

English: Complete Banking

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Errors Spotting/Sentence Correction /Phrasal Verb Replacement

ERROR SPOTTING

In **Bank Exams**, Error-Spotting has a good weightage so we cannot afford to leave it. Moreover, it helps you score good marks since in a lesser amount of time, more questions can be attempted and that too with accuracy.

But, our usual way of attempting these questions is not accurate. The approach we apply to detect errors is we look if the sentence is not sounding well which ultimately fetches us negative marks.

Then, we wonder why our name is not in the selection list despite attempting a good number of questions. Hence, today we are going to deal with the Strategies which are required to solve these questions.

Demands of this topic:

- Good knowledge of English grammar
- Idea of question-type
- Practice as much as possible

Since Error-Spotting is entirely based on Grammar, our major focus will be on Grammar only. But, English Grammar itself has various topics such as Parts of Speech, Tenses, Voice and Narration. So, our first task is to analyse the topics from which questions are frequently asked in Bank Exams since every exam has certain selected topics from which questions are asked repetitively.

Frequently asked Topics:

- Subject-verb agreement
- Non-finite verbs
- Prepositional phrases
- Fixed prepositions
- Phrasal verbs

Things to be known beforehand:

- Recognition of parts of speech

- Recognition of tenses
- Recognition of voice

Though the basic approach to detect an error is similar yet every question demands a particular Strategy since the error will be from different topics and question-pattern will also be different. Here are given some questions and approaches to solve it:

(1) Based on Subject-Verb Agreement:

Question: Choose the correct alternative for the emboldened part, if any. (SBI PO PT, 07/07/18)

Both ayurvedic and herbal products **has** gaining popularity among consumers nowadays.

- 1) have gained popularity
- 2) is gained popularity
- 3) will have gains popularity
- 4) is being popular
- 5) No correction required

Approach:

Step 1: Identify the subject- 'Both ayurvedic and herbal products'.

Step 2: Identify the number of the subject (i.e. singular or plural)- 'Both' itself shows that the subject is plural. Moreover, generally, 'and' too refers to a plural subject.

Step 3: Identify the verb and its number- 'Has' is the verb here which is singular.

Step 4: Apply subject-verb agreement- This question is entirely based on subject-verb agreement i.e. the number of subject and verb should be the same. It means that if the subject is singular, the verb will also be singular and vice-versa. In a nutshell, the verb follows its subject. Since the subject is plural, the verb should also be plural.

Step 5: Shortlist through the given options-Now, going through the options, options 1 and 3 may replace the emboldened part. But, in option 3, there is the usage of 'gains' after 'have' which is incorrect. According to the present perfect tense, 'have' is followed by V3 only. Hence, we are left with option 1 only.

Step 6: Do not waste time in reading the whole sentence, if the error has been detected initially.

Solution:

The correct sentence is - 'Both ayurvedic and herbal products have gained popularity among consumers nowadays'. Hence, the correct answer is option 1.

(2) Based on voice:

Question: Find the error if any. (IBPS Clerk PT, 07/12/19)

As per the new design,(A)/ all appliances inside (B)/ the building will (C)/ be power by solar energy(D).

- 1) A
- 2) D
- 3) No error
- 4) C
- 5) B

Approach:

Step 1: Read the sentence in small parts, not in one go.

Step 2: Identify the subject and its number- The subject is 'all appliances inside the building' and it is plural. 'All' itself is enough to predict that the subject is plural.

Step 3: Identify the verb and its number- The verb i.e. 'will' which remains the same for both singular and plural. So, our sentence is correct so far.

Step 4: Identify the tense-'Will' tells that the sentence is in the future tense.

Step 5: Identify the voice- The sentence can be either in active or passive voice. If we apply the general structure of future continuous tense in active voice, it should be 'powering' after 'be'. But, in active voice, 'by' is not used. Even the sentence does not look meaningful if we apply this. Secondly, 'be' is followed by V3 and V4 only. One more question comes to our mind that 'power' can be used in the form of 'noun' here and not 'verb'. The answer is since the sentence is not in an active voice, it has to be in the passive voice. And the general structure for passive voice in the simple future should be used here because the passive of future continuous or future perfect continuous is not possible.

Solution:

The correct sentence is, 'As per the new design, all appliances inside the building will be powered by solar energy'. Hence, the correct answer is option D.

(3) Based on preposition, conjunction, noun and adjective:

Question: Identify the error, if any. (IBPS Clerk PT, 07/12/19)

A person driven by (A)/ greed and envious loses (B)/ the ability to see (C)/ things as they are (D).

- 1) B
- 2) A
- 3) C
- 4) D
- 5) No error

Approach:

Step 1: Identify the subject and its number- The subject is 'A person' and 'driven by greed and envious' gives more information about the subject. The subject is singular here.

Step 2: Proceed only when the previous parts are correct- Primary verbs (i.e. forms of 'be', 'have' and 'do' along with V1 and V2) tell us the tense of a sentence. Since none of them is present here, the tense of the sentence is not predictable. But in part B, there is the usage of 'loses' which tells us that the sentence is in present tense. At times, passive voice is written without an auxiliary verb as it is written here. So, part A is correct.

Step 3: Identify the tense-This sentence is somewhat complex since 'driven by' shows that the sentence is in passive voice while 'loses' shows that it is in the active voice. So, it's a blend of both. Now, first of all, it should be found out if the part in passive is correct.

Step 4: Apply basics of the preposition- Since 'by' is a preposition, it must be followed by a noun or pronoun.

Step 5: Apply the basics of the object- In a passive voice, after 'by' the object is mentioned. An object is also a noun or pronoun.

Step 6: Apply the basics of noun and adjective- Between greed and envious, only 'greed' is a noun while 'envious' is an adjective.

Step 7: Apply suffix- Suffix 'ous' makes a word an adjective.

Step 8: Apply the basics of the conjunction - 'And' is a conjunction that takes the same parts of speech before and after it. So, both 'greed' and 'envious' should be from the same part of speech.

Solution:

Since the error has been detected in part itself, there is no need to proceed further. So, it should be 'greed and envy'. Hence, the correct answer is option B.

(4) Based on adverb and preposition:

Question: Rectify the emboldened part, if wrong. (IBPS PO PT,12-10-19)

Policymakers should collaborate in close to social workers to investigate and prevent potential threats.

- 1) closely on to
- 2) in close with
- 3) closely with
- 4) in accordance with
- 5) No correction required

Approach:

Step 1: Identify the subject and verb- Subject and verb are the base for any sentence. The rest of the speech functions according to them.

