea of high speed trains is/appealingly, studies show that countries which/have such trains have found that they are much/ more expensive than expected and are not used much. [IBPS RRB (Officer Scale-I) 2014]
- (a) Though the idea of high speed trains is
(b) appealingly, studies show that countries which
(c) have such trains have found that they are much
(d) more expensive than expected and are not used much
(e) No error
- ⊗ (b) 'Idea' is a noun and using an adverb, 'appealingly' for it is improper. So, use 'appealing' which is an adjective and proper usage.
e.g. That scene of a beggar asking for an alms was so appealing to me that I wept then and there.
- 42.** Innovations especially into the field of/information technology can help to increase/the wages of the workforce provided/workers have the necessary skills. [IBPS RRB (Officer Scale-I) 2014]
- (a) Innovations especially into the field of
(b) Information technology can help to increase
(c) the wages of the workforce provided
(d) workers have the necessary skills
(e) No error
- ⊗ (a) Use 'in' in place of 'into'. When there is a sense of movement then we should use 'into'. So, (a) is the correct choice.
e.g. Her involvement in the project is nothing short of a disaster.

- 43.** While the country spend about \$ 800 million on fireworks/every year, at a cost of only \$ 74 million it/is set to launch a rocket into space to/orbit Mars and gather data about the planet. **[IBPS RRB (Officer Scale-I) 2014]**
- (a) While the country spend about \$ 800 million on fireworks
 (b) every year, at a cost of only \$ 74 million it
 (c) is set to launch a rocket into space to
 (d) orbit Mars and gather data about the planet
 (e) No error
- ⊗ (a) 'Country' is a singular subject and therefore singular verb should be used here. Hence, 'spends' is the correct replacement.
 e.g. The company spends a large sum of money on a project and wishes to get desired results.
- 44.** The government plans to launch a new healthcare system which/ consists of a website where people's registration for insurance,/ a data centre which stores records and an interface/ which provides insurance companies with information **[IBPS RRB (Officer Scale-I) 2014]**
- (a) The government plans to launch a new healthcare system which
 (b) consists of a website where people's registration for insurance
 (c) a data centre which stores records and an interface
 (d) which provides insurance companies with information
 (e) No error
- ⊗ (a) Since, the thing/action is under the process and it is not a fact till now. So, 'plans' should be replaced by 'is planning'.
 e.g. My brother is planning to migrate to a place where his job prospects could be met well.
- 45.** Over half of China's 1.4 billion population/lives in villages and the most pressing/problem faces the country today/is the lack of rural reforms. **[IBPS RRB (Officer Scale-I) 2014]**
- (a) Over half of china 1.4 billion population
 (b) lives in villages and the most pressing
 (c) problem faces the country today
 (d) is the lack of rural reforms
 (e) No error
- ⊗ (a) 'Country' is a singular subject and therefore singular verb should be used here. Hence, 'spends' is the correct replacement.
 e.g. The company spends a large sum of money on a project and wishes to get desired results.
- ⊗ (c) Syntax should read as "problem that the counrty faces today". So, (c) is correct choice here.
 e.g. The challenge that our economy faces today is the stagnation of liquidity.
- 46.** Our country's performance (a)/ in the last few national and international games (b)/ is fairly ordinary (c)/ and below our stature. (d)/ No error (e) **[SBI (PO) 2013]**
- ⊗ (c) Replace 'is' by 'has been' to make the syntax correct.
 e.g. His result has been deteriorating all these days.
- 47.** We have (a)/fairly standard accounting procedures (b)/ that are on the line (c)/with the internationally accepted norms. (d)/ No error (e) **[SBI (PO) 2013]**
- ⊗ (c) 'On' should be replaced by 'in'.
 e.g. I take care that things spoken by me remain in sync with the earlier ones.
- 48.** The company is negotiating (a) new store launches (b)/ at nearby (c)/half the rent. (d)/ No error (e) **[SBI (PO) 2013]**
- ⊗ (c) 'Nearby' is superflous usage. 'Negotiating' gives the idea of the process of bargain itself.
 e.g. I often negotiate with the grocer to sell his vegetables at concessional rates.
- 49.** Intense fear blocks (a)/both to the generation (b)/ and expression (c)/ of ideas. (d)/ No error (e) **[SBI (PO) 2013]**
- ⊗ (b) 'To' is superflous and should not be used here.
 e.g. Money gives you both the luxury and the comfort.
- 50.** The Government officials have been met (a)/ heads of commercial Banks later this week (b)/ to get their views on liquidity (c)/ and growth in deposits. (d)/No error (e) **[SBI (PO) 2013]**
- ⊗ (a) Remove 'been' that is inappropriate to use in active voice sentence.
 e.g. People have decided to meet over a cup of coffee.
- 51.** Indian entrepreneurs are making waves (a)/throughout the world; their ideas (b)/and technical knowledge are yielded (c)/ unprecedented growth in income and employment. (d)/ No error (e) **[SBI (PO) 2013]**
- ⊗ (c) The first clause is in progressive form and therefore the second clause should also be in progressive form to express the idea of continuity. Hence, (c) is correct.
 e.g. We are making efforts and it is yielding now.
- 52.** Policy analysts are reacting to the inflation paranoia (a)/with proposing that (b)/central bankers hit the brakes (c)/on their expansionary policies. (d)/ No error (e) **[SBI (PO) 2013]**
- ⊗ (b) 'Proposing' should be replaced by 'Proposal'.
 e.g. He did not accceed to my proposal and that hurt me a lot.
- 53.** The aim of the course (a)/ will be to cater to students with diverted needs (b)/ from basic knowledge (c)/to top end research and publishing skills. (d)/ No error (e) **[SBI (PO) 2013]**
- ⊗ (b) 'Divert' is a verb and it should not be used here in the form of 'diverted'. In stead, we should use 'diversifying' which is an adjective and that qualifies a noun well.
 e.g. India has a diversifying flora and fauna all over its territory.
- 54.** The Government has asked individuals (a)/with income of over ₹ 10 lakh to (b)/electronic file tax returns for the year 2011-12, (c)/something which was optional till last year. (d)/ No error (e) **[IBPS (PO) 2012]**
- ⊗ (c) 'To' should not be separated from its verb. 'Electronic' should be used in the form of 'electronically' after 'returns'.
 e.g. He is to file a complaint against his neighbour for no such reasons.
- 55.** The power tariff had already (a)/ been increased twice in (b)/ the last 15 months and the Electricity Board had also (c)/ levied additional monthly charges to consumers. (d)/ No error (e) **[IBPS (PO) 2012]**
- ⊗ (d) 'Levy' is followed by Preposition 'on'.
 e.g. The department is to levy a tax on the users.
- 56.** Despite of curfew (a)/ in some areas, minor (b)/communal incidents were reported (c)/from different areas of the walled city. (d)/No error (e) **[IBPS (PO) 2012]**
- ⊗ (a) 'of' is not used with 'despite'.
 e.g. Despite the hardships, he came out very successfully.

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- 57.** This comes (a)/ at a time (b)/ when fund allocation (c)/is been doubled. (d)/No error (e)
[IBPS (PO) 2012]
⊗ (d) 'Is' should be replaced by 'has' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. My pocket money has been doubled by my parents.
- 58.** As the prison will get (a)/ an official telephone facility soon, the prisoners (b)/won't have to make calls in discreet manner (c) through smuggled mobile phones. (d)/No error (e)
[IBPS (PO) 2012]
⊗ (e) No error.
- 59.** The area was plunged into (a)/ darkness mid a wave of (b)/ cheering and shouting (c)/ slogans like 'Save The Earth.' (d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (PO) 2012]
⊗ (b) 'Mid' should be replaced by 'amidst'.
e.g. He was surrounded amidst a crowd of well wishers.
- 60.** The poll contestants approached (a)/ the commission complaining that the hoardings (b)/violated the code of conduct (c)/ and influenced public perception. (d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (PO) 2012]
⊗ (e) No error.
- 61.** The country has (a)/ adequate laws but problems (b)/ arise when these are not (c)/ implemented in letter and spirit. (d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (PO) 2012]
⊗ (e) No error.
- 62.** The management feels that (a)/ the employees of the organisation are (b)/ non-productive and do not want (c)/ to work hard. (d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (PO) 2012]
⊗ (e) No error.
- 63.** As far the issue of land encroachment (a)/ in villages is concerned, people will (b)/ have to make a start from their villages by (c)/sensitising and educating the villagers this issue. (d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (PO) 2012]
⊗ (a) 'As far as' is a phrasal expression and there should not be any change in its form. So, (a) is suitable choice.
e.g. As far as increment is concerned, I can expect this for sure.
- 64.** These companies have been asked (a)/to furnish their financial details (b)/and information about (c)/its board members. (d)/No error (e)
[IBPS (PO) 2012]
⊗ (d) As 'companies' is a plural subject, so 'its' possessive should also be plural. So, 'its' should be replaced by 'their'.
e.g. The boys took their bags and left for the field.
- 65.** The scheme which will be launched (a)/ during the next two years (b)/ require an additional investment (c)/of one hundred crore. (d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (PO) 2012]
⊗ (c) Use 'requires' in place of 'require' as the subject is singular here.
e.g. The construction of this building requires additional people to work for.
- 66.** Road developers unable to complete their projects (b)/on time will not be (c)/awarded new ones. (d)/No error (e)
[IBPS (PO) 2012]
⊗ (e) No error.
- 67.** We have taken on (a)/ the responsibility of (b)/ arranging the required training (c)/ and supervise of the new staff. (d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (PO) 2012]
⊗ (d) Before the co-ordinate connector there is a noun used suitably and hence after the connector a noun 'supervision' should be used.
e.g. The company has taken the task of supervision in its hands.
- 68.** The government has signed (a)/a memorandum of understanding with (b)/the company to set-up (c)/a plant in the state. (d)/No error (e)
[IBPS (PO) 2012]
⊗ (e) No error.
- 69.** The couple's work in (a)/ upgrading rural technicians (b)/ has set a benchmarking (c)/ for future generations. (d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
⊗ (c) 'Benchmark' is a noun and therefore it can't be used in the progressive form. So, (c) is correct choice.
e.g. Inflation is setting a new benchmark every day.
- 70.** It has taking almost (a)/a year for India (b)/to let its pessimism (c)/ translate into fewer jobs. (d)/No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
⊗ (a) Use 'taken' in place of 'taking' as has/have/had takes past participle with them.
e.g. She has taken an aptitude test recently.
- 71.** The city needs an airport (a)/ that can efficiently manage (b)/ a constantly flow of (c)/ passengers and flights. (d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
⊗ (c) 'A constantly flow of' is a wrong expression to be used. 'Constant' should be used here to make it correct.
e.g. A constant barrage of questions was directed towards me.
- 72.** This group of (a)/rural achievers is very (b)/different than the (c)/ ones in the past. (d)/No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
⊗ (c) 'Than' should be replaced by 'from' as per the rules of words followed by prep.
e.g. His attitude is totally different from that of mine.
- 73.** The government has announced (a)/ plans to creating (b)/ one million new (c)/ training places. (d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
⊗ (b) 'Creating' is wrong usage. Use 'Create' after 'to' as per the rules of infinitives.
e.g. The company is planning to create much wealth through a new scheme.
- 74.** The argument assumes that (a)/ early detection of the disease (b)/ will lead to an immediate drop in (c)/ the mortality rating from this disease. (d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
⊗ (d) It is wrong to use 'mortality rating'. Instead, we should use 'rate'.
e.g. The mortality rate is decreasing in the country due to better health facilities.
- 75.** The two most important numbers (a)/which the mandarins of an (b)/economy have to watch (c)/ are inflation and unemployment. (d)/No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
⊗ (e) No error.
- 76.** Witnessed the young soldier's ability (a)/ to repeatedly hit bull's eye at (b)/ arms training, instructors pushed him (c)/ to participate in the Army marksmanship competition. (d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]

- ⊗ (a) 'Witnessed' should be replaced by the term 'witnessing' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. Witnessing the growth of the economy we can expect a boom.
- 77.** It is all well known that (a)/ women are generally in favour of (b)/ light topics like jokes and expressions (c)/that causing laughter all around.(d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
- ⊗ (d) Use 'cause' in place of 'causing' in part (d) to make it correct.
e.g. Failure in the exam causes him to get depressed.
- 78.** The evening breeze (a)/ won't carrying the poetry (b)/ of peace beyond (c)/ the school building. (d)/ No error (e) **[IBPS (SO) 2012]**
- ⊗ (b) With modals, we use 'V1'. So, 'carrying' should be replaced by 'carry'.
e.g., She would mind your words of love.
- 79.** We are bring in the idea that (a)/ European rehabilitation focussed (b)/on a multi-disciplinary approach (c)/towards chronic pain. (d)/ No error (e) **[IBPS (SO) 2012]**
- ⊗ (a) 'Bring' should be replaced by 'brought' as the preceding clause is in past tense.
e.g. We brought in the concept of living with harmony.
- 80.** If parents are able to (a)/get their children into schools (b)/that are far away, the (c)/next challenge is transportation. (d)/No error (e) **[IBPS (SO) 2012]**
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 81.** The perception of others (a)/ particularly family members (b)/ changed when he (c)/qualified on a government job. (d)/No error (e) **[IBPS (SO) 2012]**
- ⊗ (d) 'Qualify' should be followed by preposition 'for'. So, (d) is errored part.
e.g. Our team qualified for next level.
- 82.** Every house should (a)/have the device as it (b)/ protects people from a (c)/common household disaster. (d)/No error (e) **[IBPS (SO) 2012]**
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 83.** Automated baggage handling systems are (a)/ ensuring that on the time passengers (b)/ are out of the plane their (c)/ baggage is already waiting for them. (d)/ No error (e) **[IBPS (SO) 2012]**
- ⊗ (b) There is a prepositional error. 'On' should be replaced by 'at' as it is related to time reference.
e.g. At the time of his entry, he was crying for no good reason.
- 84.** The transit system's underground (a)/ tunnels and stations will (b)/ be constructed (c)/ next heritage structures. (d)/ No error (e) **[IBPS RRB (Officer Scale-I) 2012]**
- ⊗ (d) Here positional reference is given. So, we should use 'next to heritage structures'.
e.g. My house is next to the post office.
- 85.** Residents have been planting (a)/ the ornamental trees outside (b)/ their homes and in lawns to (c)/ add beauty and give their place a grand look. (d)/ No error (e) **[IBPS RRB (Officer Scale-I) 2012]**
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 86.** A diamond jeweller's peon (a)/ tipped off a gang (b)/ about the gold (c)/ in his employer's vault. (d)/ No error (e) **[IBPS RRB (Officer Scale-I) 2012]**
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 87.** He said that the performance of the Indian team (a)/ was satisfactory at the international meet (b)/ and that they learnt a lot from (c)/ watching top seeded players through action at the grand slam. (d)/ No error (e) **[IBPS RRB (Officer Scale-I) 2012]**
- ⊗ (d) 'Players through action' should be replaced by 'players in action' to make the sentence correct.
e.g. I saw the minister in action at the site of the flood.
- 88.** Watching the exponential (a)/ talent of world tennis (b)/ was the best things (c)/ to happen to him. (d)/No error (e). **[IBPS RRB (Officer Scale-I) 2012]**
- ⊗ (c) 'Things' is wrong usage. Use 'thing' in that place as 'the best' can only be used with a singular noun.
e.g. He is the best coach for this team.
- 89.** The meeting took place a day after (a)/ the agency held a meeting with project contractors (b)/ to evaluate steps that being taken to (c)/ ensure that the buildings were not affected. (d)/ No error (e) **[IBPS RRB (Officer Scale-I) 2012]**
- ⊗ (c) Use 'are' after connector 'that'.
e.g. She evaluated the methods that are being taken into consideration.
- 90.** The director explained (a)/the theme and (b)/ the concept of (c)/ the international folk festival. (d)/ No error (e) **[IBPS RRB (Officer Scale-I) 2012]**
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 91.** The fight among (a)/ rival candidates between the medium (b)/ of catchy slogans (c)/ has started. (d)/ No error (e) **[IBPS RRB (Officer Scale-I) 2012]**
- ⊗ (b) Use 'through' in place of 'between'.
e.g. He is monitoring the whole affair through the satellite.
- 92.** Acting on a tip-off (a)/the anti-robbery squad led (b)/by inspector laid (c)/ a trap for the robbers. (d)/ No error (e) **[IBPS RRB (Officer Scale-I) 2012]**
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 93.** The process of (a)/ revising figures of damage (b)/ to get additional compensation (c)/ has began. (d)/ No error (e) **[IBPS RRB (Officer Scale-I) 2012]**
- ⊗ (d) With 'has' we use V3. So, 'Began' should be replaced by 'begun'.
e.g. The match has begun in Chandigarh.
- 94.** Farmers who grow the crop (a)/ are the worse hit, as the investment (b)/they make on a crop is (c)/ huge as compared to the profit. (d)/ No error (e) **[IBPS RRB (Officer Scale-I) 2012]**
- ⊗ (b) The sentence seeks a reason. Therefore, 'as' should make way for 'because'.
e.g. Shopkeeper closed his shop because of the incessant rain.
- 95.** The government is made it (a)/ mandatory for pharmacies to send (b)/copies of medical bills along with (c)/prescriptions of drugs and details of patients. (d)/No error (e) **[IBPS RRB (Officer Scale-I) 2012]**
- ⊗ (a) 'Is' should be replaced by 'has' for it is actively doing something instead of something is done upon.
e.g. The principal has made it compulsory for the teachers to come at 7 am.
- 96.** While these schools have (a)/ a strong traditional hold, the reason for (b)/forming a consortium in India is to encourage (c)/cultural diversity for their institutes. (d)/ No error (e) **[IBPS RRB (Officer Scale-I) 2012]**

