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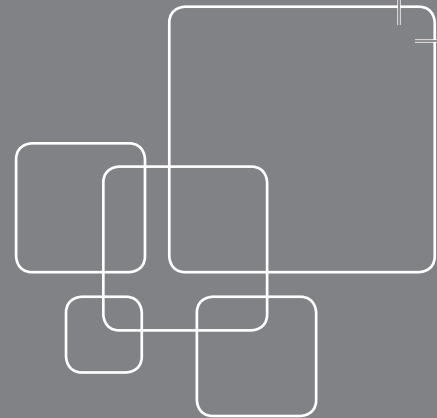
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UNIT 20

Sentence Correction



What is sentence correction?

Sentence corrections (also known as 'spotting errors') is a crucial part of competitive examinations. In the following pages, we have included questions related to different grammar topics for students to practice.

General Directions for all the questions: In the following questions, some are grammatically correct and some are not. Find out the error in the sentences and mark that part. If there is no error, mark 'No Error'.

Subject verb agreement and nouns

1. One of the disadvantage (1)/ of fixed deposit schemes (2)/ is that banks offer (3)/ low rates of interest. (4)/ No error (5) (Allahabad Bank Clerk 2010)
2. Each of the survivors of the Tsunami (1)/ have been offered free (2)/ psychological consultation to ease their trauma, (3)/ by some of the top consultants. (4)/ No error (5) (Punjab National Bank Clerk 2010)
3. The tax treaty between India and Switzerland have (1)/ been amended and we (2) /shall be able to obtain information (3)/about any Swiss bank account by next month. (4)/No error (5) (Bank of Baroda Clerk 2010)
4. The cost of constructing (1)/ houses are increased (2)/ because of the high (3)/ price of cement. (4)/ No error (5) (IBPS Clerk 2011)
5. The discrete enquiry revealed (1)/ that his involvement in (2)/ the fraud cases have been (3)/ more than what was first guessed. (4)/ No error (5) (Syndicate Bank PO 2010)

6. The various consequences of (1)/ the decision taken by the (2)/ finance ministry was not (3)/ foreseen by the bureaucrats. (4)/ No error (5) (NABARD PO 2010)
7. The Chief Minister as well as his cabinet Ministers (1) has offered to resign (2)/ if adequate funds are not allotted to the state. (3)/ No error (4) (LIC Recruitment 2010)
8. According to newspaper reports (1)/ there is more internet users (2)/ in small towns (3)/ than in metros. (4)/ No error (5) (IBPS Clerk 2011)
9. The company plans (1)/ to hire more workers (2)/ as there is many (3)/orders during the festival season. (4)/No error (5) (IBPS Clerk 2011)
10. As per RBI guidelines (1)/ a bank account in which (2)/ there is no transactions for (3)/ two years is a dormant account. (4)/ No error (5) (IBPS Clerk 2011)
11. After a complaint was filed (1)/ police teams was given the photograph (2)/ of the accused from the CCTV footage (3)/ skills and abilities. (4)/ No error (5) (IBPS SO CWE 2012)
12. Training have a (1) / positive effect on (2)/ development of various (3)/skills and abilities (4)/No error (5) (RBI Assistant 2012)

Pronouns

1. The woman that had (1) kidnapped a child has now (2)/ been apprehended and is being (3)/ held in the city's jail (4)/ No error. (5) (IBPS SO-2012)
2. The Moon may be the best place (1) to look for aliens as their (2)/foot prints on their surface would (3)/last far longer than radio signals. (4)/No error (5) (IBPS (SO) CWE 2012)
3. All companies must (1)/send its annual report to (2)/its shareholders twenty-one-days (3)/before the Annual General Body Meeting. (4)/No error (5) (IBPS Clerk 2011)
4. The state government has (1) issued licenses to farmers (2)/ allowing them to sell (3)/ its vegetables to hotels (4)/No error (5). (IBPS Clerk 2011)
5. Banks which do not (1) / meet its priority sector (2)/targets are required to (3)/ pay high penalties. (4)/No error (5). (IBPS Clerk 2011)
- Government departments should (1)/ share information with (2)/ one another so that (3)/ they records are up-to-date. (4)/ No error (5). (IBPS Clerk 2011)
7. A current account is a deposit account (1)/ which is offered by banks mainly (2)/ to firms and companies who (3)/ need banking facilities very frequently. (4)/ No error (5). (Bank of Baroda Clerk 2010)
8. SEBI has recently issued (1)/ show cause notices to some (2)/insurance companies seeking its explanation for not (3)/ complying with certain norms. (4)/ No error (5) (Bank of Baroda Clerk 2010)