Step 2: Apply rules of adverb- Here the main verb is 'collaborate' which should take an adverb of manners to express how the collaboration should be. So, it should be 'closely' instead of 'in close'.

Step 3: Apply rules of the fixed preposition- The word 'collaborate' takes the fixed preposition 'with' after it. So, it should be 'with' instead of 'to'.

Step 4: Shortlist through the options- Since 'closely with' is given in one of the options only. It has to be option 3.

Solution: When the incorrect part is emboldened, it is easier to go through the options. It saves time and helps in getting an accurate answer. Hence, the correct answer is option 3.

(5) Based on exceptions:

Question: Find the error, if any. (07-07-18, SBI PO PT)

The priest together with (A)/ his followers were fatally injured (B)/ in the accident which occurred last night (C)/ near the unmanned railway station. (D)

- 1) A
- 2) B
- 3) C
- 4) D
- 5) No error

Approach:

Step 1: Identify the subject and its number- The subject is 'the priest together with his followers' and it is plural.

Step 2: Identify the verb and its number- The verb is 'were' and it is plural.

Step 3: Apply rules of subject-verb agreement- Though there is a general rule that the number of the subject and the verb should be same, there are some exceptions as it lies in this sentence. The rule is when two subjects are connected with 'together with', the verb follows the first subject only.

Solution:

Applying the rule, it should be 'was' as 'the priest' is singular. Hence, the correct answer is option 2.

Now, let's proceed towards some of the Advanced Rules and question-solving strategies with previous year's questions.

Key points:

1. Some of the frequently asked grammar topics in Error spotting are Subject-verb agreement, Non-finite verbs, Prepositional phrases, Phrasal verbs, etc.

1. Subject-verb agreement simply means the subject and verb must agree in number. This means both need to be singular or both need to be plural.

2. A non-finite verb is a verb form that does not show tense. In other words, you cannot tell if a sentence is in the past tense, present tense, or future tense by looking at a non-finite verb.

3. A prepositional phrase is a group of words consisting of a preposition, its object, and any words that modify the object. Most of

the time, a prepositional phrase modifies a verb or a noun.

4. A phrasal verb is a verb plus a preposition or adverb which creates a meaning different from the original verb.

2. The exceptions in Error spotting sentences to apply rules of subject-verb agreement. Though there is a general rule that the number of the subject and the verb should be the same, there are some exceptions as it lies in this sentence. The rule is when two subjects are connected with 'together with', the verb follows the first subject only.

Moving on, we will now discuss some of the extended tips, tricks, rules and exceptions followed by a set of previous year questions.

- Any sentence in English grammar follow the structure given below:

Article + Adverb + Adjective + Noun

E.g. He is a very bad player.

Here, 'a' is the article; "very" is an adverb; "bad" is the adjective; "player" is the noun.

This simple formation rule will help you a lot in spotting an error.

- Whenever we use third-person singular in a sentence with a verb, we don't use "s/es" in it.

E.g. They go to school; We play chess; etc. On the contrary, we always use "s/es" with first-person singular + verb. E.g. He goes to tuition; she sleeps all day; etc.

- There are some words we think of as plural but are singular i.e. Everybody, Anybody, Anything, Anyone, etc.

E.g. Everybody is requested to vacate the building.

- The basic rule to know whether a sentence is in active or passive is to see the doer of the action.

If the doer is "Subject", the sentence is in active voice and if the doer of the action is "object" then the sentence is in passive voice.

- Adjectives like 'such' and 'various' take a plural noun and plural verb.

E.g. The Supreme Court's judgment makes it clear that as long as such transfer follows a set procedure, the incumbent may be replaced.

In this sentence, the adjective 'such' has been used. So, as per the rule "transfer" should be replaced with "transfers" to be correct.

- Until/if/suppose/when/unless are the words that can never be used in future indefinite tense i.e. sentences having will/shall.

E.g. We will not go anywhere until the authorities will tell us about the incident.

This sentence can be corrected just by removing the word will from the sentence i.e. We will not go anywhere until the authorities tell us about the incident.

- There are some sentences where we have to choose between using a verb or a noun in a sentence. Let us understand this with an example:

With the fiscal deficit exceeding the Budget estimates by 15% in just/ the first eight months of the fiscal year, the government cannot crank up spending without /severely affecting its finances, along with investor confidence in the economy.

In the first line, "estimates" is used as a verb but it should be used as a noun for the sentence to be correct. So, the correct word is "estimate".

- The most important trick is to read a sentence and assess its tone. Many sentences that don't sound proper in reading can help you in spotting errors but keep the grammar rules in mind.

Let us understand with an example:

Milk and Bread are my favorite breakfast. You might be thinking that this

sentence is correct but the correct sentence should be: Milk and Bread is my favorite breakfast.

Explanation: When we are talking about breakfast, both the subjects are together and at one place. That is why they act as singular rather than plural.

These were the few points that we must keep in mind while solving Error Spotting Questions. Let us now solve some Advanced Questions that have been asked previously in Competitive Exams.

Direction: A paragraph is given below with divided sentences. Find out which part of the sentence contains an error. In case of no error, mark on “No error”.

A new generation of Chinese and American peace advocates, global citizens/ and cyber-activists have their task cut out — to step up their game and prevent/ outer space from becoming an another arena of a budding Cold War between Washington and Beijing/ No Error.

- a. A new generation of Chinese and American peace advocates, global citizens
- b. and cyber-activists have their task cut out — to step up their game and prevent
- c. outer space from becoming an another arena of a budding Cold War between Washington and Beijing
- d. No Error.
- e. All have errors.

Approach:

As we can see the first two separations don't have any error but the line “becoming another arena” in the third part seems to have an error. It should be replaced with “becoming another arena” as there is no need for an article before ‘another’. So, the correct answer is option c.

Q1. Direction: Four statements are given below at A, B, C and D. There may be some errors in the given statements. Mark the incorrect statement as the answer. If all the statements are incorrect, mark E, i.e., 'All are incorrect' as the answer.

A. The Réunion hotspot is thought to have been active for at least 66 million years, causing eruptions that relate to the extinction of the dinosaurs and more recently over the last 10 million years creating the Mascarene Islands, including Mauritius and Réunion.

B. Causing eruptions that relate to the extinction of the dinosaurs and more recently over the last 10 million years creating the Mascarene Islands, including Mauritius and Réunion, the Réunion hotspot is thought to have been active for at least 66 million years.

C. Creating the Mascarene Islands, including Mauritius and Réunion recently over the last 10 million years, the Réunion hotspot is thought to have been active for at least 66 million years causing eruptions that relate to the extinction of the dinosaurs.