- ⊗ (d) 'Their' is inappropriate usage. We should use 'these'. There is no mentioning of a pronoun whose possessive case is needed.
e.g. We can solve these issues by meeting in person.
- 97.** The Government soon will make (a)/ it mandatory for all private hospitals (b)/ to notify infectious cases (c)/ as soon as they are detected. (d)/No error (e)
[IBPS RRB (Officer Scale-I) 2012]
- ⊗ (a) Placing of 'soon' is wrong. The sentence should start with 'soon'.
e.g. Soon my brother is going to join Army as his career.
- 98.** School children, who so far (a)/ have had rationed access to (b)/ the few playgrounds on the city must be (c)/ happy by the recent move. (d)/No error (e)
[IBPS RRB (Officer Scale-I) 2012]
- ⊗ (c) 'On' should be replaced by 'in' that will make the sentence correct.
e.g. There are many theatres in this city.
- 99.** The third season of (a)/ the popular television show will ends (b)/ on a grand note with (c)/ celebrities dancing and having fun. (d)/No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
- ⊗ (b) 'will/shall' is followed by 'V₁'.
e.g. She will do her best to get the desired result.
- 100.** The website, which does not (a)/ accept advertisements and is funded (b)/ entirely by donations, describes itself (c)/as the fifth most popular website on the planet. (d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 101.** As sharing crime statistics for (a)/ the year 2011, the Commissioner admitted that (b)/ there had been an undue delay in (c)/ the setting up of an anti-narcotics cell. (d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
- ⊗ (a) 'As sharing' is to be replaced by 'on sharing' that will make the sentence correct.
e.g. On sharing the data of the match I came to know about the scores.
- 102.** The Moon may be the best place (a)/to look for aliens as their (b)/ footprints on their surface would (c)/ last far longer than radio signals. (d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
- ⊗ (c) 'Their' is actually meant for Moon here but has been used in inappropriate way. So, use 'its' so that sentence gets correct.
e.g. The department has its own set-up.
- 103.** The judge advised the government to (a)/ have metered autorickshaws across the state while (b)/ recounting his personal experience where an autorickshaw driver (c)/ made him to wait and also demanded ₹ 100. (d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
- ⊗ (d) The correct expression will be 'made him wait'.
e.g. She made me wait for two agonising hours.
- 104.** The company aims (a)/ to nearly double (b)/ its revenues on the back (c)/ of a strongest product pipeline. (d)/No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
- ⊗ (d) 'Strongest' should be replaced by the word 'stronger' that gives us the idea of an improvised product.
e.g. India wants to win the test series against Sri Lanka on the back of a stronger team.
- 105.** The woman that had (a)/kidnapped a child has now (b)/been apprehended and is being (c)/held in the city's jail. (d)/No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 106.** Rose growers in (a)/the city are waking up (b)/to the benefits (c)/of collective action. (d)/No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 107.** The minister will have (a)/a tough task in his hands (b)/where three different recommendations(c)/for this year's rate reach his desk. (d)/No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
- ⊗ (c) 'Where' should be replaced by 'when'.
e.g. I decided to check on myself when I felt weak.
- 108.** The current economic scenario (a)/could possibly undo (b)/the growth that followed (c)/the economic liberalisation of 1991. (d)/No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 109.** In a first -of- its - kind study, (a)/a team of scientists have tried to (b)/ 'grow' new stem cells in (c)/the ear that gets damaged with age. (d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
- ⊗ (b) 'A team of' is a phrase that will agree to a singular verb. Hence, 'have' should be replaced with 'has'.
e.g. A team of statisticians has presented the report.
- 110.** If successful, the research could (a)/ pave the way towards (b)/the prevention in untimely deaths (c)/ due to fatal illnesses. (d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
- ⊗ (c) 'Prevention' is followed by 'from'.
e.g. Vaccines prevent us from many disease.
- 111.** The ministry has directed banks (a)/to do away with their (b)/separate promotion policies, a move (c)/ strongly opposed by the officers' unions. (d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 112.** After a complaint was filed, (a)/the police teams was given the photograph (b)/ of the accused from the CCTV footage (c)/recorded at the hotel. (d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
- ⊗ (b) 'Police' is a plural noun. Hence, plural verb 'were' should be used here.
e.g. The police were investigating the case of the triple murder.
- 113.** Activists opposing the rail project said (a)/that the eleven new flyovers to be built (b)/ would practically ring (c)/ the death knell for the city. (d)/ No error (e)
[IBPS (SO) 2012]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 114.** Dress in black, (a)/ several students from the University took part (b)/ in a protest march in the city on Thursday as part (c)/ of a campaign against female infanticide. (d)/ No error (e)
[Indian Bank (PO) 2011]
- ⊗ (a) 'Dress' is to be replaced by 'dressed'. 'Dressed' becomes verbal adjective here.
e.g. Dressed in a white gown, the bride was looking like a lily.
- 115.** On the second day of the workshop, (a)/participants does a situational analysis of the state (b)/ and spoke about their plan of action (c)/for implementing the Act. (d)/ No error (e)
[Indian Bank (PO) 2011]
- ⊗ (b) The event is already done. With time being mentioned in it, we should use the simple past form of tense.
e.g. Prime Minister spoke on the second day of the parliamentary session.

- 116.** The court has asked the authorities (a)/ to take appropriate steps to restore natural water resources (b)/ so that the water shortage problem (c)/ in the state can be solved. (d)/No error (e) **[Indian Bank (PO) 2011]**
 ⊗ (e) No error.
- 117.** The poor experience in (a)/neighbouring countries which have implemented (b)/ food stamp programmes should serve as (c)/ a deterrent on our country. (d)/ No error (e) **[Indian Bank (PO) 2011]**
 ⊗ (d) 'Deterrent' is followed by 'to'.
 e.g. This could be a deterrent to our growing economy.
- 118.** The government has warned (a)/ that air pollution from vehicles and power stations (b)/ is reducing life expectancy in the country (c)/ in an average of 6 months (d)/ No error (e) **[Indian Bank (PO) 2011]**
 ⊗ (d) 'On an average' is the correct expression to be used here in place of 'in an average'.
 e.g. According to a survey, 3 children out of 10 are addicted to smoking on an average.
- 119.** Closing the doors to a foreign citizen (a)/ seeking employment in India, the High Court on Thursday ruled (b)/ that it is not a foreign national's fundamental right (c)/ to get an employment visa in the country. (d)/ No error (e) **[Indian Bank (PO) 2011]**
 ⊗ (a) The expression should read as 'closing the doors for' which is correct to be used here.
 e.g. Closing the doors for the outstation candidates is not an ideal step.
- 120.** The High Court on Thursday banned (a)/ plying of diesel-run vehicles (b)/ including safari cantors in the tiger sanctuary (c)/ with immediate effect. (d)/ No error (e) **[Indian Bank (PO) 2011]**
 ⊗ (e) No error.
- 121.** A new study has shown that kids (a)/ who have a high body mass index are (b)/ more likelier to have high blood pressure, cholesterol and blood insulin levels (c)/ by the time they reach adolescence. (d)/ No error (e) **[Indian Bank (PO) 2011]**
 ⊗ (c) 'Likelier' is the wrong usage. It is correct to use 'likely' here.
 e.g. It is likely that a shower may be in the evening.
- 122.** For much of the developing world, (a)/ historically, environmentalism was seen as a luxury (b)/ rather than a necessity because (c)/ always the development imperatives was seen to be urgent. (d)/ No error (e) **[Indian Bank (PO) 2011]**
 ⊗ (d) 'Development imperatives' is plural so verb should be used in plural number. Hence, 'were' is appropriate.
 e.g. All the necessary digital imperatives are growing tremendously these days.
- 123.** The Consumer Forum directed the Power Corporation to (a)/ compensate a complainant for the inconvenience (b)/ and mental agony who he had to suffer (c)/ because of the power officials' irresponsible attitude. (d)/ No error (e) **[Indian Bank (PO) 2011]**
 ⊗ 'Who' is not suitable to use. 'Which' should be used when persons are not meant.
 e.g. These are the houses which are to be painted in red.
- 124.** With no governmental control (a)/ and least regard for the environment, (b)/ the private waste-processing industry (c)/ poses a threat to public safety in India. (d)/ No error (e) **[UCO Bank (PO) 2011]**
 ⊗ (e) No error.
- 125.** A radical environmentalist (a)/ stormed into the Discovery Channel's (b)/ headquarters with explosives (c)/ strapped for his body. (d)/ No error (e) **[UCO Bank (PO) 2011]**
 ⊗ (d) 'Strapped' should be followed by 'over'.
 e.g. I saw a poor chap lying on the road and a blanket strapped over him.
- 126.** Many of the today's employees (a)/ are suffering from (b)/ an emotional recession because (c)/ they have not found sufficient meaning in their work lives. (d)/ No error (e) **[UCO Bank (PO) 2011]**
 ⊗ (a) The expression should read out as 'many' of the employees that will make syntax correct.
 e.g. Many of the students are preparing for civil services.
- 127.** People whose performance peaks in the morning (a)/ are better position for career success, (b)/ because they are more proactive (c)/ than people who are at their best in the evening. (d)/ No error (e) **[UCO Bank (PO) 2011]**
 ⊗ (b) The expression should read out as 'are better positioned for' which will make the syntax correct.
 e.g. People who are diligent are better positioned for long hour working tasks.
- 128.** Asian users are (a)/ most engaged with (b)/ the social web than (c)/ users in the West. (d)/ No error (e) **[UCO Bank (PO) 2011]**
 ⊗ (b) A comparison should be employed by the use of 'more' when it is for two persons or things.
 e.g. For me, a Labrodor is more valuable than Alsatian.
- 129.** The economic structure of rural areas (a)/ is such that children, especially girls, (b)/ are required to help in the household work (c)/ and perform also their chores. (d)/ No error (e) **[UCO Bank (PO) 2011]**
 ⊗ (d) 'Their' should be replaced by 'other'.
 'Their' is not in sync with the meaning.
 e.g. A robot can perform mechanical as well as other functions.
- 130.** Despite of maternal mortality rates (a)/ showing decline in India, (b)/ thousands of women are dying every year (c)/ due to lack of access to basic healthcare facilities. (d)/ No error (e) **[UCO Bank (PO) 2011]**
 ⊗ (a) 'of' should not be used after 'despite'.
 e.g. Despite his poverty the boy managed to get himself educated.
- 131.** Most of the problems that (a)/ be set working women (b)/ are in reality rooted in (c)/ the social perspective of their position. (d)/ No error (e) **[UCO Bank (PO) 2011]**
 ⊗ (e) No error.
- 132.** Even after so much years of independence, (a)/ women in India continue to suffer (b)/ socially as well as economically (c)/ at different levels and in different forms. (d)/ No error (e) **[UCO Bank (PO) 2011]**
 ⊗ (a) With countable nouns we should use 'many' not 'much'.
 e.g. Many people struggle to get a plate full of healthy meal.
- 133.** While a select few have (a)/ standards of living comparably (b)/ to the richest in the world, (c)/ the majority of the population fails to get even two meals a day. (d)/ No error (e) **[UCO Bank (PO) 2011]**
 ⊗ (b) 'Comparably' should be replaced by the word 'comparable'.
 e.g. The weather of England is cold but comparable to the weather of USA.

- 134.** Some genuine issues exist (a)/with the newly adopted (b)/system and needs to (c)/ be examined seriously. (d)/ No error (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (c) With plural subject 'issues' we should use 'need' as the plural verb.
e.g. All these issues make me go crazy.
- 135.** Whether or not to confront (a)/them about their role (b)/in the matter is a decision (c)/which is yet to take. (d)/No error (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (d) 'To take' is to be replaced by 'to be taken' as the sentence indicates passivity in it.
e.g. Decisions are to be taken in regard to the new operational schemes.
- 136.** The government is still in the (a)/process of finalised new policy (b)/guidelines for the allocation of land (c)/to private sector organisation. (d)/No error (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (b) The expression should be written as 'process of finalising' that makes the syntax correct.
e.g. The political parties are in a great hurry for the process of finalising the list of their candidates.
- 137.** According to government estimates (a)/at least four million tonnes of sugar (b)/will have to be imported (c)/this year because of a poor monsoon. (d)/No error (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (a) 'Estimate' can be used as noun/verb both. Here, noun form 'estimate' is to be used.
e.g. As per the estimate this plan would cost us more than a crore.
- 138.** In our experience people usually (a)/value things that they have to (b)/pay off more than those that (c)/they receive free of cost.(d)/No error (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (c) 'off' is superfluous and it changes the meaning of the sentence. Hence, it is to be removed from there.
e.g. A person has to pay more in case he wants decent service.
- 139.** At present China is the (a)/ world's leader manufacture (b)/of environment friendly products (c)/such as electric cars and bicycles. (d)/No error (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (b) Expression should be 'world's leading manufacturer' that fits the meaning.
e.g. India is the world's leading manufacturer of passenger cars.
- 140.** Over 80% from us (a)/feel that if we had taken (b)/some corrective measures earlier (c)/the crisis could have been averted. (d)/No error (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (a) 'Per cent' should be followed by 'of'.
e.g. About 50% of people are striving for owning a car.
- 141.** The manager of that city branch (a)/cannot handle it with the help of (b)/only two personnel as (c)/business has increased substantially. (d)/No error (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (c) 'As' should be replaced by 'because'.
e.g. The monitor can't handle the class because the boys are rogue.
- 142.** With the literacy rates in this (a)/region as low as 10% (b)/we need to encourage the (c)/local people to build schools. (d)/No error (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (a) 'Literacy rate' is the correct expression to be used in the sentence.
e.g. The literacy rate of India is getting up with the passage of time.
- 143.** While providing such facilities (a)/online makes it convenient (b)/and easily accessible for customers, (c)/we face several challenges. (d)/No error (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (c) 'Accessible' is followed by preposition 'to'.
e.g. with the development in infrastructure we can say every part is accessible to us.
- 144.** The bank's fluctuating (a)/performance over the prior (b)/year has been a major (c)/cause for concern. (d)/All correct (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (b) 'Prior' is the wrong usage. Instead we should use 'previous'.
e.g. The previous play that was hosted by the boys was awesome.
- 145.** An economy relies (a)/on its access (b)/ to dependable (c)/and affordable sources of energy. (d)/All correct (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (e) All correct.
- 146.** Researchers have used data prevalent to (a)/manufacturing companies to illustrate (b)/ the harmful (c)/impacts of technology on the environment. (d)/All correct (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (a) 'Prevalent' is followed by preposition 'in'.
e.g. This old custom is prevalent in many parts of India.
- 147.** Such a situation (a)/is neither feasible (b) nor desirable (c)/in a democratic country like ours. (d)/All correct (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (b) 'Feasible' is to be written correctly as 'feasible'.
e.g. This process is feasible to me due to its simplicity.
- 148.** The gradual (a)/withdrawal (b)/of such safety (c)/mechanisms will affect small and medium industries the most. (d)/All correct (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (d) 'Mechanism' is correct usage not the 'mechanisms'.
e.g. The mechanism of this project is beyond my imagination.
- 149.** The President has denied (a)/that the economy is in recession (b)/or was go into one (c)/despite a spate of downcast reports. (d)/No error (e) **[Corporation Bank (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (c) 'Was/Were' is followed by present participle form of verb.
e.g. She was going to be the champion debator.
- 150.** The angry at being (a)/left out of the bonanza (b)/is palpable among (c)/employees of the organisation. (d)/No error (e) **[Corporation Bank (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (a) 'Angry' should be replaced by 'anger'.
e.g. The anger on being called a pimp was very clear on his face.
- 151.** His comments came after (a)/ the research group said that its (b)/ consumer confidence index were (c)/ slumped to its lowest level. (d)/No error (e) **[Corporation Bank (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (c) 'Were' should be replaced by 'was'.
e.g. The index was showing a great shift in the economy.
- 152.** If all goes well (a)/ the examination scheduled for next month (b)/ is all set to be completely free (c)/ from anxieties power cuts and disruptions. (d)/No error (e) **[Corporation Bank (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (b) Article 'the' is left out before 'next' we have to use 'the'.
e.g. The meeting that is scheduled for the next month is an important one.