9. The board is likely (1)/to take its time (2)/to examine the facts (3)/before giving their decision. (4)/ No error (5) (Allahabad Bank Clerk 2010)
10. There are a large number (1)/of Chinese workers which (2)/ are employed in (3)/ software companies in India. (4)/ No error (5) (Allahabad Bank Clerk 2010)
11. It being a fine day, (1)/ I and my brother (2)/ went out shooting duck. (3)/ No error (4)/ No error (5). (LIC Recruitment 2012)
12. The chairmen of all large (1)/ public sector banks met with (2)/senior RBI officials to give its (3)/ suggestions about implementing the new policy. (4)/ No error (5) (Allahabad Bank PO 2010)
13. India needs a value education system (1)/ who will inculcate values (2)/ among the students and (3)/ enrich their personalities. (4)/ No error (5) (Baroda Rajasthan Bank PO 2010)

Adjectives and adverbs

1. A new study has shown that kids (1)/who have a high body mass index are (2)/ more likelier to have high blood pressure, cholesterol and blood insulin levels (3)/ by the time they reach adolescence. (4)/ No error (5) (Indian Bank 2011)
2. Our conclusion is that (1) between vinayak and (2) Lobo, Vinayak is (3) the most honest. (4)/ No error (5) (Canara Bank PO 2010)
3. Bharatpur is transforming into (1)/ India's most fastest growing bird sanctuary (2) attracting thousands of rare migratory birds (3)/ from Europe and Siberia (4)/ No error (5) (Punjab and Sindh Bank PO 2010)
4. He walked (1)/ quick so that (2)/ he would not (3)/ be late (4)/ No error (5) (UBI Clerk 2008)
5. The economic disparity (1)/ has grown rapid in (2) the era of globalization (3)/ and free market forces. (4)/ No error (5) (RBI Assistant 2012)
6. The buzz at the party was (1) that a famous (2)/ filmstar and politician, would (3)/ probable drop by for a while. (4)/ No error (5) (Corporation Bank 2011)
7. We had extensively discussions (1)/ with the participants and (2)/ obtained their feedback (3)/ regarding our new services. (4)/ No error (5) (Indian Bank 2010)
8. His good qualities include (1) his ability to take (2) quickly and (3)/ appropriate decision (4)/ No error (5) (Allahabad Clerk 2007)

Prepositions

1. The student (1)/answered to (2)/ the question (3)/ asked by the inspector of school. (4)/ No error (5). (United Bank of India 2011)