D. The Réunion hotspot, causing eruptions that relates to the extinction of the dinosaurs and more recently over the last 10 million years creating the Mascarene Islands, including Mauritius and Réunion, is thought to have been active for at least 66 million years.

E. All are incorrect.

Approach:

Read the direction and each sentence carefully.

The given sentence talks about The Réunion hotspot where volcanic eruptions have been said to be related to the extinction of the dinosaurs. However, more recently, the eruptions have resulted in the coming up of the islands of Mauritius and Réunion.

The error in option D is that the plural subject 'eruptions' does not agree with the singular verb 'relates'. A plural subject of a sentence requires a plural verb. So, "relates" has to be replaced with "relate".

Therefore, the error lies in option D.

Try solving the next question yourself:

Q2. Direction: (Same as above)

A. Here in Amethi, the Zila Swachchhata Samiti (district committee for sanitation) has started a programme "Anokhi Amethi Ka Anokha Bhai" to make the open defecation free campaign successful and create awareness about sanitation here.

B. To make the open defecation free campaign successful and create awareness about sanitation here at Amethi, the Zila Swachchhata Samiti (district committee for sanitation) has started a programme "Anokhi Amethi Ka Anokha Bhai".

C. Here at Amethi, the Zila Swachchhata Samiti (district committee for sanitation) has started a programme "Anokhi Amethi Ka Anokha Bhai" to make the open defecation free campaign successful and create awareness about sanitation here.

D. In order to make the open defecation free campaign successful and create awareness about sanitation here at Amethi, the Zila Swachchhata Samiti (district committee for sanitation) has started a programme "Anokhi Amethi Ka Anokha Bhai".

E. All are incorrect

Some more questions for your practice:

Q3. Japan is in a potential explosive (A) / neighborhood, and it no longer believes (B) / that a whole scale reliance on (C) / U.S. for a defence umbrella (D) / is sufficient to secure his best interests. (E)

Q4. Road safety borrowed a concept from nuclear plants which are (A) / designed in the assumption that if human errors are inevitable then (B) / risk can be minimized only by incorporating that into safety design. (C)

Q5. From nursery admissions to college entrances and job interviews, we (A)/ are lead to believed that getting privileged positions means displacing others. This leads to (B) / insecurity and fears, which may leads to unfair, dishonest practices into "decompetition". (C)

Answers: (Please try solving them first)

Q2. A

Q3. C

Q4. B

Q5. B and C

Previous Year Questions Asked from Error Spotting:

Clerk Level:

Q1. Just behind the royal standard-bearers (A)/came the Princess Ozma in her royal chariot, (B)/that was of gold encrusted(C)/ with emeralds and diamonds set in exquisite designs(D). /No Error (E)

1. A

2. B

3. C

4. D

5. No Error

Q2. Tom was obsessed by the belief that, (A)/ one by one, everyone around him (B)/ were being abducted (C)/and replaced by aliens (D). /No error (E)

A

B

C

D

E

Q3. In Siena, Gissing worked on the Dickens study, and (A)/no sooner had he finishing it, (B)/ than he (C)/headed south to Naples(D)./No Error(E)

A

B

C

D

E

Q4. Tom needs our (A)/ help and I'm (B)/going to make (C)/surely he gets it (D)./No Error (E)

A

B

C

D

E

Q5. Except for (A)/you and he, (B)/ everyone has (C) /brought a gift for me(D)/No Error(E).

A

B

C

D

E

Solutions:

1. (c)

In the first part of the sentence, the word “that” will be replaced by the word “which” because here “which” points to the royal chariot which is followed by (,) Comma. All other parts of the sentence are correct. Hence, option (c) will be the correct answer.

2. (c)

Solution:

In the third part of the sentence “were” will be replaced by the word “was” because there are many pronouns like “Everybody, Anybody, Anything , Any, Each, Either, Nobody, Everyone” etc. which are always followed with singular verbs.

3. (b)

Solution:

In the second part of the sentence “finishing” should be replaced with the word “finished”.

The word starting with “No sooner... than” follows “had” then subject then verb (3rd). All other options are correctly used. So option (b) is correct.

4. (d)

Solution:

In the fourth part of the sentence the word “surely” should be replaced with “sure”. All other parts of the sentence are absolutely correct. So option (d) is absolutely correct.

5. (b)

Solution:

In the second part of the sentence “he” must be replaced with “him”. So option (b) is the correct choice.

PO Level:

Q1. With being Easter (A)/, you're likely (B) /to be feeling(C)/ stuffed, tired or grumpy (D)./ No Error (E)

A

B

C

D

No Error

Q2. Those present (A)/were all astonished (B)/to the results(C) /of the election (D)./
No Error (E)

A

B

C

D

E

Q3. In another year, a capital receipt (A) /was credited as the (B)/ profit and loss
account(C)/ but shown as an extraordinary item (D). /No error (E)

A

B

C

D

E

Q4. Amid an escalating police crackdown (A)/ on protesters in Hong Kong, (B)/
Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said (C)/on Monday that he was “extremely
concerned” for the situation (D). /No Error(E)

A

B

C

D

E

Q5. We have filed (A)/ a complaint against the (B)/ contractor whom (C)/we hired last month. (D)/No Error (E)

A

B

C

D

E

Solutions:

1. (a)

Solution:

In the first part of the sentence, before the word Easter, "it" should be used because before every participle there is a subject of reference but in this case no participle is given. So we use "it" before "being". All other parts of the sentence are correct. Hence option (a) will be the correct answer.

2. (c)

Solution:

In the third part of the sentence "to" should be replaced by the preposition "at" because words like startled/astonished/amazed is followed by the preposition "at". All other options are absolutely correct. Hence option (c) is the correct choice.

3. (b)

Solution:

In the second part of the sentence "as" should be replaced with the preposition "to" because the word Credited is always followed with "to". All other options are correct. So option (b) is correct.

4. (d)

Solution:

In the fourth part of the sentence the preposition "for" must be replaced by "about". All other options are absolutely correct. So option (d) is the correct sentence.

5. (c)

Solution:

In the third part of the sentence “whom” must be replaced by “who” as who is used for the person.

Here it refers to the contractor. All other options are correct. So option(c) is correct.

SO Level:

Q1. I flipped my wallet (A)/ open on her desk (B) /and let her look (C)/to the buzzer pinned to the flap (D)./ No Error (E)

A

B

C

D

No Error

Q2. I negotiated the rail less stairs and dark corridor (A)/ without much too (B)/injury to my person, and managed (C)/to fumble the wooden latch open(D)./ No Error(E)

A

B

C

D

E

Q3.Science has given (A)/us a lot, yet (B)/life is becoming(C)/more and more painful (D)./ No Error(E)

A

B

C

D

E

Q4. When one reads the Hindi Literature (A)/ of the Nineteenth century, (B)/ you find a striking contrast between (C)/the writings of Munshi Premchand and later day writers of popular Hindi fiction(D)/No Error(E)

A

B

C

D

E

Q5. Japan is now (A)/ very different than (B)/ what it was (C)/ twenty years ago (D)./ No Error(E).