- 153.** There are just too few trains (a)/ for the ever grow (b)/number of passengers (c)/in the city. (d)/No error (e) [Corporation Bank (PO) 2011]
- ⊗ (b) 'Ever grow' should be replaced by 'ever growing to show the continuity.'
e.g. The evergrowing need of money is my main concern.
- 154.** The buzz at the party was (a)/ that a famous (b)/ film star and politician would (c)/ probable drop by for a while. (d)/No error (e) [Corporation Bank (PO) 2011]
- ⊗ (d) 'Probable' should be replaced by 'probably' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. The series is probably a new one in the terms of venue.
- 155.** The opposition disrupted proceedings (a)/in both Houses of Parliament (b)/ for the second consecutive day (c)/ above the plight of farmers in the country. (d)/ No error (e) [Corporation Bank (PO) 2011]
- ⊗ (d) 'Above' should be replaced by 'over'.
e.g. My friend is worried over the issue of his marriage.
- 156.** In response to the growing crisis, (a)/the agency is urgently asking for (b)/ more contributions to make up for (c)/ its sharp decline in purchasing power. (d)/No error (e) [Corporation Bank (PO) 2011]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 157.** The tennis player easy through (a)/ the opening set before her opponent, (b)/ rallied to take the final two sets (c)/ for the biggest victory of her young career. (d)/No error (e) [Corporation Bank (PO) 2011]
- ⊗ (a) 'Easy through' should be replaced by 'ease through' so that the syntax becomes correct.
e.g. He managed to ease through all his exam difficulties.
- 158.** Aggression in some teenage boys (a)/ may be linkage to overly (b)/ large glands in their brains, (c)/a new study has found. (d)/ No error (e) [Corporation Bank (PO) 2011]
- ⊗ (b) 'Linkage' should be replaced by 'linked' that will make the syntax correct.
e.g. These benefits may be linked to your saving accounts.
- 159.** The celebrations continued (a)/ through the evening as more, (b)/ and more friends joins (c)/ in the fun and frolic. (d)/ No error (e) [UBI (PO) 2011]
- ⊗ (c) 'Friends' as a plural subject will agree to the plural verb 'join'.
e.g. Many new politicians join the new movement against the land-bill.
- 160.** The actress believes in (a)/ being fit and feels that there (b)/ are too much hype around size zero (c)/ in the entertainment world. (d)/ No error (e) [UBI (PO) 2011]
- ⊗ (c) 'Are' should be replaced with 'is' to make the agreement with the subject.
e.g. There is an established fact about health is that it should be maintained.
- 161.** While the actress wins fans with (a)/her on screen firework off screen, it's her (b)/ down-to-Earth attitude and easy going manner (c)/that wins her friends. (d)/ No error (e) [UBI (PO) 2011]
- ⊗ (d) 'Her' should be placed after 'friends' with the use of a preposition 'for'.
e.g. My easy going attitude wins dear ones for me.
- 162.** Even though the exchange attract (a)/ the attention of those present at (b)/ the police station, the inspection continued (c)/ his tirade against the girl. (d)/ No error (e) [UBI (PO) 2011]
- ⊗ (a) The exchange is a singular subject so the verb with it should also be singular. So, 'attracts' should be used.
e.g. The exclusive offer attracts the attention of many customers.
- 163.** The market continues to be positive (a)/ and in the next quarter we expected (b)/the trend to continue with (c)/the onset of the festive season. (d)/No error (e) [UBI (PO) 2011]
- ⊗ (b) Sentence clearly shows the futuristic approach. Hence, 'expected' should not be used. 'Expect' is the correct usage here.
e.g. We expect a better performance from our players in the Olympics.
- 164.** The Indian team cannot win the series (a)/ and even pulling off a draw could (b)/be a tough proposition with (c)/its leading bowlers not playing. (d)/No error (e) [UBI (PO) 2011]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 165.** With this initiative, the corporation (a)/ hopes to assure the public that (b)/it is confident of providing good service (c)/ and renewing their faith with the public transport system. (d)/ No error (e) [UBI (PO) 2011]
- ⊗ (d) 'With' should be replaced by 'in'. 'faith in' is the correct expression.
e.g. People have no faith in the current bureaucracy.
- 166.** The games scheduled to be held in the state (a)/have been plunged into crisis just 2 months prior the (b)/ opening ceremony by allegations of corruption, (c)/ shoddy workmanship and delays in handing over venues. (d)/ No error (e) [UBI (PO) 2011]
- ⊗ (b) 'Prior' must be followed by preposition 'to'.
e.g. He wants me to discuss the event prior to his meetings.
- 167.** The sole idea behind (a)/conducting such programmes (b)/is to create awareness (c)/ among young minds for our culture. (d)/ No error (e) [UBI (PO) 2011]
- ⊗ (d) 'For' should be replaced by 'about'.
e.g. An awareness camp is being organised about the importance of Yoga.
- 168.** The reports prompted the chairman of (a)/ the organising committee to address a hurried press conference (b)/where he reprimanded the media (c)/for conducting a "prejudiced campaign". (d)/No error (e) [UBI (PO) 2011]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 169.** The convergence of (a)/Indian accounting standards with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) beginning (b)/in April is expecting to (c)/see power companies struggling with significant first-time adoption impact. (d)/No error (e) [RBI (Grade B) 2011]
- ⊗ (c) 'Expecting' should be replaced by 'expected' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. India is expected to see a growth of 8% in the current financial year.
- 170.** Researchers at (a)/the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, are mapping (b)/India's solar hot spots where round-the-year (c)/sunlight makes it viable of companies to set-up solar power plants. (d)/No error (e) [RBI (Grade B) 2011]
- ⊗ (d) 'viable' is followed by 'for' not with 'of'.
e.g. The new scheme has made this viable for the poor customers.

- 171.** Though their qualifications span a diverse (a)/range, there is an equal (b)/number of graduates and those who have just completed school, each set (c)/making up close to 30% of these households. (d)/ No error (e) **[RBI (Grade B) 2011]**
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 172.** As if (a)/the most dangerous moment for any dictatorship is when (b)/it starts to (c)/reform, North Korea looks ready to turn that tourism on its head. (d)/No error (e) **[RBI (Grade B) 2011]**
- ⊗ (a) 'As' should be used in place of 'As if'.
e.g. As the captain of the team, he is putting his best effort.
- 173.** It so happens (a)/that this happy campy ritual is their way of life (b)/and one into which (c)/they don't particularly welcome voyeuristic intrusions. (d)/No error (e) **[RBI (Grade B) 2011]**
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 174.** Much is the inflow of travellers that (a)/ it is tough to book an air ticket (b)/ to Ahmadabad and the international flights (c)/ too are almost over-booked. (d)/ No error (e) **[Bank of Baroda (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (a) 'Inflow' should not be used but 'flow' should be used here.
e.g. Much is the flow of cash in the market that RBI is planning a change in the policy.
- 175.** If the IPL has succeeded in drawing (a)/ an audience across the country, it is because (b)/ cricket has always has a strong foundation (c)/ and a dedicated audience. (d)/No error (e) **[Bank of Baroda (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 176.** In view of the intense cold wave conditions (a)/ prevailing in the state, the government declared (b)/ holidays in all the schools (c)/ for a period of 10 days. (d)/No error (e) **[Bank of Baroda (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 177.** The bane of Indian hockey today is (a)/ lack of interest by the part of the public (b)/ which in turn is fuelled by the perception that (c) it doesn't pay to take up the sport as a career. (d)/ No error (e) **[Bank of Baroda (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (b) 'By' should be replaced by 'from'.
e.g. I am sure that there is no fault from my part.
- 178.** In cities people don't (a)/ always have the time to (b)/ catch up with old friends or (c)/ spend times with their family. (d)/ No error (e) **[Bank of Baroda (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (d) 'Times' has the wrong usage here. We should use 'time' instead.
e.g. He is going through a bad time in his business.
- 179.** Experts believe that a (a)/ gradually decreasing infant mortality rate (b)/ is lead to a proportionate (c)/ decrease in the size of our brains. (d)/ No error (e) **[Bank of Baroda (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (c) There is a belief. So, 'is' should be replaced by 'can'.
e.g. Use of pesticides can lead to an increased level of biological magnification.
- 180.** In just 2 months after having (a)/ planted these, most of the plants have (b)/ either dried up and are suffering (c)/ due to lack of maintenance. (d)/ No error (e) **[Bank of Baroda (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (c) We should replace 'and' by 'or'. 'Either or' is used in pair always when there is two conditions with alternate possibilities.
e.g. The animals are fed upon either grass or husk.
- 181.** The band have been (a)/ performing at many cause oriented concerts. (b)/ to encourage people to come forward and (c)/ lend their support to the noble cause (d)/ No error (e) **[Bank of Baroda (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (a) 'The band' as a whole considered to be singular. So, 'has' should be used in place of 'have'.
e.g. The band of robbers has been so active these days.
- 182.** Illegal sand mining has become (a)/ a boom business fuelled (b)/by the ever-increasing demand (c)/of the construction industry. (d)/No error (e) **[Bank of Baroda (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (b) 'A booming business' is correct expression to be used. This gives us the sense of a growing business.
e.g. Restaurant operations is a booming business these days.
- 183.** As market leaders, (a)/ we have always been at (b)/ the forefront of creating awareness (c)/ between the public. (d)/ No error (e) **[Bank of Baroda (PO) 2011]**
- ⊗ (d) 'Public' is plural and more than two. So, 'between' is to be replaced by the use of 'among'.
e.g. There is a rumour of his death among the public.
- 184.** The manager complimented, (a)/ her team for meeting (b)/ targets and performing (c)/with excellence. (d)/ All correct (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (a) There is an error of spelling. 'complimented' should be 'complimented'.
e.g. My friends complimented me on my success.
- 185.** The ongoing conflict brought (a)/ up information and insights (b)/ that would have to be digested (c)/ by both parties (d)/ at a later time. All correct (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (b) There is an error of spelling. 'Insights' should be 'insights'.
e.g. His insight is applaudable about the topic of renaissance.
- 186.** There are a number of factors (a)/ hien render (b)/ a country suitable or insuitable (c)/ for the rapid development of commercial aviations. (d)/ All correct (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (e) All correct.
- 187.** The woman gave the begger (a)/a big sum (b)/of money to show him her caring (c)/and concern. (d)/ All correct (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (a) 'Begger' is the incorrect spelling. It should be 'Beggars'.
e.g. Beggars can be seen in plenty outside the temples.
- 188.** The best way of attracting (a)/ someone's rapt attention (b)/is to give them the rare experience (c)/ of being fully herd. (d)/ All correct (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (d) 'Herd' is inappropriate usage. It should be 'Heard' here.
e.g. I have heard a dull thud sound.
- 189.** The youth (a)/ did not dare (b)/ to venture with the sea (c)/ as it was high tide. (d)/ No error (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (c) 'Venture in' should be used here to agree to the use of preposition with a certain word.
e.g. I was out to venture in the rain.
- 190.** A young sales manager (a)/ who is about to resign his job (b)/ despite his success (c) / in the organisation. (d)/ No error (e) **[IDBI (PO) 2010]**

- ⊗ (b) 'Resign from' should be used as the correct expression.
e.g. The young boy was forced to resign from the post.
- 191.** The difference between a successful person (a)/ and others is not (b)/ lack of knowledge (c)/ but a lack of will. (d)/ No error (e) [IDBI (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (c) 'A lack of' is the correct phrasal expression to be used here.
e.g. A lack of stamina is fatal for a sports personality.
- 192.** After my interview (a)/ by the selection panel (b)/ I was waiting for a response (c)/ but they did not revert back. (d)/ No error (e) [IDBI (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (d) 'Back' is superfluous when used with 'revert'.
e.g. I shall revert you soon regarding this matter.
- 193.** The teacher uses anecdotes (a)/ to help her students (b)/ relate better (c)/ to the subjects taught in class. (d)/ No error (e) [IDBI (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 194.** Further trials have added weight on (a)/hese findings, and an expert panel concluded there was no evidence to (b)/recommend betacarotene supplement for the general (c)/population, and strong evidence to recommend that smokers avoid it. (d)/ No error (e) [Syndicate Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (a) 'Weight to' is the correct expression to be used here.
e.g. This theory adds weight to the given explanation.
- 195.** Had I (a)/ known it earlier (b)/ I would had (c)/ made a different plan. (d)/ No error (e) [Syndicate Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (c) 'Would' is a modal and it will be followed by 'V1'. So, 'have' is to be used.
e.g. He would have gone to his mother's house for celebration.
- 196.** If you decide (a)/to straighten out a lot of (b)/things in your life all at once (c)/ it is probable that you will (d)/ achieve nothing. (d)/ No error (e) [Syndicate Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 197.** It is (a)/ important not to direct (b)/ people too much and to let (c)/ them find their own way. (d)/ No error (e) [Syndicate Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (c) Use of 'to' before 'let' is wrong and superfluous. So, 'to' is to be removed.
e.g. Let them do their work in their own way.
- 198.** Product planners, in the production (a)/units work intimately with (b)/ programme managers to defining (c)/new ideas for products or product features. (d)/ No error (e) [Syndicate Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (c) 'To + V₁' is used for 'purpose'. So, we have to remove 'defining' and use 'define' here.
e.g. The manager is about to define the responsibilities.
- 199.** I will always remember (a)/the advice from (b)/my supervisors as I work on phones (c)/Smile. It doesn't matter that they can't see you you'll sound friendly and happy. (d)/ No error (e) [Syndicate Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (b) 'Advice' should be followed by 'of'.
e.g. We should follow the advice of our teachers.
- 200.** To our knowledge (a)/no one foresaw exactly how fast (b)/and how big the (c)/PC market had grown in the years to come. (d)/ No error (e) [Syndicate Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (d) 'Had grown' should make way for 'will grow' to show the future event.
e.g. We can't say with what rate our economy will grow.
- 201.** Results would have (a)/been much different had he (b)/projected himself into the minds of (c)/the masses of ordinary people and ask himself these questions. (d)/ No error (e) [Syndicate Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (d) Use 'asked' in place of 'ask' because 'and' is a co-ordinate connector and it agrees to the same verb form to both of its side.
e.g. He deserved and attained the honour.
- 202.** It had (a)/all begun (b)/in a brightly lit room as I dreamily ran (c)/my fingers over the surfaced of globe. (d)/ No error (e) [Syndicate Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (d) 'Surfaced' is the wrong usage. It is correct to use 'surface' only.
e.g. On the surface of the moon, there is a fall in gravity.
- 203.** On writing (a)/the book, we cannot over-emphasise the unique opportunity we have had (c)/to probe (b)/broadly and freely into the organisation. (d)/No error (e) [Syndicate Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (a) 'On' should be replaced with 'while' to show the continuity of the action.
e.g. While painting the wall, I spotted a few spots.
- 204.** More than half the food products (a)/ targeted at babies and toddlers have (b)/ a high sugar content and are (c)/ excessive sweet. (d)/ No error (e) [Nabard 2010]
- ⊗ (d) Use 'excessively' in place of 'excessive' as an adverb can qualify adjective 'sweet'.
e.g. His behaviour was excessively rude.
- 205.** The foreign company has so far declined to (a)/ directly comment on the Indian company's move, (b)/ which analysts say is a sign the company wanting to (c)/ fight for its presence in the market. (d)/ No error (e) [Nabard 2010]
- ⊗ (c) 'Want' is a stative verb and it should not be used in the progressive form.
e.g. They want me to do this task soon.
- 206.** After forty years of trying to (a)/ understand why asbestos causes cancer (b)/ researchers have now finally (c)/ unravelled the mystery. (d)/ No error (e) [Nabard 2010]
- ⊗ (b) 'Asbestos' is used in plural form and thus verb should be plural with it. Hence, we should use 'cause'.
e.g. Insanitary conditions may cause many a disease to us.
- 207.** A property dealer was (a)/ shoot, dead by four unidentified jacket-clad men (b)/ while taking a morning walk (c)/in a park. (d)/ No error (e) [Nabard 2010]
- ⊗ (b) The event is of past so we should use second form of verb. Hence, 'shoot' is to be removed by the use of 'shot'.
e.g. A man was shot dead by the police in an encounter.
- 208.** The auditions for India's first ever (a)/ reality based pop band hunt, is (b)/ going on in full swing, (c)/with numerous entries coming in. (d)/No error (e) [Nabard 2010]
- ⊗ (b) 'Reality based' is inappropriate to be used. So, 'reality' is the correct usage here.
e.g. These days are the days of reality shows on TV.