2. The angry boatsman threw (1)/ the cracked oar (2)/in the river (3)/and returned home. (4) No error (5). (United Bank of India 2011)
3. Ramu closely (1)/ resembles to his father (2)/not only in physical features (3)/ but also in habits. (4)/ No error (5) (Baroda Clerk 2008)
4. The building adjacent (1)/ to the river (2)/ comprises of ten flats (3) each with a terrace. (4)/ No error (5) (Baroda PO 2008)
5. Left to himself (1)/ Amal prefers (2)/ travelling by bus (3)/ than travelling by train. (4)/ No error (5) (Andhra Bank PO 2008)
6. The whole country (1)/was suffering by (2)/a financial crisis. (3)/ No error (4) (SSC 2008)
7. He (1) is firmly believing on (2) democratic principles (3)/ of Indian constitution. (4)/No error (5) (Baroda PO 2001)
8. He always (1) claims to be (2) superior than (3) / everyone in his company. (4)/ No error (5). (Baroda PO 2001)
9. Lata parted (1)/ with her mother (2)/ with tears but the journey (3)/ to Delhi amused her. (4)/ No error (5) (UBI PO 2005)
10. He claims (1)/ that his proposal is (2)/ preferable than that of (3) any other employee. (4)/ No error (5) (SBI PO 2000)
11. Under the terms of the new deal (1)/ the channel can broadcast (2)/ the next cricket tournament to be (3) /played among India and Australia. (4)/ No error (5). (Indian Overseas Bank 2009)
12. The power tariff has already (1) been increased twice in (2)/ the last 15 months and the Electricity Board had also (3)/levied additional monthly charges to consumers. (4)/ No error (5) (IBPS PO 2012)
13. Despite of curfew (1)/ in some areas, minor (2)/ communal incidents were reported (3)/ from different areas of the walled city. (4)/ No error (5) (IBPS PO 2012)
14. The government has (1)/ promised to revise (2)/ the pension scheme for bank (3)/ staff since next year. (4)/ No error (5) (IBPS Clerk 2011)
15. Over eighty percent from us (1)/ feel that if we had taken (2)/ some corrective measures earlier (3)/ the crisis could have been averted. (4)/ No error (5) (Corporation Bank-2010)

Tenses

Directions: In each of the following questions, find out which part of the sentence has an error. If there is no mistake, the answer is No error.

1. The driver of that car (1)/ is sounding horn for (2)/the last ten minutes (3)/ but nobody is telling him to stop. (4)/No error (5) (Vijaya Bank PO 2005)

2. Angered over the delay in giving compensation (1)/factory workers shouted (2)/ slogans against the president (3)/ when he reaches the office. (4)/No error (5)
(Punjab and Sindh Bank PO 2010)
3. Whenever we have a puncture, (1)/ she just sits in the car (2)/ and reads a book (3)/ while I changed the wheel. (4)/No error (5) (Canara Bank Clerk 2010)
4. My uncle is a moneyed man. (1)/He has a big estate and lives in a grand style. (2)/ He had engaged a number of servants (3)/who are all obedient and faithful. (4) No error (5) (Bank of Maharashtra PO 2003)
5. My daughter never (1) would write to me (2) so I never know (3) what she is doing. (4) /No error (5) (Corporation Bank PO 2012)
6. People had not (1) travel by ship because (2)/it is very expensive (3)/and the facilities are poor. (4)/No error (5) (IBPS Clerk 2011)
7. If a software company (1)/sends its employees abroad (2) to work for a foreign client, they (3) pays them a daily allowance.(4)/No error (5) (IBPS Clerk 2011)
8. Had he done (1)/ his home work well (2)/he would not have (3)/suffered this embarrassment. (4)/No error (5) (Canara bank PO 2003)
9. If you would have read (1)/ the instructions carefully, (2)/you would not have (3)/ answered the questions wrongly. (4)/ No error (5) (Allahabad bank PO 2001)
10. You will get the reward if you will deserve for it. (4)/ No error (5)
(Bank of Baroda PO 2011)
11. Many people decide (1) /not to buy a car (2)/last Diwali because of (3)/the high price of petrol last year. (4)/No error (5) (IBPS Clerk 2011)
12. Although the Manager was (1)/keen on getting the work (2)/done through Rakesh yesterday itself (3)/he tries to avoid it. (4)/No error (5)
(Nabard Assistant Officer 2010)
13. India demonstrates its supremacy (1)/in space when it successfully (2)/launched its third satellite (3)/into orbit yesterday. (4)/No error (5)
(Baroda Rajasthan Grameen Bank 2010)
14. The cascading effect of economic slowdown (1)/has brought a much unnerving gloom (2)/to the real estate industry last year (3)/but the industry is looking up this year. (4)/No error (5) (Punjab & Sindh Bank 2010)
15. The team leaders encourages (1)/the participants who have (2)/difficulty in performing who have (2) difficulty in performing (3)/the assigned task. (4)/No error (5) (NABARD Bank PO 2003)
16. On the second day of the workshop, (1)/participants does a situational analysis of the state (2)/ and spoke about their plan of action (3) for implementing the Act (4)/ No error (5) (Indian Bank PO 2011)