A

B

C

D

E

Solutions:

1. (d)

In the last part of the sentence, the word “to” will be replaced by the word “at”. ‘let’ is not followed by “to”. All other parts of the sentence are correct. Hence option (d) will be the correct answer.

2. (b)

Solution:

In the second part of the sentence, “much too” will be replaced by “too much”. All other parts of the sentence are correct. Hence option (b) will be the correct answer.

3. (e)

Solution:

The whole sentence is absolutely correct. So Option (e) is the correct option.

4. (c)

Solution:

In the third part of the sentence “you” must be replaced with “one”. All other options are correct. So option (c) is the correct choice.

5. (b)

Solution:

In the second part of the sentence “than” must be replaced with “from” because different is followed by “from”. All other parts of the sentence are correct. So option (b) is correct.

Try solving some mock tests now and check whether you are able to solve the questions or not. The best way to master these topics is by constant practice.

Exam Day Revision: 100 Golden Rules for Error Spotting -

- 1 . Two or more Singular Subjects connected by and usually take a Verb in the Plural.
2. If two Singular Nouns refer to the same person or thing, the Verb must be Singular.
3. If the Singular Subjects are preceded by each or every, the Verb is usually Singular.
4. Two or more Singular Subjects connected by or, nor, either or, neither nor take a Verb in the Singular.
5. When the Subjects joined by 'or/nor are of different numbers, the Verb must be Plural, and the Plural Subject must be placed next to the Verb.

For example,

Incorrect- Neither the Assistant Masters nor the Headmaster was present.

Correct- Neither the Headmaster nor the Assistant Masters were present. '

6. When the Subjects joined by or, nor are of different persons, the Verb agrees in person with the one nearest to it.

For example,

Incorrect- Either he or I is mistaken.

Correct- Either he or I, am mistaken.

7,8. A Collective Noun takes a Singular Verb when the collection is thought of as a whole, a Plural Verb when the individuals of which it is composed are thought of.

For example,

Correct- The Council has chosen the President.

Correct- The military were called out.

9. Some Nouns which are singular in form but plural in meaning, take a Plural Verb.

For example,

Incorrect- Mathematics are a branch of study in every school.

Correct- Mathematics is a branch of study in every school.

10. Words joined to a Singular Subject by with, together with, in addition to, or, as well as, etc. are parenthetical, and therefore do not affect the number of the Verb.

For example,

Incorrect- The Chief, with all his men, were massacred . • Correct-The chief, with all his men, was massacred.

11. Ask, advise, allow, command, force, forbid, invite, encourage, compel, beg, order•, imagine, instruct, permit, persuade, tell, require, remind, teach, etc. are followed by Object + To +V2

For example,

Incorrect- He advised to do it by me.

Correct- He advised me to do it.

But if these are used in Passive Voice, then they are followed by To +V,.

For example,

Correct- She was permitted to go with him.

12. Know is followed by how/ where/when/why and Infinitive.

For example,

Incorrect- I know to write a letter.

Correct- I know how to write a letter.

13. After let, bid, behold, watch, see, feel, make etc. we use Bare-Infinitive and not To-infinitive.

For example,

Incorrect- I heard him to speak on several subjects.\

Correct- I heard him speak on several subjects.

14. Bare Infinitive is used after Modal Auxiliaries (can, could, may, might, shall, should, will, would, must, dare not, need not).

For example,

Incorrect- You need not to work hard.

Correct- You need not work hard.

15. Had better, had rather, had as soon ... as ... , had sooner etc. are followed by Bare Infinitive.

For example,

Incorrect- He had better to go now.

Correct- He had better go now.

16. Conjunction than is also followed by Bare Infinitive.

For example,

Incorrect- He had better read than to write.

Correct- He had better read than write.

17. When but is used as a Preposition and preceded by any form of the Verb do, then but is followed with Bare Infinitive.

Incorrect- He did nothing but to wander.

Correct- He did nothing but wander.

18. Every Participle must have a Subject of Reference.

For example,

Incorrect- Being a rainy day Vijay decided to stay at home.

Correct- It being a rainy day Vijay decided to stay at home.

19. For completed action Having + Va is used in Active Voice, whereas Having + been + Va or Being + Va is used in Passive Voice. After should not be used in such a sentence.

For example,

Incorrect- After the leader having been killed, the followers ran away.

Correct- The leader having been killed, the followers ran away.

20. Participles like considering, judging, referring, concerning, regarding, viewing, broadly speaking etc. do not take any Subject of Reference.

For example,

Correct - Considering the case, I took the decision.

Here "I" is not a Subject of Reference of considering. So, there is no Subject of Reference for 'considering', still the sentence is correct.

21. When there are two Subjects in a sentence and they are not in the same Number, then we must have to use separate Auxiliaries (is, are, am, was, were, have, has) for both of them.

For example,

Incorrect- Three- killed and one were injured.

Correct- Three were killed and one was injured.

22. A single Verb should be made to serve two Subjects, only when the form of Verb is same for both the subjects.

Incorrect- I am seventeen years old and my sister fourteen.

Correct- I am seventeen years old and my sister is fourteen.

23. Two auxiliaries can be used with one principal Verb, only when the form of the principal Verb is appropriate to both the auxiliaries. '

Incorrect- He never has, and never will take such strong measures.

Correct- He never has taken, and never will take such strong measures.

24. When there is only one auxiliary to two principal Verbs it should be correctly associated with the both.

Incorrect- Ten candidates have passed one failed.

Correct- Ten candidates have passed, one has failed.

25. A Past Tense in the main clause should be followed by a Past Tense in the subordinate clause.

Incorrect- He succeeded because he works hard.

Correct- He succeeded because he worked hard.

26. A Past Tense in main clause may be followed by a Present Tense in the subordinate clause when the subordinate clause expresses a universal truth.

Incorrect- Our teacher said that the earth moved round the sun.

Correct- Our teacher said that the earth moves round the sun.

27. When the subordinate clause comes after 'lest', the auxiliary Verb 'should' must be used, whatever be the Tense of the Verb in the main clause.

Incorrect- We start early lest we shall miss the train.

Correct- We start early lest we should miss the train.

28. An Adverb or Adverbial phrase should not be placed between 'to' and verbal part of the infinitive. (This is called the split infinitive).