- 209.** To curbing the spread of violence, (a)/ authorities brought under curfew (b)/ more areas in the State, where (c)/ three youths were killed. (d)/ No error (e)
- ⊗ (a) 'To + V1' is to be used for showing the purpose. So, 'curbing' should be replaced by 'curb'. [Nabard 2010]
e.g. To protect the people from loss, banks renew the deposits on maturity.
- 210.** Demand for diesel cars, which has (a)/been on the rise for the last few years, (b)/ may dip as the government is increasing the price (c)/of the fuel, bringing it closer to that of petrol. (d)/ No error (e)
- ⊗ (e) No error. [Nabard 2010]
- 211.** Not only was the actress over the Moon (a)/ as winning an award, but was (b)/ also deeply touched by the support (c)/ she got from the industry. (d)/ No error (e)
- ⊗ (b) 'As' should be replaced by 'on' to make the syntax correct. [Nabard 2010]
e.g. On reaching the top we feel gratitude towards God.
- 212.** The protestors went on a rampaging (a)/ and set ablaze three shops (b)/resulting in injuries to 30 people (c)/ including women and children. (d)/No error (e) [Nabard 2010]
- ⊗ (a) 'A' is used inappropriately because there is no need of article to be used. So, it is to be removed.
e.g. The mob went on rampaging everything in the street during the riot.
- 213.** Hectic schedules can (a)/ take a toll on anybody and (b) the solutions to this is (c)/ a quick holiday to some exotic location. (d)/ No error (e) [Nabard 2010]
- ⊗ (c) 'Solutions' should be replaced by 'solution' so that the sentence becomes correct.
e.g. The solution to the growing terrorism is to educate our youths.
- 214.** The right to adequate food (a)/ and clean drinking water (b)/ should be regarded as a (c)/ basic right of all citizen of India. (d)/ No error (e) [OBC (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (d) Expression should be read as 'basic' right to all that makes the syntax correct.
e.g. The right to education should be granted at any cost.
- 215.** A sharp fall in (a)/ international price of tea (b)/ have led tea plantation workers (c)/in Kerala to face starvation. (d)/ No error (e) [OBC (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (c) If the subject is singular then we should use singular verb. So, 'have' is to be replaced by 'has'.
e.g. A large area of the plantation has been sold out.
- 216.** In spite freedom of the press is vital to democracy (a)/ the thin line between reporting facts (b)/ and expressing opinions on them (c)/is being increasingly crossed. (d)/No error (e) [OBC (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (a) 'In spite of' is a phrase and there should not be any change in its structure. Hence, 'of' should be written just after 'in spite'.
e.g. In spite of the poverty the country is allocating more fund to education.
- 217.** In India, the teacher has been elevated (a)/ to a position of power (b)/ and a part of that power has been (c)/to assuming the right to punish the students. (d)/ No error (e) [OBC (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (d) After 'to' we should use 'assume' as per the rules of infinitive.
e.g. The ministry is planning to bring some measures to stop corruption.
- 218.** In the flying game, there are a host of (a)/ new low-cost airlines that dare to roar (b)/ providing a glimmer of hope of (c)/ more cheaper air transport to millions. (d)/ No error (e) [OBC (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (d) We should remove 'more' as it is superfluous with 'cheaper'.
e.g. I am looking for a cheaper accommodation for my cousin.
- 219.** A question worth to ask is that (a)/ whether the National Awards represent (b)/Pan-Indian cinema or (c)/is the focus on mainstream films only. (d)/ No error (e) [OBC (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (a) 'Worth' is followed by present participle form of verb. So, 'asking' is suitable.
e.g. This work is worth doing for me.
- 220.** Indians' every single (a)/ expectation from its cricket team (b)/ invariably oscillates between (c)/a cynical pessimism and an unjustified optimism. (d)/ No error (e) [OBC (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (a) Remove 'single' which is superfluous to the use. 'every' is itself giving the sense of singularity.
- e.g. Every country is expecting its all round development.
- 221.** The road widening exercise (a)/who aims to make National Highway a four-lane highway, (b)/ poses a threat to the (c)/ fragile environment of the Himalayas. (d)/ No error (e) [OBC (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (b) 'Who' is inappropriate usage. It is to be used for persons. For things we use 'which'. Hence, 'which' is suitable to be used here.
e.g. The project which is about to start needs more than enough funds.
- 222.** In the aftermath of the Asian tsunami, (a)/ the sporting community have responded (b)/ swiftly to contribute in whatever way it could, (c)/ both financially and qualitatively. (d)/ No error (e) [OBC (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (b) Use 'has' in place of 'have' because the subject is singular in number.
e.g. The community has its own rituals.
- 223.** Seen as an indicator of the maturity (a)/ of outsourcing business in India, (b)/ the Indian outsourcing market is (c)/ expected to growth to eleven billion dollar by this year. (d)/ No error (e) [OBC (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (d) 'Growth' is a noun while we need a verb 'grow' to be used here.
e.g. The country wants to grow at a pace of 8.5%.
- 224.** Angered over the delay in giving compensations, (a)/ factory workers shouted (b)/ slogans against the President (c)/ when he reaches the office. (d)/ No error (e) [Punjab & Sind Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (d) Replace 'reaches' by 'arrived'. It is suitable to use 'arrive' that gives us the meaning to reach to a specific place. Also, 'V₂' is required.
e.g. When the principal arrived his office the teachers met and told their problems to him.
- 225.** The cascading effect of economic slowdown (a)/has brought a much unnerving gloom (b)/ to the real estate industry last year (c)/ but the industry is looking up this year. (d)/ No error (e) [Punjab & Sind Bank (PO) 2010]

- ⊗ (b) Use of article 'a' is not required here. Remove it to make the syntax correct.
e.g. The change in the policy has brought much better effect.
- 226.** A recycling plant in close proximity to (a)/ the residential area can post (b)/ serious threats from residents (c) by leaving behind persistent pollutants. (d)/ No error (e)
[Punjab & Sind Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (c) 'Threats' is followed by 'to'.
e.g. Terrorism is a big threat to India.
- 227.** The government has the obligation (a)/ to provide basic infrastructure facilities (b)/ to regulating the process of (c)/ urbanisation in the country. (d)/ No error (e)
[Punjab & Sind Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (c) As per the rules of infinitives, we have to use 'to + V₁' to show a purpose.
e.g. Excise duty is levied on the products of regulate the amount of tax.
- 228.** Bharatpur is transforming into (a)/ India's most fastest growing bird sanctuary (b)/ attracting thousands of rare migratory birds (c)/ from Europe and Siberia. (d)/ No error (e)
[Punjab & Sind Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (b) 'Most fastest' is not suitable to use. Use 'fastest' only to avoid the superfluousness of the sentence.
e.g. Usain Bolt is the fastest man on the Earth.
- 229.** Plagued by huge losses, (a)/ full service airlines are struggling (b)/ to cope with the competition (c)/ from low cost airlines. (d)/ No error (e)
[Punjab & Sind Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 230.** Volunteers of an NGO (a)/ interacted with school students (b)/ to spread awareness about (c)/ environment related issues. (d)/ No error (e)
[Punjab & Sind Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 231.** The Union Health Minister said that (a)/ there was an acute shortage of (b)/ health personnel in rural areas (c)/ who needed to be addressed urgently. (d)/ No error (e)
[Punjab & Sind Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (d) Relative pronoun in the sentence is for shortage and thus we should use which in place of 'who'.
e.g. countries are in favour of a decision which can excel its growth.
- 232.** Even though most of India's youth (a)/ lives in villages, many people considers (b)/ the ones roaming in dazzling multiplexes (c)/ as their true reflection. (d)/ No error (e)
[Punjab & Sind Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (b) Phrase 'Most of' agrees with plural verb. So, 'live' should be used.
e.g. Most of the monkeys live in the jungle.
- 233.** The RBI has proposed to introduce (a)/ polymer notes after taking into considering (b)/ the cost and longevity (c)/ associated with their manufacturing. (d)/ No error (e)
[Punjab & Sind Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (b) 'Considering' should be replaced with 'consideration' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. The committee has taken this issue into its consideration.
- 234.** While most major economies set aside (a)/ about 3% of their GDP (b)/ in research and development, India (c)/ spends less than 1 % on this. (d)/ No error (e)
[Syndicate Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (c) 'In' is not meeting the exact sense of the sentence. Use 'for' to make the sense correct.
e.g. A large sum of money was kept aside for the household budget.
- 235.** Owing to the poor quality of (a)/ the equipment producing by Chinese firms (b)/ many foreign companies have placed (c)/ orders with India firms. (d)/ No error (e)
[Syndicate Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (b) The correct expression should read out as 'equipment produces by' as it should be in passive voice.
e.g. The company is selling products that are produced by it during festivals.
- 236.** We expect a hike (a)/ in the cash reserve ratio (b)/ which is the portion on deposits (c)/ that banks keep with RBI. (d)/ No error (e)
[Syndicate Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 237.** Unless these differences (a)/ will be resolved soon (b)/ there will be an adverse (c)/ effect on foreign investment. (d)/ No error (e)
[Syndicate Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (b) 'Be resolved' should be replaced by 'are resolved' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. These issues are resolved on my request.
- 238.** We are confident that the steps (a)/ we have taken to attract talented people (b)/ and build a solid organisation (c)/ will ensure we remain profitably. (d)/ No error (e)
[Syndicate Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (d) 'Profitably' should be replaced by 'in profit' that keeps the meaning of the sentence.
e.g. A discount is offered to a customer so that he remains in profit.
- 239.** At a time which most firms (a)/ were finding it difficult (b)/ to raise money, we succeeded (c)/ in raising the necessary funds. (d)/ No error (e)
[Syndicate Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (a) For time reference we don't use 'which' but 'when'.
e.g. The moment, when this happened, was just awesome.
- 240.** Everyone is keen in knowing (a)/ the forecast for the monsoon (b)/ this year as it has been the (c)/ major cause of inflation in Asia. (d)/ No error (e)
[Syndicate Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (a) 'Keen' is followed by 'to + V₁', So, 'keen to know' is correct expression.
e.g. I was keen to know the reason of his absence.
- 241.** Building biogas plants will help to reduce (a)/ greenhouse gas emissions by reducing (b)/ the consuming of conventional fuels (c)/ such as firewood and kerosene. (d)/ No error (e)
[Syndicate Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (c) 'Consuming' should be replaced by 'consumption', which is the proper usage.
e.g. Liquor consumption is common in a North Indian wedding.
- 242.** Since some banks may take longer (a)/ to achieve these targets, RBI (b)/ has considered to revise these guidelines (c)/ on a case to case basis. (d)/ No error (e)
[Syndicate Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (c) 'Considered' is to replace with the use of 'decided'. Consideration is to give a thought while decision is to take steps.
e.g. Committee decided to take this case back yesterday.
- 243.** After joining the Hong Kong based (a)/ bank in 1990, he has (b)/ head various departments (c)/ including corporate and investment banking. (d)/ No error (e)
[Syndicate Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (c) 'Has/Have/Had' is followed by past participle form of verb.
e.g. She has headed her team in the two finals.

- 244.** Initially, shop owners tried to (a)/ offer some resistance to the demolition, but (b)/ seeing the heavy presence of the police force, (c)/ their resistance faded off. (d)/No error (e) **[PNB (SO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (d) 'Fade off' is correct to use in this sentence that means 'to Vanish'.
e.g. The colour fade off after the first wash.
- 245.** Cleanliness drives will be (a)/ conducted in various localities (b)/to opening the drains blocked (c)/with polythene bags. (d)/ No error (e) **[PNB (SO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (c) 'For opening' is the correct expression to be used in this sentence.
e.g. He gave me a hundred rupee note for buying a balloon.
- 246.** The results of the study showed that (a)/ if the partners were willing to talk to each other (b)/ and arrive at a mutually agreeable decision, (c)/ the joint decisions were more better than any one person's judgement. (d)/ No error (e) **[PNB (SO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (d) 'More' is superfluous in nature and therefore it should be removed as 'better' alone is enough to show the comparison.
e.g. She has a better attitude than her brother.
- 247.** A year after the global financial crisis saw (a)/ students from the best B-schools across the world struggling for a job, (b)/ a surgery on management education this year thrown (c)/ up some rather interesting findings. (d)/ No error (e) **[PNB (SO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (c) 'Surgery' is not a use but blunder. We have to use 'survey' not 'surgery'.
e.g. A survey conducted in an area is indicating that people are prone to the diseases caused by environmental pollution.
- 248.** The district authorities are making (a)/ a last-ditch attempt to provide (b)/ alternative solutions to farmers but (c)/the option is clearly inadequate. (d)/ No error (e) **[PNB (SO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 249.** Sugar-sweetened drinks does not (a)/ pose any particular health risk and (b)/ are not a unique risk factor (c)/ for obesity or heart disease. (d)/ No error (e) **[Central Bank of India (PO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (a) The subject is plural in number so the verb should also be in plural number.
e.g. The patriots don't deface the country.
- 250.** Airline managements should note (a)/ that the ultimate passenger unfriendliness (b)/ is to have their planes crashed (c)/ due to the adopted of unsafe procedures. (d)/ No error (e) **[Central Bank of India (PO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (d) 'Adopted' should be replaced by 'adoption' that is in sync with the sentence.
e.g. Adoption of unsafe measures lead to poor health.
- 251.** Celebrating its 10 long years (a)/in the industry, a private entertainment channel (b)/ announce a series of (c)/ programmes at a press conference. (d)/ No error (e) **[Central Bank of India (PO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (c) For the event being of past, we should use V₂. Hence, 'announce' should be replaced by 'announced'.
e.g. The company announced dividends to its employees.
- 252.** The award ceremony ended (a)/ on a note of good cheer (b)/ with audiences responding warmly (c)/to its line up of films. (d)/No error (e) **[Central Bank of India (PO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (c) Use of 'audiences' is wrong. It is always in plural itself so 's' should not be added to it.
e.g. The audience were provoked on the speech by the leader.
- 253.** The actress was ordered for (a)/ wear an alcohol monitoring bracelet and (b)/ submit to random weekly drug testing after (c)/ she failed to appear for a court date last week. (d)/ No error (e) **[Central Bank of India (PO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (a) Ordered for is inappropriate usage. It should read out as 'ordered to'.
e.g. The students were ordered to bring a handful of sand.
- 254.** Coaches have the advantage of (a)/ draw on the their personal experiences (b)/ and providing their players (c)/ with unique inputs. (d)/ No error (e) **[Central Bank of India (PO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (b) 'Draw on' should be replaced by the expression drawing on that makes the syntax correct.
e.g. Drawing on his own suffering he had given a good example.
- 255.** The actor loves to think, (a)/never enjoys stick to one kind of role (b)/ and finds it difficult to (c)/ fulfil everyone's expectations. (d)/ No error (e) **[Central Bank of India (PO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (b) All the verbs form should be same if they are used continuously. So, 'stick' is to be replaced by 'sticks'.
e.g. She sings, enjoys it and cherishes it too.
- 256.** A major computer security firm urged (a)/ the social networking site to set-up (b)/ an early-warning system after-hundreds of users were (c)/ hit by a new wave of virus attacks. (d)/ No error (e) **[Central Bank of India (PO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (c) 'An early warning system' should be replaced by 'a warning system' because warnings are by nature early and using 'early' becomes superfluous to the sentence.
e.g. The warning system that the company issued in the market is taken with a great zeal.
- 257.** The finding may help doctors (a)/ to give more personalised care to patients (b)/and to modify the amount of powerful drugs (c)/ administered over their patients. (d)/ No error (e) **[Central Bank of India (PO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (d) Use 'to' in place of 'over' with the word 'administered' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. Doctors often take care of their patients of the drugs administered to them.
- 258.** The actress made a rare appearance (a)/ at the party and was (b)/ overheard talking in (c)/her next big project. (d)/ No error (e) **[Central Bank of India (PO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (c) 'In' should be replaced by 'about' that would give a sense of discussion.
e.g. Everybody was talking about her true beauty.
- 259.** It is only now, (a)/ 60 years after independence, that (b)/India is learning how to negotiating (c)/ the competing demands of power and justice. (d)/No error (e) **[Bank of Maharashtra (PO) 2010]**
- ⊗ (c) The correct expression is 'how to negotiate' as per the rules of syntax.
e.g. She knows how to negotiate with the greengrocers.

260. The graceful folk dance had performed (a)/ so beautifully by a dance group that nobody (b)/ seemed to notice that (c)/ the show was two and a half hours long. (d)/ No error (e)

[Bank of Maharashtra (PO) 2010]

- ⊗ (a) To show the doer of an action we use passive voice. Hence, 'was + V₃' is required here. So, 'was performed' is correct.
e.g. The painting was finished so beautifully that it hypnotised me.

261. The actor, that was (a)/ busy meeting and greeting people (b)/ made sure that this day became (c)/ an extra special one for his parents. (d)/ No error (e)

[Bank of Maharashtra (PO) 2010]

- ⊗ (e) No error

262. Farmhouse owners in the city, (a)/ who were till now paid property tax (b)/ for only the built-up area of the plot, will soon (c)/ have to pay tax to the government for vacant land also. (d)/ No error (e)

[Bank of Maharashtra (PO) 2010]

- ⊗ (b) 'Paid' should be replaced by 'paying' because the sentence is showing progression.
e.g. The people who were paying attention till now are disturbed by a noise.

263. A time sheet diary is to be (a)/ maintained by every actor, since (b)/ producers constantly complain that they are (c)/ forced shooting for late hours because actors come very late. (d)/ No error (e)

[Bank of Maharashtra (PO) 2010]

- ⊗ (d) 'Shooting' should be replaced by 'to shoot' to specify the cause of something.
e.g. She is forced to wear a nice dress at the party.

264. Injected into the blood, (a)/ tiny bubbles of gas can ease (b)/ the passage of vital stroke drugs into the brain, (c)/ helping in prevent damage to the grey matter. (d)/ No error (e)

[Bank of Maharashtra (PO) 2010]

- ⊗ (d) 'Prevent' should be replaced by 'preventing' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. The dams are opened preventing the walls from getting damaged.

265. Since universities have more (a)/space in their campuses, they (b)/ have been asked to open fire detection control rooms (c)/ as a mandatory measure. (d)/ No error (e)

[Bank of Maharashtra (PO) 2010]

- ⊗ (b) 'Campuses' is wrong usage so we should use 'campus' in its place so that the syntax gets correct.
e.g. The university campus offers a great environment.