17. The third season of (1) the popular television show will ends (2)/on a grand note with (3)/celebrities dancing and having fun. (4)/ No error 5)
(IBPS SO CWE 2012)
18. I know that (1)/he is having (2)/ a lot of books (3)/on how to improve English. (4) No error (5).
(Bank of Baroda Clerk 2008)
19. The judge advised the government to (1)/have metered auto rickshaws across the state while (2)/recounting is personal experience where an auto rickshaw driver (3)/made him to wait and also demanded Rs. 100. (4)/No error (5) (IBPS SO 2012)

Answer Key

Subject verb agreement and nouns

- Ans: (1) one of the disadvantages. Another example: *One of my friends suggested that I should buy this book.*
- Ans: (2) Each of the survivors of the Tsunami has been offered. *Each one, every one, someone, something, nothing, everything, and anything* are followed by the singular form of the verb. For instance: *Nothing is impossible. Everything is possible.*
- Ans: (1) has been amended. The *tax treaty* comes under 3rd person singular and is followed by a singular form of verb.
- Ans: (2) has increased. Present perfect tense is the result of a past action in the present.
- Ans: (3) the fraud cases has been. *Involvement* comes under the third person singular. Therefore, *involvement has been not have been.*
- Ans: (3) *Various consequences* is a plural subject and noun. Hence, it should be followed by a plural form of the verb were not was.
- Ans: (4) No error. If *with, together with, as well as, accompanied by.* etc. are used to combine two subjects, the verb agrees with the subject mentioned first. More examples are as follows: *The Prime minister together with his cabinet ministers is invited to this function. Mr. Niranjana accompanied by wife and children is arriving tonight by train.*
- Ans: (2) there are more internet users. *Newspaper reports*, which is a plural subject, should be followed by the verb are not is.
- Ans: (3) there are many orders. The succeeding subject is plural in form and number.
- Ans: (3) there are no transactions. *Transactions* is plural.
- Ans: (2) Police teams were given.
- Ans: Training has a positive effect on. *Training* comes under the third person singular. Therefore it should be followed by a singular form of the verb not a plural form of the verb.

Pronouns

1. Ans: (1) who had kidnapped. While referring to individuals relative pronouns should be used.
2. Ans: (3) On its surface (meaning on the surface of the moon) is correct.
3. Ans: There are two mistakes in this sentence. One (2) *its* is wrong, it should be *their annual report* and then (3) *their shareholders* is correct.
4. Ans: (4) *their vegetables* not *its vegetables*. Farmers is a plural subject and noun hence it agrees with the plural form of the verb *their* not *its*.
5. Ans: (2) *its* priority sector is wrong. It should be *their* priority sector.
6. Ans: (4) *their records* are up-to-date
7. Ans: (3) *which* need banking facilities not *who* need. *Who* the relative pronoun is used to point to individuals.
8. Ans: seeking *their* explanation for not complying with certain norms. Show cause notices and insurance companies are plural subjects and nouns. *Its* *which* is a possessive pronoun should be replaced by *their*.
9. Ans: (4) The board is third person singular in form and number. Therefore it should be followed by *as* its time in number 2 it should be *giving* its decision.
10. Ans: (2) Chinese workers are individuals. *Which* is a wrong relative pronoun used here. It should be replaced by *who*.
11. Ans: (2) *My brother and I went out shooting duck*. While confessing a fault (or expressing a negative idea) the sequence of the personal pronouns should be as follows: *I, you and he are in the wrong and will be punished*. Correct sequence: First person first, second person next and third person last. While expressing a positive idea or praise, the sequence of the personal pronouns should be as follows: *You, he and I will get an award for the good work we have done*. Correct sequence: Second person first, third person next and first person last.
12. Ans: (3) *to give their suggestions* about implementing the new policy.
13. Ans: (2) *India* is singular in form and it is a proper pronoun starting with a capital letter. Therefore *which* will inculcate values is the correct expression.