Incorrect- I hoped to immediately reply to your letter:

Correct- I hoped to reply immediately to your letter.

29. An infinitive should be in the present tense unless it represents' an action prior to that of the governing Verb.

Incorrect- I should have liked to have gone-there.

Correct- I should have liked to go there.

30. Gerund if preceded by a Pronoun, that Pronoun must be in Possessive case.

Incorrect - He emphasised me going there.

Correct- He emphasised my go-ing there.

31. The Present Perfect Continuous Tense is used for an action that began in the past time and still. going at the time of speaking~ It is used with Adverbials of time introduced by 'since', 'for' and 'how long~.

Incorrect- How long are you working in this office?

Correct- How long have you been working in this office?

32. A Verb when preceded by a Preposition must be the Gerund.

Incorrect- They were punished for come late.

Correct- They were punished for coming late.

33. The Future Indefinite Tense is not used in the clauses of time, place and condition. Here the Present Indefinite Tense is used.

Incorrect- I shall wait for you till you will finish your work.

Correct- I shall wait for you, till you finish your work.

34. The Present Perfect Tense is not used with the Adverbs of past time like yesterday, in 1990 etc. Here Past Indefinite Tense is used.

Incorrect- I have bought a cycle yesterday.

Correct-I bought a cycle yesterday.

The Past Perfect Tense is used to represent the earlier of the two past actions.

Incorrect- When I reached the station, the train already left.

Correct- When I reached the station, the train had already left.

35. Modal Auxiliaries are not used together. But two Auxiliaries can be connected by a Conjunction.

For example,

Incorrect-He should must do it.

Correct- He should and must do it.

36. When need or dare is followed by not, it turns into modal auxiliary. In that situation it takes Bare Infinitive 'and we cannot use needs not or dares not.

For example,

Incorrect- He needs not do it.

Correct- He need not do it.

37. Adjectives of quantity show how much of a thing is meant. Adjectives of quantity (some; much, little, enough, all, no, any, great, half, sufficient, whole) are used for Uncountable Nouns only.

For example,

Incorrect-I ate a few rice.

Correct- I ate some rice.

38. Numeral Adjectives are used for Countable Noun only and they show how many persons or things are meant or in what order a person or thing stands,

For example,

Incorrect- I have taught you little things.

Correct- I have taught you a few things.

39. When cardinal and ordinal are used together, ordinal precedes the cardinal.

For example,

Incorrect- The four first boys will be given the chance.

Correct- The first four boys will be given the chance.

40. Later, latest refers to time, latter and last refer to position.

For example,

Incorrect- I reached at 10 am. But he was later than I expected.

Correct- I reached at 10 am. But he was later than I expected,

41. Farther means more distant or advanced; further means additional.

For example,

Incorrect- He insisted on farther improvement.

Correct- He insisted on further improvement.

42. Each is used in speaking of two or more things, every is used only in speaking of more than two.

For example,

Incorrect- Every of the two boys will get a prize.

Correct- Each of the two boys will get a prize.

43. To express quantity or degree some is used in affirmative sentences, any in negative or interrogative sentences.

For example,

Incorrect- Have you bought some mangoes?

Correct- Have you bought any mangoes?

44. In comparing two things, the Comparative should be used, The Superlative should not be used.

Incorrect- Which is the best of the two?

Correct- Which is the better of the two?

45. When two qualities of the same person or thing are compared, the Comparative in-er is not used. 'More' is used for this purpose.

Incorrect- He is wiser than brave.

Correct- He is more wise than brave.

46. When comparison is made by means of a comparative, the thing compared should be excluded from the class of things with which it is compared by using 'other' or some such word.

Incorrect- He is cleverer than any boy in the class.

Correct- He is cleverer than any other boy in the class.

47. When comparison is made by means of a superlative, the thing compared should include the class of things with which it is compared.

Incorrect- He is the strongest of all other men.

Correct- He is the strongest of all men.

48. When two persons or things are compared, it is important that the same parts of things should be compared.

Incorrect- The population of Bombay is greater than Delhi.

Correct- The population of Bombay is greater than that of Delhi.

49. Double comparatives and superlatives should not be used.

1. Incorrect- He is the most cleverest boy in the class.

Correct- He is the cleverest boy in the class.

2. Incorrect- He is more wiser than his brother.

Correct- He is wiser than his brother.

50. The comparative Adjectives superior inferior, senior, junior, prior, anterior, posterior prefer, etc., should be followed by 'to' instead of 'than'.

Incorrect- He is senior than me.

Correct- He is senior to me.

51. Adjectives like 'unique', ideal,

perfect, complete, universal, entire, extreme, chief, full square and round, which do not admit different degrees of comparison should not be compared.

Incorrect- It is the most unique thing.

Correct- It is a unique thing.

52. All the Adjectives which refer to the same Noun should be in the same degree of comparison.

Incorrect- He is the wisest and honest worker in the office.

Correct- He is the wisest and most honest worker in the office.

53. 'Elder' and 'eldest' should be used for persons only, strictly speaking, they are used for the members of the same family only. 'Older' and 'oldest' are used for both persons and things.

Incorrect- He is my older brother.

Correct- He is my elder brother.

54. To modify a Verb, an Adjective or another Adverb, we use an Adverb.

Incorrect- She writes very careful.

Correct- She writes very carefully.

Carefully is an Adjective which cannot modify the Adverb very, therefore carefully (Adverb) must be used in place of Adjective careful.

55. Too means more than required and it is used with Unpleasant Adjective. So, we cannot use too glad, too happy, too pleasant, too healthy.

For example,

Incorrect- I am too glad to meet you.

Correct- I am very glad to meet you.

56. A sentence which is based on "Too To" format, we cannot replace to with so that. If we replace to with so that, too also must be replaced with cannot.

For example,

Incorrect- He is too weak so that he cannot walk.

Correct- He is so weak that he cannot walk.

57. Much too is followed by Unpleasant Adjective, whereas too much is followed by Noun.

Much too + Unpleasant Adjective.

Too much + Noun.

For example,

Incorrect- His failure is too much painful for me.

Correct- His failure is much too painful for me.

58. Quite and all are not used together.

For example,

Incorrect- He is quite all right.

Correct- He is quite right.

59. A/An + Fairly + Adjective + Noun or Rather + A + Adjective.

60. Enough, when used as an Adverb, is preceded by a positive degree Adjective or Adverb.

For example,

Incorrect- He is greater enough to pardon you.

Correct- He is great enough to pardon you. '

61. Two negatives cancel each other. Hence two negatives should not be used in the same sentence unless we make an affirmation.