266. District police arrested (a) a gang of notorious robbers, (b)/ who were planning to strike at (c)/ a house in the vicinity. (d)/ No error (e)

[Bank of Maharashtra (PO) 2010]

- ⊗ (c) Remove 'at' from the expression. With 'at' the meaning comes as 'to' attack someone.
e.g. The batsman strikes the bowler very mercilessly in the last over.

267. Households across the state are either opting for (a)/ a more modest lifestyle or compromising on (b)/ the nutritional value of their food in efforts to negate (c)/ the price rise of essential commodities, cereals, vegetables and fruits. (d)/ No error (e)

[Bank of Maharashtra (PO) 2010]

- ⊗ (c) 'Efforts' should be replaced by 'an effort' because this is singularly related here.
e.g. In an effort to please the boss, people usually flatter.

268. The fire that gutted (a)/ years for research in the chemistry and biochemistry labs (b)/of the university building was (c)/ due to a short circuit. (d)/ No error (e)

[Bank of Maharashtra (PO) 2010]

- ⊗ (b) The expression should read out 'years of research' not 'years for research'.
e.g. After years of experiment, the doctor finally discovered the disease's cure.

269. He was grateful (a)/ to me for the help (b)/ that I had extended for him (c)/in the hour of his need. (d)/ No error (e)

[Bank of Baroda (PO) 2010]

- ⊗ (c) 'Extended' should be followed by 'to' and not by 'for'.
e.g. I extended my help to everybody.

270. While undergoing a (a)/ strenuous workout (b)/he suffered a massive heart attack (c)/ but luckily survival. (d)/ No error (e)

[Bank of Baroda (PO) 2010]

- ⊗ (d) 'Survival' should make way for 'survived'. 'Survival' is a noun, which is not required here. So, 'survived' which is a verb should be used here.
e.g. Many people survived in the massive earthquake that hit Nepal.

271. He thinks that (a)/ once he paid money (a)/ he is relieved of (c)/ all his responsibilities. (d)/ No error (e)

[Bank of Baroda (PO) 2010]

- ⊗ (b) Expression should read out as 'once he has paid'. This reflects the effect of an action done in the past to the present.
e.g. Once you have submitted the form then you are to wait for a month.

272. Taking care of yourself (a)/ cannot be (b)/ and should not be considered (c)/ as a selfish thing. (d)/ No error (e)

[Bank of Baroda (PO) 2010]

- ⊗ (e) No error.

273. People express their expectations (a)/ that their leaders should not (b)/ resorting to (c)/ corrupt practices and nepotism. (d)/ No error (e)

[Bank of Baroda (PO) 2010]

- ⊗ (c) Modal 'should' is followed by V₁. So, 'resorting' should be removed and we should use 'resort'.
e.g. One should not resort to thievery or anything else like this.

274. We as the editors of (a)/ a popular magazine would like to (b)/ know what are other topics most (c)/ on people's minds. (d)/ No error (e)

[Bank of Baroda (PO) 2010]

- ⊗ (c) Helping verb 'are' should be used after 'other topics' because sentence is a statement.
e.g. She wanted to know what other issues are in his mind these days.

275. The smooth and easier (a)/ we allow people to navigate (b) through any device at any place (c)/ in the world, the better. (d)/ No error (e)

[Bank of Baroda (PO) 2010]

- ⊗ (a) Use 'smoother' in place of 'smooth'. Co-ordinate connector 'and' uses the same degree to both its side.
e.g. The better and cheaper are the ways you just spoke.

276. Asian culture will, (a)/ sooner or later, (b)/ become international norm (c)/ for entertainment industry. (d)/ No error (e)

[Bank of Baroda (PO) 2010]

- ⊗ (c) Use article 'an' before 'international'.
e.g. An international leader is arriving Delhi shortly.

277. What really agonize them (a)/ is the presence of (b)/ an unwanted and unscrupulous (c)/ member on the panel. (d)/ No error (e)

[Bank of Baroda (PO) 2010]

- ⊗ (a) Use 'agonizes' in place of 'agonize' because the subject is singular in number here.
e.g. What really astonishes me that people don't want to die knowing that it is ultimate.
- 278.** The business lobby wanted (a)/ he to take over (b)/ as the new chairman (c)/ of their coveted board. (d)/ No error (e)
[Allahabad Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (b) When, 'he' becomes object then we use 'him' which is its objective case.
e.g. I want him to dance with me.
- 279.** This firm which is based (a)/in France is prepared (b)/ to finance (c)/ small Indian businesses which produce environment friendly products. (d)/ All correct (e)
[Allahabad Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (b) 'Prepared' is the incorrect usage we should use 'preparing'.
e.g. India is preparing for any kind of war.
- 280.** Despite intense (a)/ pressure (b)/ from his superiors he refused to disclose (c)/ the findings of the report. (d)/ All correct (e)
[Allahabad Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (c) Disclose is the incorrect spelling. We should use 'disclose'.
e.g. He disclosed all the secrets to me.
- 281.** Corporates have benefited tremendously (a)/from the government's timely (b)/ decision to waive (c)/ various tax. (d)/ All correct (e)
[Allahabad Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (d) 'Taxes' should be used because it is preceded by 'various'.
e.g. Various articles were sold during the village fair.
- 282.** Since, you are unable (a)/to repay the loan have no alternate (b)/but to seek (c)/ an extension. (d)/ All correct (e)
[Allahabad Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (b) 'Alternate' is the wrong usage. We should rather use 'alternative' which is the correct usage.
e.g. Alternative sources of energy are very much required these days.
- 283.** A major (a)/disadvantage (b)/of this deal is that we shall have to bear (c)/the cost of training. (d)/All correct (e)
[Allahabad Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (e) All correct.
- 284.** We are yet starting (a)/ offering this facility to (b)/ our customers as we are (c)/ awaiting approval from the board. (d)/ No error (e)
[Allahabad Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (a) Expression should read out as 'yet to start' which will make the syntax correct.
e.g. The company is yet to start the business due to policy paralysis.
- 285.** The Chairmen of all large (a)/public sector banks met with (b)/ senior RBI officials to give its (c)/ suggestions about implementing the new policy. (d)/ No error (e)
[Allahabad Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (c) When subject is plural then it should agree with a plural possessive. Hence, we have to replace 'its' by 'their'.
e.g. The boys brought their boxes to the play ground.
- 286.** They have not fully considered (a)/ the impact that relaxing (b)/ these guidelines is likely (c)/ to have with the economy. (d)/ No error (e)
[Allahabad Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (d) 'With' is to be replaced by 'on' so that the syntax becomes correct.
e.g. The impact on economy is related to the common men even.
- 287.** Had this notification (a)/ been amended earlier, (b)/ we could have stopped (c)/the transfer of funds. (d)/No error (e)
[Allahabad Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 288.** There are many insurance (a)/ disputes now-a-days because of, (b)/ most people do not fully (c)/ understand the terms and conditions of their policies. (d)/ No error (e)
[Allahabad Bank (PO) 2010]
- ⊗ (b) 'Disputes' is the wrong usage. We should use 'dispute' only. Also, 'of' should not be used after 'because'.
e.g. Many dispute arises because we don't want to live in harmony.
- 289.** The journalist along with (a)/ the camera crew were (b)/ kidnapped by the (c)/ militants last night. (d)/ No error (e)
[NIA (AO) 2009]
- ⊗ (b) 'Were' is to be replaced by 'was' as the connector along with has been used to join two subjects and the verb will agree to the first subject.
e.g. The ship alongwith the sailors was leaving yesterday.
- 290.** She told her son (a)/ to wait in the car (b)/ until she does not (c)/ return from the shop. (d)/ No error (e)
[NIA (AO) 2009]
- ⊗ (c) 'Until' is used in the sentence so we need to use affirmative sentence after it.
e.g. Pray for me until I pass the exam.
- 291.** The number of flu cases (a)/ is decreasing slowly, (b)/ thanks to the (c)/ timely governmental efforts. (d)/ No error (e)
[NIA (AO) 2009]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 292.** The principal spotted Indira (a)/ which was sitting in (b)/ the canteen at the time when (c)/ she should be attending the classes. (d)/ No error (e)
[NIA (AO) 2009]
- ⊗ (b) Indira is a person and we should use 'who' for a person not 'which'.
e.g. Shyama who is a dancer is very rich.
- 293.** If I will (a)/meet (b)/Nayan in the meeting, (c)/ I will give (d)/ him your message. (d)/ No error (e)
[NIA (AO) 2009]
- ⊗ (a) Remove 'will' from the expression to make it correct.
e.g. If I spot an ice-cream seller then I shall buy one for you.
- 294.** Without a doubt, (a)/ Ahmad is the most (b)/ sincere of all the (c)/ student in the class. (d)/ No error (e)
[NIA (AO) 2009]
- ⊗ (d) Use 'students' in place of 'student' as the expression 'all the' is followed by a plural noun.
e.g. All the boys were shouting loudly in the class.
- 295.** Had it not been raining (a)/ so heavily, we would have (b)/ surely gone for a picnic (c)/ to the hill station. (d)/ No error (e)
[NIA (AO) 2009]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 296.** The students dressed them (a)/ in their trendiest best attires (b)/ as they attended the (c)/ annual day programme of the college. (d)/ No error (e)
[NIA (AO) 2009]
- ⊗ (a) 'Then' should be replaced by 'themselves' as there is a requirement of reflexive pronouns.
e.g. Girls put themselves in trouble.
- 297.** The reason behind his (a)/ extraordinary height is due to (b)/ the malfunctioning of a gland (c)/ situated in the brain. (d)/ No error (e)
[NIA (AO) 2009]

- ⊗ (b) 'Due to' is superfluous usage because 'reason' is already used in the sentence.
e.g. The reason behind his success is his hard work.
- 298.** Unlike these days, (a)/ he enjoyed reading books (b)/ and spend quite some time (c)/ in the library when he was young. (d)/ No error (e)
[NIA (AO) 2009]
- ⊗ (c) Use 'spending' in place of 'spend' as the verb forms are joined by 'and'.
e.g. She enjoys singing and dancing.
- 299.** I may go to the (a)/ swimming class tomorrow (b) /if I have recovered (c)/ from the cold. (d)/ No error (e)
[Corporation Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (c) 'Have recovered' is to be replaced by 'recover' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. She may come to the office tomorrow if she feels better.
- 300.** The Prime Minister announced (a)/ that the taxes will be (b)/ increasing from the (c) /beginning of next year. (d)/ No error (e)
[Corporation Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (b) In the indirect speech we should use 'would' in place of 'will'.
e.g. The teacher told that she would be teaching next chapter by next week.
- 301.** He is the most (a)/intelligent and also (b)/the very talented (c)/student of the college. (d)/ No error (e)
[Corporation Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (c) 'Very' should be replaced by 'most'.
e.g. She is the most beautiful and the most honest girl in this class.
- 302.** She immediately quit (a)/ the job in which (b)/ neither the skill nor (c)/ knowledge were required. (d) No error (e) [Corporation Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (d) When two things are joined by neither nor then the verb agrees to the subject that is nearest to it. So, 'were' is to be removed by 'was'.
e.g. Neither she nor her friend was seen at the party.
- 303.** The meteorological department (a)/ predicted that the (b)/ rains and thunderstorm may (c)/ continue throughout today. (d)/ No error (e)
[Corporation Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (c) 'Rains' is inappropriate usage as noun. It should be 'rain' only.
e.g. Rain is predicted in coming days.
- 304.** The cruel king believed (a)/ in punishing the prisoners (b)/ until they did not (c)/ confessed their crime. (d)/ No error (e)
[Corporation Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (c) 'Until' is used in the sentence and it suggests that the next part of clause should be affirmative. Hence, use of 'did not' is wrong.
e.g. Wait here until I come.
- 305.** As soon as the CEO (a)/ entered the office, the (b)/ union leaders approached him (c)/ and report the matter to him. (d)/ No error (e)
[Corporation Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (d) 'Report' should be replaced by 'reported' as the tense of the sentence is past.
e.g. The minister came and called his peon.
- 306.** Instead of being a clear winner (a)/ he was not given (b) / the best employee (c)/ of the year award. (d)/No error (e)
[Corporation Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (a) 'Clear' is superfluous usage. Remove it from the sentence.
e.g. Instead of being a thief, he got no punishment.
- 307.** Having been found (a)/ guilty of the theft, (b)/ Sunny was sentenced (c)/ to 5 year's imprisonment. (d)/ No error (e)
[Corporation Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (d) 'To' is superfluous usage after 'sentenced'.
e.g. The criminal was sentenced a life imprisonment.
- 308.** Instead of laying off (a)/ the workers, the company (b)/ decided to ask them (c)/ to avail voluntary retirement. (d)/ No error (e)
[Corporation Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 309.** In emerging economies, (a)/ the private credit market (b)/ remains highly segmented and thus (c)/ weaken power of monetary policy. (d)/ No error (e) [Andhra Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (d) 'Weaken' should be replaced by the word weakens because 'and' is the connector here that will take same forms of verb to both of its side.
e.g. She jumps and sings often in her lawn.
- 310.** The recent election campaign (a)/ has been one of (b)/ the most noisiest campaigns (c)/ in the last decade. (d)/ No error (e) [Andhra Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (c) Using double superlatives at a time is not grammatically sound. So, 'noisiest' should be 'noisy'.
e.g. She is one of the most tall girls in the park.
- 311.** Wholesome strategic planning (a)/ was the focus as (b)/ the firm manage through a difficult period (c)/ a couple of years ago. (d)/ No error (e)
[Andhra Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (c) 'Manage' should be replaced by 'managed' because the sentence is in past tense and will agree to 'V₂'.
e.g. The boy managed with a small sum of money a couple of years ago.
- 312.** In spite of the best governmental efforts, (a)/ emission of greenhouse gases (b)/ and noxious chemicals (c)/ remain a cause of worry. (d)/ No error (e)
[Andhra Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (d) 'Remain' should be replaced by 'remains' as the subject 'emission' is singular and so it will agree to a singular verb.
e.g. The menace of terrorism remains a great worry to us.
- 313.** The rate of metabolism of (a)/ a body is comparatively lowest when (b)/it is at rest and is (c)/ thus, optimum for examination. (d)/ No error (e) [Andhra Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (b) 'Lowest' should be replaced by 'low'. We use a positive degree after 'comparatively'.
e.g. Your health is comparatively good now with respect to me.
- 314.** The opposition leader tried (a)/ to bolster his position (b)/ with the voters pressing (c)/ corruption charges against rivals. (d)/ No error (e)
[Andhra Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (c) We should use 'by' before 'pressing'. It will make the sentence correct.
e.g. By doing this we can expect a better result soon.
- 315.** The recently imposed dress code (a)/ in the university has enraged (b)/ the students who will be going (c)/ on strike since tomorrow. (d)/ No error (e)
[Andhra Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (d) 'Since' should be replaced by 'from' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. A fair is going to start from tomorrow.
- 316.** Ever since he took over (a)/ as the chief minister of the state, (b)/ rate for unemployment's (c)/ has drastically increased. (d)/ No error (e)
[Andhra Bank (PO) 2009]