Adjectives and adverbs

1. Ans: (3) *more likelier* is wrong. The comparative degree of *like* is *likely*. Hence, *more likely* to have.
2. Ans: (4) *the most honest* is wrong. It should be *most honest*. *Most honest* is the superlative degree. We should not use the definite article *The* before the superlative degree.
3. Ans: *most fastest* is wrong. The superlative degree of *fast* is *fastest*. Positive: *fast*, Comparative: *faster* Superlative: *fastest*. Usage of another quantifier *most* before *fastest* is wrong in this context.
4. Ans: (2) *quickly* so that he would not be late.

5. Ans: (2) rapidly (an adverb is required here not an adjective) in the era of globalization.
6. Ans: (4) probably not probable.
7. Ans: (1) extensively which is an adverb is wrong it should be an adjective extensive.
8. Ans: (3) quickly is an adverb is incorrect in this context. It should be quick.

Prepositions

1. Ans: 2. Answer the verb is not followed by any preposition.
2. Ans: 3. Into the river. For instance: *The swimmer jumped into the river to save the drowning boy.*
3. Ans: 2. Resembles is not followed by any preposition. Preposition is dropped/omitted/deleted after the verb resembles.
4. Ans: 3. Comprises the adjective is not followed by the preposition of. Comprises ten flats each with a terrace. The test team comprises Kohli, Sami and Dhoni.
5. Ans: 4. than travelling by train is wrong. It should be to travelling by train.
6. Ans: 2. Was suffering by is wrong. It should be was suffering from. Suffer the verb is followed by the preposition from not by .
7. Ans: 2. believing in not on. He believes in the principles of life suggested by his father.
8. Ans: 3. superior to.
9. Ans: (2) parted is not followed by the preposition with her it should be from. Part is followed by with when it is money, wealth etc., For instance: *A miser cannot part with his wealth.*
10. Ans: (3). Preferable to that of any other employee. Prefer is followed by the preposition to. *I prefer soft drink than ice-cream* is wrong. *I prefer soft drink to ice-cream* is correct.
11. Ans: (4) played among is wrong. It should be *played between* as it is between the two countries. If the number is more than two then among is used. *Sweets were distributed among the employees of the office.*
12. Ans: (4) charges on consumers.
13. Ans: (1) Despite is not followed by of. In spite is always followed by of. The meaning of In spite of or despite is without being affected by the factors mentioned.
14. Ans: (4) from next year.
15. Ans: (1) percent of us.

Tenses

1. Ans: (2) has been sounding horn for the last ten minutes. Present perfect continuous tense. Action starts in the past and continues into the present at the time of speaking.
2. Ans: (4) reached the office. All the other verbs are in past tense. Therefore, *reach* cannot be used in its present tense form.
3. Ans: (4) while I change the wheel. Rest of the verbs are in simple present tense form.
4. Ans: (3) has engaged a number of servants.

5. Ans: (2) writes to me. The sentence requires a verb in the simple present tense form.
6. Ans: (1) do not travel. The context needs a verb in simple present tense form.
7. Ans: (3) it pays them a daily allowance. Software company is singular in form and number.
8. Ans: (5) No error.
9. Ans: (1) had read. Past perfect in the conditional clause and past perfect tense is in the main clause.
10. Ans: (4) if you deserve it. Not if you deserve for it.
11. Ans: (1) Many people decided.
12. Ans: (4) He tried to avoid it. Yesterday is the keyword for past tense.
13. Ans: (1) India demonstrated its supremacy.
14. Ans: (2) brought. Not has brought. Last year indicates that the sentence should be in the past tense not in present perfect tense.
15. Ans: (1) encourage not encourages. Team leaders is plural hence it is followed by the verb encourage. The sentence must be in simple present tense.
16. Ans: (2) did a situational analysis. Spoke the other verb is in past tense. A past action is reported here. Hence the first verb should also be in past tense.
17. Ans: (2) will end.
18. Ans: (2) he has not he is having.
19. Ans: (3) his personal experience.