Incorrect- I have not got none.

Correct- I have not got any.

62. 'At present' means 'at the present time', 'presently' means 'shortly'. These should not be confused.

1. Incorrect- Nothing more can be done presently.

Correct- Nothing more can be done at present.

2. Incorrect- He will come back at present.

Correct- He will come back presently.

63. 'Hard' means 'diligently', 'strenuously', 'Hardly' means 'scarcely at all'. These two Adverbial forms of 'hard' must not be confused.

1. Incorrect- He tried hardly to win the race.

Correct- He tried hard to win the race.

2. Incorrect- She has eaten hard anything today.

Correct- She has eaten hardly anything today.

64. 'Much' is used before past participles and Adjectives or Adverbs of comparative degree. 'Very' is used before the present participles and Adjectives and Adverbs of positive degree.

Incorrect- The news is much surprising.

Correct- The news is very surprising.

65. Hardly is an Adverb which means rarely. Whereas hard is an Adjective which means tough, rigid.

For example,

Incorrect- It is a hardly job.

Correct- It is a hard job.

66. Ago is always used with Past Indefinite Tense. So, if ago is used in a sentence, that sentence must be in the Past Indefinite Tense.

For example,

Incorrect- He has come a month ago.

Correct- He came a month ago. 67. At present means at this moment and it is used with •Present Tense, whereas presently and shortly are used for future action and generally' used with Future Indefinite Tense.

For example,

Incorrect- Presently he is in the room.

Correct- At present he is in the room.

68. Early means "just after the beginning of anything" and soon means just after a point of time.

For example,

Roses bloomed early this spring.

69. The sentence which starts with seldom, never, hardly, rarely or scarcely takes an inverse structure, Le., Verb + Subject - Structure. For example,

Incorrect- Seldom I had seen such a beautiful sight.

Correct- Seldom had I seen such a beautiful sight.

70. Inversion is also used in a sentence which starts with here/there/away/out/up/indoor or outdoor and Main Verb, or Aux + Main Verb is used before the Subject.

For example,

Incorrect- Away Sita went

Correct- Away went Sita.

71. Two Conjunctions should not be used in the same sentence.

Incorrect- Although she was tired, but she still went on working.

Correct- Although she was tired, she still went on working.

72. 'Both' should be followed by 'and'. It should be used in the positive sense. In the negative sense, 'neither' 'nor' should be used in place of 'both'.

incorrect- Both Ravi as well as Raja were present there.

Correct- Both Ravi and Raja were present there.

73. 'Either ... or', 'neither nor', 'both and', 'not only but also' should be followed by the same parts of speech.

Incorrect- He not only lost his ticket, but also his luggage.

Correct- He lost not only his ticket but also his luggage.

74. 'Neither' should be followed by 'nor', 'either' should be followed by 'or'. Both these should not be confused.

Incorrect- He washed neither his hands or his face.

Correct- He washed neither his hands nor his face.

75. 'No sooner' should be followed by 'than', not by 'but' or 'then'.

Incorrect- No sooner do I finish this book then I shall begin another.

Correct- No sooner do I finish the book, than I shall begin another.

76. 'Hardly' and 'scarcely' should be followed by 'when' or 'before', but not by 'than' or 'that'.

Incorrect- Hardly did I reach the station, than the train left it.

Correct- Hardly did I reach the station when the train left it.

77. 'That' should not be used before a sentence in Direct Speech and before Interrogative Adverbs and Pronouns in the Indirect Speech.

1. Incorrect- He said that, "I shall go there."

Correct- He said, "I shall go there".

2. Incorrect- He asked me that who I was.

Correct- He asked me who was.

78. Objective case (of Noun or Pronoun) is used after Preposition.

For example,

Incorrect- I do not depend on he.

Correct- I do not depend on him.

79. The Prepositions used after two words must be made clear if these two words are connected by and or or.

For example,

Incorrect- She is conscious and engaged in her work.

Correct- She is conscious of and engaged in her work.

80. If a Principal Verb is used after about, after, at, before, for, from, in, on, to, that Verb must be in ing (V4) form.

For example,

Incorrect- You prevented me from do it.

Correct- You prevented me from doing it.

81. On, in, at, are not used before today, tomorrow, yesterday, the following day, the next day etc.

For example,

Incorrect- He will go there on to-morrow.

Correct- He will go there tomorrow.

82, 83. No Preposition is used before the word home. At home is a phrase which bears a different meaning.

For example,

Incorrect- Bring a T.V. set at home.

Correct- Bring a T.V. set home. 83. After Transitive Verbs, like discuss, describe, reach, order, tell, demand, attack, resemble, ridicule, etc. we directly use the object and no Preposition is used after the Verb.

For example:

Incorrect- The poet describes about the beauty of nature in this poem.

Correct- The poet describes the beauty of nature in this poem.

84. Say/suggest/propose/speak/reply/explain/talk/listen/write is followed by "to" Preposition if there is a person in the form of object.

For example,

1. Incorrect- He did not reply me.

Correct- He did not reply to me.

2. Incorrect- He did not write a letter.

Correct- He did not write a letter.

85. ½ question has no error. So, it's not necessary that each and every question will have the error.

86. When the Pronoun is used as the object of a Verb or of a Preposition, it should be in the objective case.

1. Incorrect- Let you and I do it.

Correct- Let you and me do it.

2. Incorrect- These presents are for you and I.

Correct- These presents are for you and me.

87. Emphatic Pronouns can not stand alone as Subjects.

Incorrect- Himself did it.

Correct- He himself did it.

88. The Indefinite Pronoun 'one' should be used throughout if used at all.

Incorrect- One must not boast of his own success.

Correct- One must not boast of one's own success.

89. 'Either' or 'neither' is used only in speaking of two persons or things; 'any', 'no one' and 'none' is used in speaking of more than two.

1. Incorrect- Anyone of these two roads leads to the railway station.

Correct- Either of these two roads leads to the railway station.

2. Incorrect- Neither of these three boys did his homework.

Correct- No one of these three boys did his homework.

90. 'Each other' is used in speaking of two persons or things; 'one another' is used in speaking of more than two.

Incorrect- The two brothers loved one another.

Correct- The two brothers loved each other.

91. A Noun or Pronoun governing a Gerund should be put in the possessive case.

Incorrect- Please excuse me being late.

Correct- Please excuse my being late.

92. A Pronoun must agree with its antecedent in person, number and gender.

Incorrect- Each of these boys has done their homework.

Correct- Each of these boys has done his homework.

93. When two or more Singular Nouns are joined by 'and', the Pronoun used for them must be in Plural.

Incorrect- Both Raju and Ravi have done his homework.