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- ⊗ (c) 'Rate of unemployment' should be written in place of 'rate for unemployment' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. Rate of unemployment is increasing in the country.
- 317.** Although the brilliant writer, (a)/ an lying (b)/ pessimism prevails in (c)/ all her novels. (d)/ No error (e)
[Andhra Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (b) 'An lying' is a wrong expression. The correct expression is 'a lying' to be used here.
e.g. A lying man can't be trusted.
- 318.** Changed social setting (a)/ demands the schools to teach (b)/ moral and social values (c)/ among with the academic skills. (d)/No error (e)
[Andhra Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (d) 'Among with' is a wrong usage. we should use 'along with' instead.
e.g. The boy along with his mother went to the temple.
- 319.** To be a king and (a)/ wear a crown are (b)/ more glamorous to (c)/ see than to bear. (d)/No error (e)
[United Bank of India (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (b) Being a king and wearing a crown are the same activity. So, verb must be in singular number.
e.g. To be a thief and getting punishment is no more than usual.
- 320.** None of the student (a)/ in the class (b)/ scored below the (c)/ given cut-off marks.(d)/ No error (e)
[United Bank of India (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (a) 'None of the' agrees to a plural noun. So, 'students' should be used.
e.g. None of the boys is honest here.
- 321.** Ashok is among the (a)/ few people in the world (b)/ which did not blindly follow (c)/ the path of others.(d)/ No error (e)
[United Bank of India (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (c) 'Which' is not used for person. So, we should use 'who' here to make the syntax correct.
e.g. He is a boy who will work hard.
- 322.** Most people like to (a)/ rest after a day's hard work (b)/ but he seemed to have (c)/ an inexhaustive supply of energy. (d)/No error (e)
[United Bank of India (PO) 2009]
- (c) Statements with a general sense takes simple present tense. So, 'seemed' should be replaced by 'seems'.
e.g. She seems to have an attractive gait.
- 323.** Ancient artifacts are (a)/ a part of global heritage (b)/ and should not be (c)/ sold to the highest bidder. (d)/ No error (e)
[United Bank of India (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 324.** The government has (a)/ launched many creative schemes (b)/ to make banking services (c)/ available to everyone. (d)/ No error (e)
[Indian Overseas Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (d) 'To' should make way for 'for' in this sentence.
e.g. A lot of things were available for people to recreate.
- 325.** We have received many (a)/ of the letters from customers (b)/ asking us to extend (c)/ the deadline to repay their loans. (d)/ No error (e)
[Indian Overseas Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 326.** Under the terms of the new deal (a)/ the channel can broadcast (b)/ the next cricket tournament to be (c)/ played among India and Australia. (d)/ No error (e)
[Indian Overseas Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (d) When only two things are meant then for them we use 'between' not the word 'among'.
e.g. The match between India and Australia ended in a draw.
- 327.** This is turned out to be (a)/one of our most successful projects (b)/ and we have made quite (c)/ a large profit from it. (d)/ No error (e)
[Indian Overseas Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (a) Use 'has' in place of 'is' because the effect of a past action is there on the present.
e.g. She has to do it when she comes back.
- 328.** A non-banking financial company is a (a)/ financial institution similarly to a bank (b)/ but it cannot issue (c)/ cheque books to customers. (d)/ No error (e)
[Indian Overseas Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (b) 'Similarly' should be replaced by the word 'similar' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. A bank is not similar to a post office in the operation.
- 329.** He has taken care to (a)/ compliance with the norms (b)/ so he expects the proposal (c)/ to be approved without delay. (d)/ No error (e)
[Indian Overseas Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (b) 'Compliance' is a noun which shouldn't be used here. Instead we should use the word 'comply' here after 'to'.
e.g. I always try to comply with the norms.
- 330.** Since, I had lived there (a)/ for many years the villagers (b)/ were very comfortable talked (c)/ to me about their problems. (d)/ No error (e)
[Indian Overseas Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (c) 'Comfortable' should be followed by the present participle 'talking' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. I am not comfortable working here.
- 331.** Our equipment gets damage (a)/ very often in summer (b)/ because there are (c)/ frequent power cuts. (d)/ No error (e)
[Indian Overseas Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (a) 'Equipment' is a plural noun. Hence, we should use a plural verb after it. So, 'gets' should be replaced by 'get'.
e.g. Equipment are purchased by the company every year.
- 332.** We have been under (a)/ a lot of pressure to (b)/ open fifty new stores (c)/ by the ending of the year. (d)/ No error (e)
[Indian Overseas Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (d) The correct phrasal expression is 'by the end of'.
e.g. By the end of this month we shall be doing this project.
- 333.** The company is in debt (a) / and has been unable (b)/ to pay their employees' salaries (c)/ for the past 6 months. (d)/ No error (e)
[Indian Overseas Bank (PO) 2009]
- ⊗ (c) 'Company' is a singular noun. So, we should use a possessive which is in singular number. So, 'their' should be replaced by 'its'.
e.g. The bank knows the value of its customers very well.
- 334.** These companies have been asked (a)/ to furnish their financial details (b)/ and information about (c)/ its board members. (d)/ No error (e)
[OBC (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (d) 'Companies' is plural noun and therefore it should agree with a plural possessive. So, 'its' should be replaced by 'their'.
e.g. Schools know very well the value of education in their syllabus.

- 335.** The scheme which will be launched (a)/during the next 2 years (b)/ require an additional investment (c)/ of one hundred crores. (d)/ No error (e) [OBC (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (c) The subject of the sentence is 'scheme' which is a singular noun and therefore verb should agree with singular number. Hence, 'requires' should be used.
e.g. The company requires skilled manpower.
- 336.** Road developers unable (a)/ to complete their projects (b)/ on time will not be (c)/ awarded new ones. (d)/ No error (e) [OBC (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 337.** We have taken on (a)/ the responsibility of (b) / arranging the required training (c)/ and supervise the new staff. (d)/No error (e) [OBC (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (d) This part should read out as 'supervision of the new staff' to make it correct.
e.g. The school has taken the responsibility of offering remedial classes and supervision to weak students.
- 338.** The government has signed (a)/ a memorandum of understanding with (b)/ the company to set-up (c)/ a plant in the state. (d)/ No error (e) [OBC (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 339.** Owing the new policy (a)/ we feel that the targets (b)/ set for this year (c)/ may not be achieved. (d)/No error (e) [OBC (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (a) 'Owing' is followed by 'to'.
e.g. Owing to my business needs I have to travel a lot.
- 340.** Since, the lack of (a)/ manpower we cannot (b)/ conduct the survey (c)/ in rural areas. (d)/ No error (e) [OBC (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (a) 'Due to the lack of' is the correct expression to be used here in the sentence.
e.g. Due to the lack of resource we can't change our office.
- 341.** Palm oil is very beneficial (a)/ and is used to (b)/ make products ranging (c)/ from soap to biodiesel. (d)/ No error (e) [OBC (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 342.** There are only (a)/ a few company (b)/ which can handle (c)/ projects of this magnitude. (d)/ No error (e) [OBC (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (b) Phrase 'a few' is followed by a plural number.
e.g. A few boys are rogue and don't want to study well.
- 343.** The data shows that (a)/ the unemployment rate has (b)/ raised to 6.1% (c)/ the highest ever in 5 years. (d)/ No error (e) [OBC (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (c) Expression should read out as 'raised by' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. The literacy rate has increased by 23 % in the last 5 years.
- 344.** Wheat productions in the region (a)/will fall drastically (b)/unless we do anything (c)/ to stop climate change. (d)/ No error (e) [Andhra Bank (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (c) 'Anything' should be replaced by the word 'something' as double negatives are to be avoided.
e.g. The situation is not going to change unless we act fast.
- 345.** The Indian stock market is (a)/ one of the worse (b)/ performing stock markets (c)/ in the recent times. (d)/ No error (e) [Andhra Bank (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (b) 'One of the' is followed by superlative degree. So, 'worse' should be replaced by 'worst'.
e.g. He is one of the worst dancers that I have seen so far.
- 346.** With inflation at 11% (a)/ companies need to come up (b)/ with innovative ways to (c)/ get customers to buy its goods. (d)/ No error (e) [Andhra Bank (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (d) 'Companies' is a plural subject therefore it should take a plural possessive. Hence, 'its' should be followed by 'their'.
e.g. Organisations need to improve their ways of working.
- 347.** Private companies which profits. (a)/ have grown due to (b)/ the high price of oil (c)/ should offer discounts on cooking gas. (d)/ No error (e) [Andhra Bank (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (a) 'Which' should be replaced by 'whose' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. Private universities whose affiliation is over may start the course.
- 348.** Having work in (a)/ both public and private sector banks (b)/ Mr Rao is the ideal choice to (c)/ take over as chairman. (d)/ No error (e) [Andhra Bank (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (a) Expression should read out 'having worked in'.
e.g. Having selected for PO he is elated all these days.
- 349.** In order to expand, the company (a)/plans to transform from a (b)/ family based business into (c)/ a professional managed one. (d)/ No error (e) [Andhra Bank (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (d) 'Professional' should be replaced by the word 'professionally' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. He is a racer who is professionally trained.
- 350.** Amit started a small (a)/ construction business two years ago (b)/ when the country is (c)/ enjoying a construction boom. (d)/ No error (e) [Andhra Bank (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (c) The principal clause is in past tense so the next clause should also be in past tense. Hence, 'is' should be replaced by 'was'.
e.g. She started a boutique a month ago when she was crazed about fashion.
- 351.** Given the current (a)/ market conditions it is, (b)/ better for us to invest (c)/ in the infrastructure sector. (d)/ No error (e) [Andhra Bank (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (b) The sentence has future prospects. So, the expression should read out 'it will be'.
e.g. With the current advancement in tech. It will be beneficial to upgrade use of technology.
- 352.** Many athletes have (a)/ taken on yoga (b)/ to develop their concentration (c)/ and reduce stress. (d)/ No error (e) [Andhra Bank (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 353.** His main aim is (a)/ to create an (b) / interest in hockey (c) / among school children. (d)/ No error (e) [Andhra Bank (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 354.** India's travel and tourism (a) / industry is poised (b)/ on growth at seven (c)/ per cent this year alone. (d) / No error (e) [Indian Overseas Bank (PO) 2008]

- ⊗ (c) 'Poised' is followed by 'to'. Thus, 'growth' should also be changed to 'grow'.
e.g. Our intellect poised to grow from the day we start being lazy.
- 355.** The ministry was considered (a)/ several proposals for the (b)/ development of small and medium (c)/ enterprises during budget discussions. (d)/ No error (e)
[Indian Overseas Bank (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (a) 'Ministry' is the subject of the sentence and hence it should take active voice. So, 'was' is to be removed which is making it passive.
e.g. The department considered his case to be a special one.
- 356.** The amount of foreign (a)/ direct investment in (b)/ the country in 2008 is (c)/ doubled that received in 1997. (d)/ No error (e)
[Indian Overseas Bank (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (d) 'Doubled' is the wrong usage. We should use 'double' only to make the syntax correct.
e.g. The marks obtained by me this year is double the marks I obtained in previous year.
- 357.** The details of the scheme (a)/ will be made clearly, (b)/ to the public by (c)/ the end of the financial year. (d)/ No error (e)
[Indian Overseas Bank (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (b) 'Clearly' should be replaced by 'open' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. The report of the committee is made open to the common public now.
- 358.** Government officials have been working (a)/ overtime to answer queries raised (b)/ by banks on numerous of (c)/ issues pertaining to the loan waiver. (d)/ No error (e)
[Indian Overseas Bank (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (c) 'Numerous' should not be followed by 'of'.
e.g. Numerous problems are there in my life.
- 359.** We have sought (a)/ clearance in (b)/ additional expenditure incurred (c)/ during the project. (d)/ No error (e)
[Indian Overseas Bank (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (b) 'Clearance' should be followed by 'of'.
e.g. They have sought for clearance of the bills.
- 360.** The Reserve Bank of India's decision (a)/ to waive ATM charges (b)/ have put banks (c)/ in a difficult position. (d)/ No error (e)
[Indian Overseas Bank (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (c) 'RBI' is a singular subject hence 'have' should make way for 'has' which is a singular verb.
e.g. IRDA has issued a notification for the smooth regulations of the different insurance companies.
- 361.** The government is planning to (a) / sanction grants to pharmaceutical companies (b)/ for inventing new treatments for (c)/ diseases about malaria and tuberculosis. (d)/ No error (e)
[Indian Overseas Bank (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (d) 'About' should be replaced by 'like'.
e.g. We are planning to launch restaurants like KFC and Mc' Donalds.
- 362.** The Finance Minister's view (a)/ is that the scheme will ensure (b)/ that millions of farmers will be (c)/ lifted out of poverty. (d)/ No error (e)
[Indian Overseas Bank (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (c) 'Will be' should be replaced by 'are'. The first part of the clause is in future tense. So, second part needs to be in present tense.
e.g. I shall go there if I shall find time.
- 363.** The survey conducted reveals (a)/ that there is a lack (b)/ of adequate healthcare facilities (c)/ even in urban areas. (d)/ No error (e)
[Indian Overseas Bank (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 364.** Some of the world (a)/ largest water bodies are (b)/ drying up thus threatening (c)/ the livelihoods of millions. (d)/ No error (e)
[Bank of Maharashtra (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (a) 'World' should be replaced by 'world's' to make it correct possessive.
e.g. A large part of world's population is not getting nutritious food.
- 365.** Among the many (a)/ challenges facing the country (b)/ in the next decade (c)/ is poverty and unemployment. (d)/ No error (e)
[Bank of Maharashtra (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (d) 'Many challenges' is plural subject and thus should be followed by a plural verb 'are'.
e.g. Many cases are registered by police during festive seasons.
- 366.** According to economists (a)/ not more than five percent (b)/ of education loans taken (c)/ by students are over due. (d)/ No error (e) [Bank of Maharashtra (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (c) 'Education' should be replaced by 'educational' which is an adjective and it is suitable to qualify 'loans'.
e.g. Educational institutions are upgrading their infrastructure.
- 367.** The two candidates share (a)/ a reputation for (b)/ competency as well as (c)/ for good communication skills. (d)/ No error (e)
[Bank of Maharashtra (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (d) 'For good' should be replaced by 'better' so that syntax becomes correct.
e.g. The two women shared their secret as well as their plans in order to make better arrangements.
- 368.** His main qualification (a) / on the job is (b)/ his extensive experience (c)/ in foreign branches. (d)/ No error (e) [Bank of Maharashtra (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (b) 'Qualification' should be followed by 'for'.
e.g. He has the desired qualification for this post.
- 369.** A representative of the (a)/ Reserve Bank will provide students an (b) / insight into the (c) / economic future of our country. (d)/ No error (e)
[Bank of Maharashtra (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 370.** As one of the leader (a)/ insurance companies in (b)/ India they offer (c)/ comprehensive financial services. (d)/ No error (e)
[Bank of Maharashtra (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (a) The expression should read out as 'As one of the leading' instead of 'as one of the leader' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. As one of the leading run scorers he will be a key in this series.
- 371.** There is a rumour that (a)/ this multinational company will (b)/ set-up its regional headquarters (c)/ in India in short. (d)/ No error (e)
[Bank of Maharashtra (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (d) 'In short' means 'brief' which is not suitable to the context. We should use 'shortly' which gives us the sense of 'in near future'.
e.g. The series is to start but shortly after the world cup.

- 372.** Despite taking steps to (a)/ encourage foreign investment (b)/ there has been any (c)/ substantial improvement in our economy. (d)/ No error (e) [Bank of Maharashtra (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (c) 'Any' should be replaced by 'no' that will make the syntax correct.
e.g. Despite working hard there is no such improvement in that boy.
- 373.** We had made every effort (a)/ to ensure that a (b)/ compromise is reached and (c)/ that deal was signed. (d)/ No error (e) [Bank of Maharashtra (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (c) The sentence is in past tense so 'is' is to be replaced by 'was'.
e.g. I tried my level best that a treaty was signed and work could be settled.
- 374.** The questionnaire/ (a) reflected/(b) various phenomena (c)/that are sparingly experienced. (d)/ All correct (e) [LIC (AAO) 2008]
- ⊗ (d) 'Sparingly' is wrongly used here. We should use 'rarely' to make it correct.
e.g. Rarely do we see a bird unable to fly.
- 375.** Contrary/(a)/to popular belief, (b)/ripe fruits are not necessarily (c)/ delicious. (d)/All correct (e) [LIC (AAO) 2008]
- ⊗ (a) 'Contrary' is wrongly spelt as 'country'.
e.g. Contrary to my expectation, he came so early to the party.
- 376.** The most ambitious (a)/ enterprise (b)/undertaken in the ancient (c)/Egypt was of the construction of pyramids. (d)/ All correct (e) [LIC (AAO) 2008]
- ⊗ (e) All correct.
- 377.** The astronomical (a)/ calculations (b)/were admiringly (c)/ accurate. (d)/All correct (e) [LIC (AAO) 2008]
- ⊗ (e) All correct.
- 378.** Looking inward from the top of the ramparts, (a)/the sentries (b)/had a marvellous panerama (c)/spread before them. (d)/ All correct (e) [LIC (AAO) 2008]
- ⊗ (c) 'Panerama' is wrongly spelt as 'Panorama'.
e.g. from the top of the building one can have a look of the Panorama of this city.
- 379.** He gave me all the details when he (a)/ had visited all the temples (b)/ while he will be going (c)/ on official tour. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (c) 'Will be' should be replaced by 'was' because the previous clause is in past tense.
e.g. She called twice while she was staying away from home.
- 380.** Let's all work (a)/ together as like homogeneous (b)/ group so that (c)/ success would be obvious. (d)/No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (b) Use either as or like double comparative adverbs should be avoided.
e.g. The need of the hour is that we all should act like a team.
- 381.** The process was so simple (a)/ and easy to understand (b)/ that it hardly took (c)/ 5 minutes for us to learn it. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 382.** It is strange that (a)/ even after 15 years of experience, (b)/ he is still not (c)/ able to be performed. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (d) 'Be Performed' is passive structure that is not suitable here we should use to perform which is correct.
e.g. A batsman out of form is not able to perform in the match.
- 383.** What to make people (a)/tense is actually (b)/a mystery, which (c)/is difficult to unfold. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (a) The syntax is written inappropriate. It is to be read out as "what makes people".
e.g. What makes people arrogant is money.
- 384.** Our customers are always visit (a)/ our branches to (b)/ discuss their problems (c)/ with our staff. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (a) An activity that is frequent or regular, should be in simple present. So, 'are' is superfluous.
e.g. We always discuss our secrets with our best friends.
- 385.** Although he was expected (a)/ to work quite hard (b)/ he could not do so (c)/ owing to his prolonged illness. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 386.** Just before the demonstration started (a)/ the police arrive at the site (b)/ as if they had (c)/ received information. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (a) The sentence is in past tense so we are to use 'V₂' in this sentence.
e.g. The captain had arrived at the ground before the team come.
- 387.** Habit of (a)/regular saving (b)/ helps us (c)/ during bad times. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (a) Since habit is specified here so we have to use 'the' before it to make the syntax correct.
e.g. The habit of smoking is always bad.
- 388.** To know what people react to (a)/ an unforeseen situation (b)/ is very important (c)/ to decide our course of action. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 389.** Some people like (a)/ to do some social (b)/ work even though (c)/ it lacks resources. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (d) 'It lacks' is to be replaced by 'they lack' because people is plural in number.
e.g. Many people struggle to get an education because they lack proper infrastructure.
- 390.** His qualities include (a)/ the ability to take (b)/ right and quickly decisions (c)/on important policies. (d)/No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (c) 'Quickly' is an adverb which is not required here, we should use an adjective quick to make the syntax correct.
e.g. He is a learner who is quick and fast.
- 391.** A group of youngsters (a)/ has lend financial assistance (b)/ to the flood-affected (c)/ people of the villages. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (b) 'Lend' is present form. Lent is the past participle form which is required to be used with 'has/have/had'.
e.g. A gang of robbers has looted the poor.
- 392.** We must take (a)/ regular exercises (b)/ to keep (c)/ ourself fit. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (d) 'Ourself' is the wrong usage. We should use 'ourselves' here to make the syntax correct.
e.g. We should do yoga on a regular basis to keep ourselves fit and fine.
- 393.** If you want to (a)/ ensure prompt service (b)/ please have contact us (c)/ as soon as possible. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2008]
- ⊗ (c) 'Have' is superfluous usage. So, we need to remove it from sentence.
e.g. If you want your money to be doubled please invest with us.