Correct- Both Raju and Ravi have done their homework.

94. When two or more Singular Nouns joined by 'and' refer to the same person or thing, a Pronoun used for them must be in the singular.

Incorrect- The collector and District Magistrate is not negligent in their duty.

Correct- The collector and District Magistrate is not negligent in his duty.

95. When two or more singular nouns are joined by 'or' or 'nor', 'either ... or', 'neither .. nor', the Pronoun used for them should be in the singular.

Incorrect- Neither Ravi nor Raju has done their homework.

Correct- Neither Ravi nor Raju has done his homework.

96. When two or more singular Pronouns of different persons come together, the Pronoun of second person singular (you) comes first, the pronoun of the first person singular (I) comes last and the pronoun of the third person singular (he) comes in between.

Incorrect- I, You and he must work together.

Correct- You, he and I must work together.

97. When two or more plural Pronouns of different persons come together first person plural (we) comes first, then second person plural (you) and last of all third person plural (they).

Incorrect- You, they and we must work together.

Correct- We, you and they must work together.

98. With Superlative Degree Adjectives, only, none, all etc., as Relative Pronoun we use that and not which or who.

For example,

Incorrect- All which glitters is not gold.

Correct- All that glitters is not gold.

99. After let, if a Pronoun is used, that Pronoun must be in the Objective Case.

For example,

Incorrect- Let she come.

Correct- Let her come.

100. Don't try to attempt the question with wild guesses.

Application of ERROR SPOTTING:

There are few applications of error spotting that are being asked in recent exams.

1. Find a Correct Statement:

Here, you've to find the correct statement from a paragraph where most of the statements are wrong.

For Example:

In the given question, a sentence is divided into five parts (A,B,C,D and E), out of which the last part is correct. Out of the remaining four, there are errors in three parts. Choose the part which doesn't have an error. If all the four parts are correct, mark (E) i.e. 'All are correct' as the answer.

A fewer highlighted aspect (A) in global warming is that (B) it may link desperate disasters (C) — floods, pandemics and pestilence (D)— amplifying the potency of each. (E)

Solution:

The correct answer is option 4 i.e D.

Concept:

The given question suggests finding a part in the sentence that does not contain an error (grammatical or contextual).

Application:

The error in part A is the use of the word 'fewer' which should be replaced by 'less'. Note that, according to usage rules, fewer is only to be used when discussing countable things, while less is used for singular mass nouns. For example, you can have fewer ingredients, dollars, people, or puppies, but less salt, money, honesty, or love. 'Aspect' is not a countable thing, so it must be preceded by less.

In part B, the preposition 'in' must be replaced by the preposition 'of'.

In part C the error is the erroneous use of the word 'desperate' that means 'feeling or showing a hopeless sense that a situation is so bad as to be impossible to deal with', which makes no sense here. It should be replaced by 'disparate' to make the sentence grammatically correct. 'Disparate' means 'essentially different in kind; not able to be compared'.

Only the fourth part does not contain any error. Hence, the chosen option is correct.

2. Sentence Correction/Sentence Improvement:

Here, some part of the paragraph is already spotted, you will have to tell the correction of that underlined part, if required.

For Example:

Direction: In the following questions, some part of the sentence is underlined. Which of the options given below the sentence should replace the part underlined to make the sentence grammatically correct? If the sentence is correct as it is given then choose 'No Improvement' as your answer.

The Reserve Bank of India's move on Wednesday to step in and join the fight against the second wave of the pandemic through the announcement of measures aimed at alleviating any financing constraint for those impacted **have been a welcome and timely intervention.**

1. are a welcome and timely intervention.
2. is a welcome and timely intervention.
3. were a welcome and timely intervention.
4. have welcome and timely intervention.
5. No Improvement.

Solution:

The correct answer is option 2 i.e. is a welcome and timely intervention.

Concept:

The query is to find the best alternative for the highlighted word so as to make the sentence both grammatically as well as contextually appropriate.

Applications:

According to the subject-verb-agreement rule, if the subject is singular, the verb must be singular and if the subject is plural, the verb must also be in plural form. In the given sentence, the subject is 'RBI's move'. So, it should be followed by the singular verb 'is'. Hence, option 2 is the correct answer.

3. Misspelled Words: Typically Asked in Clerk, PO and SO level exams.

Here, words are either incorrectly spelt in the passage or their usage is incorrect.

For Example:

In the given sentence, some words are printed in bold, one of which may be wrongly spelt or inappropriately used in the context. Choose that word as the answer. If all the words printed in bold are correct, mark E i.e. 'All are correct' as the answer.

The phased roll-out of the government's **ambition** vaccination drive, beginning with health-care and **frontline** workers in January, followed by the gradual **inclusion** of senior citizens and people above 45 years in March and April, respectively, was in sync with the **availability** of vaccines in the country.

1. Ambition
2. Frontline
3. Inclusion

4. Availability

5. All are correct

Solution:

The correct answer is option 1 i.e. 'ambition'.

Concept:

The given question suggests finding the word(s) in the sentence that may be wrongly spelt or inappropriately used in the context.

Application:

The word that seems to be inappropriately used among the four emboldened ones is '**ambition**'.

Instead of the noun '**ambition**', we need an **adjective** to modify the noun '**vaccination**'.

So, '**ambitious**' is the most appropriate word that means '**having or showing a strong desire and determination to succeed.**'

Hence, **option 1** is correct.

4. Phrasal Verbs Replacement: Generally Asked in PO and SO level exams.

Preposition + Verbs = Phrasal Verbs and the examiners ask for the correct usage of phrasal verbs.

For Example:

Read the sentence provided below. This sentence comprises a highlighted phrasal verb which may or may not be correct as per the context of this sentence. Replace the phrasal verb (if needed) with an appropriate answer from the options provided. In case there is no correction required then mark the option, "No Improvement".

It is very difficult to **get on** the truth etc.

1. Get along

2. Get out

3. Get at

4. Get away

5. No Improvement

Solution:

The correct answer is Option 3, i.e. Get at

Concept

The given question suggests finding an appropriate phrasal verb for the sentence so as to make it contextually meaningful.

Application

The meaning of the phrasal verb "get on" is inappropriate here.

The most suitable answer is "get at" which means "to reach, understand."

Hence, Option 3 is the correct answer.

This year you may see other types of error spotting in the exam. Don't worry, just apply the basic rules and you will sail through it.

Cloze Test and Fill in the Blanks

CLOZE TEST

What is a Cloze test? As the name suggests, cloze means a test of reading comprehension that involves having the person being tested supply words which have been systematically deleted from a text.