- 394.** Many animals and plants live in water (a)/ but not in the same kind of water (b)/ because not all water is the same. (c)/ Sea water, for instance, contains a lot of salt, fresh water contains very little. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2007]
- ⊗ (d) 'Very' is superfluous usage. So, remove it from the sentence.
e.g. Blood contains a little amount of protein.
- 395.** A sparrow has made a nest in Kesho's house (a)/ and had laid eggs. Both Kesho and his sister Shyama (b)/ watched the nest for hours every day. (c)/ Even meal times were forgotten. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2007]
- ⊗ (a) 'Has' should be replaced by 'Had' as the action is of remote past.
e.g. A boy had injured himself a long time ago in a car accident.
- 396.** A skillful advertiser may be able to create (a)/ practically a monopoly for himself. (b)/ Not because his product is superior to (c)/ but because he has succeeded in inducing people to believe that it is. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2007]
- ⊗ (b) Expression 'Practically a monopoly should be read out as a practical monopoly'
e.g. Competition does not show a practical monopoly ever.
- 397.** Whatever may be the origin of speech, (a)/ we can be certain that man did not began (b)/ to feel the need to speak (c)/ until he began to live in communities. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2007]
- ⊗ (b) After do/does/did we use 'V₁' so 'began' is to be replaced by begin.
e.g. She did not begin her career early.
- 398.** Each animal of the same species (a)/ looks for the same sort of food. (b)/ Also, there may be other animals of different species (c)/ competing with the same food. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2007]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 399.** The relationship between (a)/ small and large business in (b)/ many countries have changed (c)/ considerably due to modern franchising. (d)/ No error (e) [UII (AO) 2007]
- ⊗ (c) The subject of the sentence is relationship which is singular so we should use a singular verb 'has'.
e.g. The relationship between the couple is not very much warm these days.
- 400.** My friend will not only (a)/ receive you at the (b)/ station and also (c)/ have you as a guest in his house. (d)/ No error (e) [UII (AO) 2007]
- ⊗ (c) 'Not only but also' is used in pair so use of 'and also' is wrong here.
e.g. He not only helped me but advised me also.
- 401.** Each of the (a)/ mistakes have (b)/ to be corrected before (c)/ printing the article. (d)/ No error (e) [UII (AO) 2007]
- ⊗ (b) 'Each' is followed by a singular verb. So, 'have' is to be replaced by 'has'.
e.g. Each girl has her own perception of life.
- 402.** Which time (a)/ do you have to (b)/ go to (c)/ the dentist tomorrow? (d)/ No error (e) [UII (AO) 2007]
- ⊗ (a) 'Which time' is to be replaced by the term 'when' that is alone enough to give the proper sense.
e.g. When do you suppose to go to Church?
- 403.** The number (a)/ of fatal accidents in which (b)/ people are run down (c)/ and killed have forced the police to the more stringent with traffic rules. (d)/ No error (e) [UII (AO) 2007]
- ⊗ (d) 'The number' which is the phrasal subject is singular and therefore it will agree to a singular verb. So, 'have' is to be replaced by 'has'.
e.g. The number of people robbed has gone up twice this year.
- 404.** There is never paucity (a)/ of resource is (b)/ notwithstanding (c)/ absence of any organised fund-raising machinery. (d)/ All correct (e) [LIC (AAO) 2005]
- ⊗ (d) Instead of 'fund-raising' we should use fund-raising which means to procure fund.
e.g. The process of fund-raising is not an easy task.
- 405.** The pirated (a)/ technology has not only created (b)/ strategic dangers but also damaged (c)/ economy interests. (d)/ All correct (e) [LIC (AAO) 2005]
- ⊗ (d) 'Economy' is to be replaced by 'economic' so that the syntax becomes correct.
e.g. Economic activities are needed in order to gain the development.
- 406.** The heads of religious institutions and imminent (a)/ people have come together to ensure (b)/ communal (c)/ harmony (d)/ All correct (e) [LIC (AAO) 2005]
- ⊗ (a) 'imminent' is the improper usage. We should use 'eminent' which means 'famous personality'.
e.g. Eminent people are known for their good work.
- 407.** Sophisticated (a)/ law breakers (b)/ try to exploit (c)/ loopholes in rules and regulations. (d)/ All correct (e) [LIC (AAO) 2005]
- ⊗ (c) 'Exploit' is wrongly spelt as 'exploite'.
e.g. We should never think of exploiting the poor.
- 408.** Gandhiji was unsparing (a)/ in his condemnation (b)/ of people for their inhuman (c)/ treatment to untouchables. (d)/ All correct (e) [LIC (AAO) 2005]
- ⊗ (e) All correct.
- 409.** As you know (a)/ by my visiting card (b)/ I am now (c)/ in Mumbai. (d)/ No error (e) [Syndicate Bank (PO) 2004]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 410.** With a fresh coat (a)/ of paint (b)/ the school can (c)/ look much nice. (d)/ No error (e) [Syndicate Bank (PO) 2004]
- ⊗ (d) 'Much' should be replaced by 'very'.
e.g. She looks very nice in that gown.
- 411.** I asked the salesman (a)/ If he could exchange (b)/ the faulty camera (c)/ with another one. (d)/ No error (e) [Syndicate Bank (PO) 2004]
- ⊗ (d) 'Another' is equivalent to 'the other phone' So, we either use 'another' or 'one'.
e.g. With the help of the store manager I exchanged my phone with the other one.
- 412.** It took me (a)/ almost an hour (b)/ to fill the (c)/ application form. (d)/ No error (e) [Syndicate Bank (PO) 2004]
- ⊗ (b) 'Hour' starts with a vowel sound and thus we should use 'an' before it.
e.g. She came an hour later than the scheduled time.
- 413.** She insists (a)/ you stay (b)/ until her husband (c)/ comes home. (d)/ No error (e) [Syndicate Bank (PO) 2004]

- ⊗ (b) 'Insist' is followed by 'on/ upon' and present participle. So, correct expression is 'insists you on staying.'
e.g. He insisted on me going to park.
- 414.** I don't understand (a)/ how she could (b)/ treat him (c)/ so bad. (d)/ No error (e) [Syndicate Bank (PO) 2004]
- ⊗ (d) 'Bad' should be replaced by 'badly' which is an adverb and it qualifies a verb.
e.g. The manager scolded him so badly that he left his job forever.
- 415.** At my arrival (a)/ in Delhi (b)/ I went straight (c)/ to the nearest hospital. (d)/ No error (e) [Syndicate Bank (PO) 2004]
- (e) No error.
- 416.** It is more better (a)/ if one of the parents (b)/ stays at home (c)/ to look after the children. (d) / No error (e) [Syndicate Bank (PO) 2004]
- ⊗ (a) Double comparatives are not used together. 'More better' is a wrong use. We should use 'better' only.
e.g. It is better to say that the world has reformed not changed.
- 417.** These reports have (a)/ deterred some (b)/ women to have (c) / the operation. (d)/ No error (e) [Syndicate Bank (PO) 2004]
- ⊗ (c) 'To have' should be replaced by 'from having' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. Poor performance of the team has deterred some players from taking rest.
- 418.** I answered (a)/ the questions (b)/ as best as (c)/ I could. (d)/ No error/(e) [Syndicate Bank (PO) 2004]
- ⊗ (c) Phrase 'as best' means 'to perform to most promising way.' So, 'as' is to be removed after 'best' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. She presented the facts as best she can.
- 419.** The judge asked the man (a)/if the bag he had lost (b)/contain five thousand rupees. (c)/ The man replied that it did. (d)/ No error (e) [Canara Bank (PO) 2003]
- ⊗ (c) 'Contain' should be replaced by 'contained' as the principal clause is in past tense.
e.g. The teacher asked the students if he has finished the work that he gave him.
- 420.** I trust you will (a) /show forbearance to me (b)/a few minutes more (c)/so that I can finish this work. (d)/No error (e) [Canara Bank (PO) 2003]
- ⊗ (b) 'Forbearance' is followed by 'towards'.
e.g. The minister has not shown any kind of forbearance towards the culprit.
- 421.** The ground outside the village, (a)/abounding with frogs and snakes, (b)/the enemies of mankind, (c)/is soft and marshy. (d)/ No error (e) [Canara Bank (PO) 2003]
- ⊗ (b) 'Abounding with' is inappropriate use. We should use 'abound with', which is a phrase.
e.g. Pakistan and Afghanistan are abound with many terrorists.
- 422.** We are all short-sighted (a)/and very often see but one side of the matter. (b)/Our views are not extended (c)/to all that has a connection with it. (d)/No error (e) [Canara Bank (PO) 2003]
- ⊗ (d) 'All that' is to agree with a plural verb. So, 'has' is to be replaced with 'have'.
e.g. All that have a car must think about protecting the environment.
- 423.** Just laws are no restraint with (a)/the freedom of the good, (b)/ for the good man desires nothing (c)/which a just law interfere with.(d)/ No error (e) [Canara Bank (PO) 2003]
- ⊗ (d) 'Just law' is singular is number and therefore it must agree with a singular verb. So, 'interfere' should be replaced by 'interferes'.
e.g. Children feel offended at times when their mothers interfere in their matter.
- 424.** Had he done (a)/his home work well (b)/he would not have (c)/suffered this embarrassment. (d)/No error (e) [Canara Bank (PO) 2003]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 425.** He was angry with me (a)/ because he thought my (b)/remark was (c)/aimed before him. (d)/No error (e) [Canara Bank (PO) 2003]
- ⊗ (d) 'Aimed at' should replace 'aimed before' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. All his remarks are aimed at me.
- 426.** You may not know it (a)/ but this engine is (b)/ claimed to have twice (c)/ as powerful as the previous one. (d)/No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2003]
- ⊗ (a) 'May not' is to be replaced by 'do not' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. We don't know it but this is true that honesty pays later.
- 427.** Nothing ever becomes real (a)/ till it is experienced. (b)/ Even a proverb is no proverb to you (c)/ till your life has illustrated with it (d)/No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2003]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 428.** I remember my childhood days (a)/ when I was used to go (b)/ to the farm with my father (c)/ and help him in his work. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2003]
- ⊗ (b) Remove 'was' which is superflous to be used here.
e.g. She used to go to park daily when she was a student.
- 429.** I missed the last train (a)/ which I usually catch (b)/ and have to stay at the station (c)/ on my way back home yesterday. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2003]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 430.** Suresh Babu who is living (a)/in this house since 1955 (b)/ is a well-known scholar of history (c)/and a distinguished musician. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2003]
- ⊗ (a) 'Is' should be replaced by 'has been' as per the rules of present perfect continuous tense.
e.g. She has been living in Delhi since 1954.
- 431.** If you had read (a)/ the relevant literature carefully (b)/ you would have answered (c)/ most of the questions correctly. (d)/No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2003]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 432.** The house where the dead man was found (a)/ is being guarded by police (b)/ to prevent it from being entered (c)/and the evidence interfered with. (d)/ No error (e) [SBI (PO) 2003]
- ⊗ (b) We should use definite article 'the' before 'police'.
e.g. The police were busy investigating the case.
- 433.** If the present rate in increase continues (a)/ our population at the turn of the century (b)/ may well reach the staggering (c)/ figure of one billion. (d)/ No error (e) [UII (AO) 2002]

- ⊗ (a) 'Rate in increase' should be replaced by 'rate of increase' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. The rate of increase is a concern when it comes to inflation.
- 434.** The progress of these plants (a)/ is not being very encouraging (b)/ and they are still in various (c)/ stages of construction. (d)/ No error (e)
[UII (AO) 2002]
- ⊗ (b) 'Being' is the superfluous usage here in the sentence. So, we have to remove it.
e.g. The progress of these projects is very encouraging these days.
- 435.** There is an urgent need to find out (a)/ alternative sources of fuel (b)/ without which the world's dependence (c)/ on fossil fuel will continue. (d)/ No error (e)
[UII (AO) 2002]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 436.** It slowly scanned (a)/ the scene (b)/ as if it was (c)/ looking at a prey. (d)/ No error (e)
[UII (AO) 2002]
- ⊗ (c) Subjunctive mood takes verb 'were' instead of 'was'.
e.g. She talks as if she were my boss.
- 437.** He wore his common man (a)/ image so doggedly (b)/ as if it were a uniform (c)/ he was proud. (d)/ No error (e)
[UII (AO) 2002]
- ⊗ (d) Use 'of' after 'proud' that makes the syntax correct.
e.g. She is proud of her own beauty.
- 438.** I live on a top floor (a)/ of an old house. (b)/ when the wind blows (c)/ all the windows rattle. (d)/ No error (e)
[SBI (PO) 2000]
- ⊗ (a) Replace 'a' by 'the' as the expression requires a definite article.
e.g. She lives on the fourth floor of this house.
- 439.** Had he not reached in time (a)/ he would have missed (b)/ a golden opportunity which comes (c)/ once in a while. (d)/ No error (e)
[SBI (PO) 2000]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 440.** The ministry of labour conducts its basic survey (a)/ on trade unions each year (b)/ gathering information with all (c)/ labour unions as of 30th June. (d)/ No error (e)
[SBI (PO) 2000]
- ⊗ (c) 'Gathering' should be replaced by the expression 'to gather' so that syntax comes correct.
e.g. Salesman went door to door to gather information and to collect feedback.
- 441.** Stories have always been used (a)/ as a powerful tool for (b)/ communicating vital information from (c)/ one generation to another. (d)/ No error (e)
[SBI (PO) 2000]
- ⊗ (e) No error.
- 442.** We all are indebted to him (a)/ for holding not only high moral values (b)/ but also rendering dedicated service (c)/ for the betterment of human race. (d)/ No error (e)
[SBI (PO) 2000]
- ⊗ (b) 'Not only' should come before 'holding' to make the syntax correct.
e.g. She not only calls me her friend, but also she trusts me well.
- 443.** We are trying to (a)/ find out the root cause (b)/ of this recurring problem (c)/ since the last four days. (d)/ No error (e)
[SBI (PO) 2000]
- ⊗ (a) 'Are' should be replaced by 'have been'. The work is started in the past, going on currently so it is present perfect continuous tense.
e.g. She has been playing since last two hours.
- 444.** I told him bluntly (a)/ that he is a lazy fellow (b)/ and that he had done (c)/ his work very badly. (d)/ No error (e)
[SBI (PO) 2000]
- ⊗ (b) 'Is' should be replaced by 'was' because the principal clause is in past tense.
e.g. They told me that I was a clever boy.
- 445.** Mumbai is full of tall buildings (a)/ which is at once its (b)/ strength as well as weakness (c)/ depending upon how one look at it. (d)/ No error (e)
[SBI (PO) 2000]
- ⊗ (d) 'Look' should be replaced by 'looks' as 'one' is singular subject and will agree to singular verb.
e.g. How one sees the things is a matter of one's choice.
- 446.** I am fully aware that (a)/ my boss is one of those (b)/ who is totally dedicated (c)/ to work and proper discipline. (d)/ No error (e)
[SBI (PO) 2000]
- ⊗ (c) 'Totally' is superfluous usage with 'dedicated'. Hence, it is to be removed.
e.g. He is dedicated to earning money only.
- 447.** The Director of our company (a)/ does not believe that (b)/ we are working sincerely (c)/ and with interest for all these years. (d)/ No error (e)
[SBI (PO) 2000]
- ⊗ (c) 'For all these years' suggests a period of time. So, sentence should be in present perfect continuous tense. So, 'are' should be replaced by 'have been'.
e.g. I have been working on this project for fifteen days.

Practice Questions

Prelims

Directions (Q. Nos. 1-30) *Read each sentence carefully. There may be an error in one of the parts. Spot the error and answer with the option that contains it. In case, there is no error then your answer in 'No error'.*

1. Make haste (a)/lest (b)/you should not miss (c)/the train. (d)/No error (e)
2. May of us (a)/do not known (b)/to swim (c)/at all. (d)/No error (e)
3. This machine looks (a)/good but in very (b)/badly designed (c)/and doesn't work good. (d)/No error (e)
4. He is well-known for both (a)/his kindness (b)/as well as (c)/his understanding. (d)/No error (e)
5. Ramu closely (a)/resembles to his father (b)/not only in physical features (c)/but also in habits. (d)/No error (e)
6. After he had read the two chapters (a)/of the novel (b)/he felt like reading (c)/the book at one sitting. (d)/No error (e)
7. India is (a)/one of the leading (b)/film producing country (c)/in the world. (d)/No error (e)
8. Hardly had (a)/I left the house (b)/then it began (c)/to rain. (d)/No error (e)
9. Madhuri is (a)/more prettier (b)/than her (c)/younger sister. (d)/No error (e)
10. A cell (a)/is the smallest (b)/identifiable unit of life and cannot be (c)/seen with a naked eye. (d)/No error (e)
11. If a student needs advices about (a)/careers, (b)/he or she should consult (c)/the Career officer. (d)/No error (e)
12. Had they have been in (a)/my condition, (b)/they would have felt (c)/miserable and thought of committing suicide. (d)/No error (e)
13. The secretary of the worker's union (a)/remarked that the present government is so selfish (b)/that it cared very little (c)/about solving anyone else's problem. (d)/No error (e)
14. Cattles (a)/were grazing (b)/in the meadows (c)/near our farm. (d)/No error (e)
15. You are really (a)/senior than (b)/me (c)/in age. (d)/No error (e)
16. The minister conferred (a)/with his colleagues (b)/and agreed that the new projects on education (c)/should be sanctioned immediately. (d)/No error (e)
17. Sunil is (a)/a best student (b)/in our class (c)/at present. (d)/No error (e)
18. We had swam (a)/across the river (b)/before (c)/the Sun sets. (d)/No error (e)
19. Madhuri is (a)/more prettier (b)/than her (c)/younger sister. (d)/No error. (e)
20. Everyone of (a)/the staff members present here (b)/has given a day's pay (c)/as their contribution to the fund. (d)/No error (e)
21. Found guilty (a)/on murder (b)/the accused was (c)/sentenced to death (d)/No error (e)
22. The recent symposium on censorship (a)/indicated that to refrain with saying or writing (b)/something, others might object (c)/to, is a form of self-censorship. (d)/No error (e)
23. The Indian way (a)/of thinking is superior (b)/to most of the (c)/countries of the world. (d)/No error (e)
24. I am certain that none (a)/of these two books (b)/is useful to the (c)/students of the 8th standard. (d)/No error (e)
25. The lawyer asked me (a)/where had I (b)/kept clothes (c)/before taking a dip in the river. (d)/No error. (e)
26. Everyone agrees that (a)/the Ganga is the holiest (b)/of all other rivers (c)/of India. (d)/No error (e)
27. The issues are (a)/complex and (b)/has been obscured (c)/by other factors (d)/No error (e)
28. The bus was (a)/hired by (b)/the ladies (c)/for its picnic. (d)/No error (e)
29. If (a)/it snowed tomorrow (b)/we'll go (c)/skating. (d)/No error (e)
30. A quarrel arose between the five members (a)/and for a time (b)/it appeared as if the party (c)/had been heading for a split. (d)/No error (e)

Mains

Directions (Q.Nos. 1-20) *Read each sentence carefully. There may be an error in one of the parts. Spot the error and answer with the option that contains it. In case, there is no error then your answer is 'No error'.*

1. Kamlesh asked the dealer (a)/what was the price (b)/of that bicycle and whether (c)/it is really made in Germany (d)/No error (e)
2. While luminaries of the dance world (a)/has no dearth of opportunities to display their art, (b)/upcoming dancers suffer from (c)/an unfortunate lack of exposure. (d)/No error (e)
3. Scarcely had I (a)/finished washing the car (b)/than the master came (c)/and asked me to clean the floor of the house. (d)/No error. (e).
4. The job is much worse than I expected (a)/if I would have realised (b)/how awful it was going to be (c)/I would not have accepted it. (d)/No error (e)
5. I am trying to finish (a)/this letter for the last one hour (b)/I wish you would (c)/go away or stop disturbing me. (d)/No error (e)
6. I offered him part-time work (a)/ but he turned it over (b)/saying that he would (c)/rather wait for a full-time job. (d)/No error (e)
7. He fixed a metal ladder (a)/for the wall below his window (b)/so as to be able to (c)/escape it there was a fire. (d)/No error (e)
8. The foremost criteria of selection we adopted (a)/were the number of years of training (b)/a dancer had received (c)/under a particular guru. (d)/No error (e)
9. He refused to disclose to his friends (a)/whether he will leave (b)/for England immediately (c)/after finishing his studies. (d)/No error (e)
10. Despite for he protests (a)/I decided (b)/to buy the saree (c)/which she did not like. (d)/No error. (e)
11. The Principal of equal justice (a)/for all is one of (b)/the corner stones of our (c)/democratic way of life. (d)/No error (e)
12. The Trust has succeeded (a)/admirably in raising (b)/money for (c)/future programmes. (d)/No error (e)
13. Honesty, integrity and being intelligent (a)/are the qualities which (b)/we look for when (c)/we interview applicants. (d)/No error (e)
14. In order to save, petrol, (a)/motorists must have to (b)/be very cautious (c)/while driving along the highways. (d)/No error (e)
15. If the by-stander had not been (a)/familiar with first-aid techniques, (b)/the driver which had met (c)/with the accident would have died. (d)/No error (e)
16. Not one of the children (a)/has ever sang (b)/on any occasion (c)/ in public before. (d)/No error (e)
17. Neither the earthquake (a)/nor the subsequent fire (b)/was able to dampen (c)/the spirit of the residents. (d)/No error. (e)
18. The customer scarcely had (a)/enough money to pay (b)/to the cashier (c)/at the cash counter. (d)/No error (e)
19. The apparently obvious solutions (a)/to most of his problems (b)/ were over look by (c)/many of his friends. (d)/No error (e)
20. By arresting the local criminals (a)/and encouraging good people (b)/ we can end (c)/ hostilities of that area. (d)/No error (e)

Answers**Prelims**

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (c) | 2. (c) | 3. (d) | 4. (c) | 5. (b) | 6. (a) | 7. (c) | 8. (c) | 9. (b) | 10. (d) |
| 11. (a) | 12. (b) | 13. (b) | 14. (a) | 15. (b) | 16. (e) | 17. (b) | 18. (a) | 19. (b) | 20. (d) |
| 21. (b) | 22. (b) | 23. (c) | 24. (a) | 25. (b) | 26. (c) | 27. (c) | 28. (d) | 29. (b) | 30. (a) |

Mains

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (d) | 2. (b) | 3. (c) | 4. (b) | 5. (a) | 6. (b) | 7. (b) | 8. (a) | 9. (b) | 10. (a) |
| 11. (a) | 12. (d) | 13. (a) | 14. (b) | 15. (c) | 16. (b) | 17. (c) | 18. (b) | 19. (c) | 20. (d) |

Sentence Improvement

Writing a correct syntax is always a desirable attribute in the language. The correct way of writing reveals how polished your grammatical ability is! So, it is a prudent topic in competitive exam. Sentence improvement test consists of a sentence with either a correct syntax or a wrong one (Basically wrong syntax is frequent). Candidates have to go through the sentence and then they are required to find if there is any grammatical error in it or not. When the syntax is already correct then no improvement option is selected.

Here are some examples that will put things more comprehensively

Directions (Q. Nos. 1-5) *Which of the phrase given below the sentence should replace the word/phrase given in underline in the sentence to make it grammatically correct? If the sentence is correct as it is given and no correction is required, select 'No correction required' as the answer.*

1. Being as I am a realist, I could not accept his statement that super natural beings have caused the disturbance.
 - (a) That I am a realist
 - (b) Being a realist
 - (c) Being that I am a realist
 - (d) Realist that I am
 - (e) No correction required

⊗ (b) 'Being a realist' is the suitable expression to be used here for correct syntax.
e.g. Being an optimist, I always see brighter side of the things.
2. When the boy regain consciousness, he wanted to eat something.
 - (a) If the boy regain
 - (b) When the boy regained
 - (c) Despite the boy regain
 - (d) On the boy regaining
 - (e) No correction required

⊗ (b) The sentence is in past tense. So, use of 'V₂' is suitable in this case.
e.g. When the captain lost the toss, he wanted to start with a spinner.
3. The social worker wanted to bring about little changes in the lives of the people of that village.
 - (a) to bring back
 - (b) to bring up
 - (c) to bring forth
 - (d) bringing about
 - (e) No correction required

⊗ (e) No correction required
4. Raghunath proposes to lay claim for the insurance company as soon as he recovers from the accident.
 - (a) lay claim to
 - (b) lay claim on
 - (c) laying claim towards
 - (d) lay claim against
 - (e) No correction required

⊗ (a) 'Claim' should be followed by preposition 'to' here. Hence, (a) is correct.
e.g. The man lays claim to the police for the lost purse.
5. The new concession announced by the Government will have only a marginalised effect on the lives of the people.
 - (a) marginal effect off
 - (b) margin of effect on
 - (c) marginal effect on
 - (d) marginalising effect in
 - (e) No correction required

⊗ (c) Suitable expression to be used here is 'marginal effect on'. It will make the syntax correct. e.g. The fall in income has just a marginal effect on his expenses.

QUESTIONS *with* Detailed Explanation

Directions (Q. Nos. 1-10) *Which of the following phrases given below the sentence can replace the words/phrase given in **bold** in the sentence grammatically and meaningfully? If none of the phrases is/are can replace the word/phrase given in bold in the sentence, select 'None' as the answer.* **[IBPS (PO) (Pre)2017]**

1. Bigger livestock in larger numbers in more regions has led to methane in the air climbing **faster than predicted**.

- A. more than ever
- B. more rapidly than expected
- C. accelerated pretty fast

- (a) A and B (b) Only B
- (c) Only A (d) None
- (e) B and C

⊗ (a) For the bold part, the two choices given in A and B are suitable. We can use 'more than ever' and 'more rapidly than expected' to make the improvement.

2. e-Commerce companies **could see** a cash burn of up to \$ 500 million during this year's festive sales, compared to about \$ 300-350 million last year.

- A. affects B. reflects
- C. got notice

- (a) Only C (b) None
- (c) A and C (d) Only A
- (e) Only B

⊗ (b) None of the given option is suitable.

3. Symptoms of the 'Group think' process include the suppression of negative point of view **for the sake of group unity**.

- A. group activity carried without disruption
- B. to maintain cohesion within the group
- C. for the sake of harmony within the group

- (a) A and B (b) Only B
- (c) Only C (d) None
- (e) B and C

⊗ (e) For the bold part, it is obvious that cohesion and harmony both are needed.

4. As more banks are moving to real time payments, the annoying wait for a payment to transfer to or from your account will soon **be a thing of the past**.

- A. be time gone out.
- B. be done away with
- C. become history

- (a) Only B (b) Only A
- (c) B and C (d) None of these
- (e) A and C

⊗ (c) 'Be a thing of past' means-to be done away with, and 'to become history'. Hence, both are the suitable choices.

5. A supply chain will function only when active parties are **sufficiently compensated** for the work completed.

- A. adequately paid
- B. satisfactorily taken care off
- C. reimburse pleasantly

- (a) A and B (b) B and C
- (c) None (d) All of these
- (e) Only A

⊗ (e) Statements B and C are syntactically wrong. In statement A, 'adequately paid' is suitable usage.

6. Chronic hunger is not famine, it is **similar** to under nourishment and is related to poverty.

- A. is the same as
- B. is alike
- C. is akin as

- (a) A and C (b) None
- (c) A and B (d) Only A
- (e) Only B

⊗ (b) None of the given option is suitable.

7. If exercise were a pill, it would **be the biggest blockbuster** in the history of medicine.

- A. be the most significant discovery in
- B. create an affect in
- C. quite a huge thing

- (a) Only A (b) A and C
- (c) Only B (d) Only C
- (e) None

⊗ (a) The suitable phrase in this sentence will be 'be the most significant discovery in'.

8. Many companies make the assumption that cash incentives **can fetch the results** that they want from their workforce.

- A. obtained the outcome
- B. increases productivity of
- C. might give them the output

- (a) Only C (b) None
- (c) Only A (d) A and B
- (e) All of these

⊗ (a) Statements in A and B are wrong as per the syntax. But, statement C is correct. 'Might give them the output' is the correct choice here.

9. From its community minded business and political activism to a music scene that **has quietly influence the global stage**, this town need not brag about itself.

- A. has subtly affected the global stage
- B. triggers the production in stage across global
- C. has stealthily affected to global stage

- (a) Only B (b) Only A
- (c) B and C (d) None
- (e) All of these

⊗ (b) Doesn't meet the context of the sentence. In statement C, 'effected to' is not the proper usage. Statement A is the suitable usage which is 'has subtly affected the global stage'.

10. Positive global cues **coupled with value buying** pushed the key Indian quality indices higher.

- A. along with
- B. accessory to
- C. in addition to

- (a) Only A (b) None
- (c) Only C (d) All of these
- (e) A and C

- ⊗ (e) 'Coupled with' can be replaced with 'along with' and 'in addition to'. So, A and C both are suitable.

Direction (Q. No. 11) *The following question consists of a sentence which is divided into three parts which contain grammatical errors in one or more than one part of the sentence. If there is an error in any part of the sentence, find the correct alternatives to replace those parts from the three options given below each question to make the sentence grammatically correct. If there is an error in any part of the sentence and none of the alternatives is correct to replace that part, then choose (d) i.e. None of the A, B and C as your answer. If the given sentence is grammatically correct or does not require any correction, choose (e) i.e. No correction required as your answer.* [SBI (PO) 2017]

11. Around 1950s it was widely assumed about politics which had been A / divided from religions and after societies began becoming more industrialized, religious B/belief and practice were restricted to personal thought and deeds/C
- A. Politics was assumed widely till about 1950s that it is
- B. divided out of religion and as societies were becoming more industrialised, religious
- C. beliefs and practices should have restricted to Personal thoughts and deeds.
- (a) Only A
(b) Both B and C
(c) Both A and B
(d) None of the A, B and C
(e) No correction required

- ⊗ (d) The given sentence requires correction in all three parts but none of the given options are correct enough to form a grammatically correct sentence. So (d) is the correct choice.
The grammatically correct sentence is, "Till about the 1950s it was widely assumed that politics was divided from religion and that as societies became more industrialized, religious belief and practice would be restricted to private thought and action."

Direction (Q. No. 12) *The following question consists of a sentence which is divided into three parts which contain grammatical errors in one or more than one part of the sentence. If there is an error in any part of the sentence, find the correct alternatives to replace those parts from the three options given below each question to make the sentence grammatically correct. If there is an error in any part of the sentence and none of the alternatives is correct to replace that part, then choose (d) i.e. None of the A, B and C as your answer. If the given sentence is grammatically correct or does not require any correction, choose (e) i.e. No correction required as your answer.* [SBI (PO) 2017]

12. Employment diplomats in the State Department are wringing A / the hands of diplomats in despair after seeing their president B / uncorking Russian policies which had taken decades at maturing/C
- A. Diplomacy in Employment in the State Department has wringed
- B. their hands in despair at seeing their president
- C. uncorking Russian policies that have taken decades to mature
- (a) No correction required
(b) Both B and C
(c) None of the A, B and C
(d) Both A and C
(e) All A, B and C

- ⊗ (b) The correct phrase in part (b) should be "at seeing" in place of "after seeing". In part (c), replace "which had taken decades at maturing" by "that have taken decades to mature" as the sentence is in Present Tense. Part (b) does not require any correction as it is grammatically correct.

Direction (Q. No. 13) *The following question consists of a sentence which is divided into three parts which contain grammatical errors in one or more than one part of the sentence. If there is an error in any part of the sentence, find the correct alternatives to*

replace those parts from the three options given below each question to make the sentence grammatically correct. If there is an error in any part of the sentence and none of the alternatives is correct to replace that part, then choose (d) i.e. None of the (A), (B) and (C) as your answer. If the given sentence is grammatically correct or does not require any correction, choose (e) i.e. No correction required as your answer. [SBI (PO) 2017]

13. Many environmentalists are of the view that too much interference with (A)/nature for modern projects is gradually destroying that balance and natural B/ calamities are happening to forewarn us about a possible doomsday in future/C
- A. Many of the environmentalists are of the view that too much interference in
- B. nature for developing new projects has destroyed the balance and natural
- C. calamities which may happen to forewarn us about doomsday possibly in future
- (a) Only B
(b) Both A and B
(c) Both B and C
(d) None of the A, B and C
(e) No correction required

- ⊗ (e) The given sentence is grammatically correct.

Direction (Q. No. 14) *The following question consists of a sentence which is divided into three parts which contain grammatical errors in one or more than one part of the sentence. If there is an error in any part of the sentence, find the correct alternatives to replace those parts from the three options given below each question to make the sentence grammatically correct. If there is an error in any part of the sentence and none of the alternatives is correct to replace that part, then choose (d) i.e. None of the (A), (B) and (C) as your answer. If the given sentence is*