So, we can say that the **Cloze test is just the next level of Reading comprehension**. And the only way one can master reading comprehension is by reading articles, novels, journals, newspapers, editorials, etc. The main intention behind asking the cloze test in competitive exams is to assess the examinee's understanding of contexts and their common sense. Isn't it strange that we have always been overestimating this topic and it is just asking for our understanding? Let us start now,

The basic grammar topics that are needed to solve cloze tests are:

1. Conjunctions
2. Prepositions
3. Articles

***Note: A basic knowledge of Tenses is mandatory for any English topic.**

Let us recapitulate:

- **Conjunctions:** Conjunctions are words that link other words, phrases, or clauses together give us the liberty of clubbing multiple sentences together to make them elegant.

Conjunction	Function	Common words
Coordinating Conjunction	To join words, phrases, and clauses of equal grammatical level in a sentence.	for, and, nor, but, or, yet, etc.
Correlative Conjunction	These are the pair of conjunctions, used to join equal sentence elements together.	either/or, neither/nor, not only/but also, both/and, etc.

Subordinating Conjunction	To join independent and dependent clauses. It can signal a cause-and-effect relationship, a contrast, or some other kind of relationship between the clauses.	because, since, as, although, though, while, whereas, provided, so, in that, once, supposing, etc.
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- **Prepositions:** It is a medium through which we define the relationship between other words in a sentence. Precisely, prepositions tell us where something is or when something happened.

Types of preposition:

Direction	Turn left towards the road after crossing the supermarket.
Time	He has slept for more than 10 hours.
Location	We are going to Manali.
Space	The dog hid under the table.

Examples of preposition:

1. We are cooking for 10 people tonight.
2. Shyam left his phone in the bus
3. Did you send that mail to your boss?

- **Articles:** The articles are the words "a," "an," and "the". They define whether something is specific or unspecific about a noun.

Types of Article:

1. **Definite Articles:** "The" comes under the definite article as it defines the noun as something specific. E.g. I fell over the chair again.
2. **Indefinite Articles:** 'A' and "An" come under indefinite articles as they are unspecific. E.g. I love an apple pie after dinner.

Now, let us proceed towards some of the tricks and steps to solve Cloze tests:

- Read the entire passage once. By this, you will get the idea and motive behind the passage so as to understand the context and tone (positive or negative). You will also get to know the domain of the topic (History, Polity, GK, Environment, etc.).
- Read the first sentence that contains the blank. Precisely, read the former and latter part of the blank.

E.g. Ram is an honest _____ loyal boy.

Here, “honest” is the former part and “loyal” is the latter part.

- Read the options and eliminate those that do not match the tone and context of the passage.
- Choose the correct option that is contextual, matches with the tone and suits best in the blank provided.

These four simple steps will help you to approach and look at the questions differently. One thing that you must keep in mind that continuous and rigorous practice is needed to master cloze tests. So, try inculcating a good reading habit, be it a novel, newspaper, editorial, whatsoever.

Let us now proceed to solve some questions that have been asked in Bank exams.

Question: In the following question, a paragraph is given with three blanks, followed by six words. You have to choose the most suitable combination of words respectively from the five options forming a grammatically correct and contextually meaningful paragraph. If none of the combinations appropriately fill the blank, mark option E, 'None of these' as the answer. (SBI PO MAINS 2020)

In the _____ of underdevelopment and accelerated progress, of dispersed market expansion and communist regimentation an entirely new urban reality is _____. A new China is emerging defined by the dynamics of a number of powerful _____ at the root of its society.

i. Cross-fire ii. Clash iii. Created iv. Destroyed v. Transitions vi. Translations

A. i, ii, iii

B. ii, iii, iv

C. i, iii, v

D. ii, iv, vi

E. None of these

Let us follow the steps that we have learned above to solve this question:

Step 1: On reading the entire passage, we can say that it is talking about the Chinese market and the tone is certainly positive.

Step 2: The former and latter part of the first blank is “the’ and ‘of”. As we can see, the former part is an article and the latter part is a preposition.

Step 3: Elimination:

- The words “Underdevelopment’ and “accelerated progress” in the first sentence talk about opposing factors and when opposing factors are there then a ‘clash’ or ‘crossfire’ occurs. Thus, both i and ii can be used to fill the first blank.
- Let us now look at the second blank: ‘new urban reality’ means something new has been formed i.e. we don’t destroy new. So, created suits best there.
- ‘Transitions’ mean a period of change and ‘Translations’ mean the process of changing text from one language to another. Hence, keeping in context to the sentence, transition suits best as the alternative for blank iii. So, the correct choices are: crossfire, created, transition.

Hence, the correct answer is option C i.e. i, iii, v.

This is the approach you should follow while solving cloze tests. I am giving you one more question to solve with the answer but don’t look at the answer part now rather see it after trying it by yourself.

Question: (Same as above)

The compact-city paradigm has received _____ attention worldwide for its ability to achieve sustainable development. However, the claim that the compact-city paradigm _____ to sustainability has not been sufficiently _____.

i. Decreased ii. Contributes iii. Corroborated iv. Dwindled v. Verified vi. Increased

A. vi, ii, v

B. vi, iii, iv

C. i, iii, v

D. ii, iv, vi

E. None of these

Try solving this on your own first as this question is much easier than the previous one.

The answer is option A.

Demands of the topic

Understanding capability- Identifying the tone of the passage is very important. It can be critical, suggestive, educational, informative and so on. In bank exams, generally, economy-based passages are asked. So, we would suggest you to focus on this section primarily. For this, start reading newspapers. This will cover your vocabulary and grammar section as well. Moreover, it covers your General Awareness and current affairs section also. So, reading newspapers is a must. We have seen that some questions are based on logic only. For eg;

He is a good boy so he kills other people. (incorrect)

He is a good boy so he helps other people. (correct)

- **Knowledge of grammar**- Sometimes we get questions based on grammar only. For eg;

He is a good person so he _____ other people.

1) was helped 2) helping 3) help 4) helps 5) are helping

So, by applying grammar, we can identify that it should be option 4 ie 'helps'.

- **Vocabulary**- It plays a major role because if we do not the meaning of the words given in the options, we will have to leave the question unattempted despite identifying the tone of the passage. For eg;

He is a good person so he _____ other people.

1) impels 2) desiccates 3) impedes 4) altercates 5) succours

So, this aspect should also be taken care of. However, the answer will be option 5 i.e. 'succours' which means 'helps'.

- **Phrasal verb**- It is the combination of a verb and a preposition. The meaning of a phrasal verb is different from that of the verb out of which it is formed. For instance,

PHRASAL VERB	MEANING
Call off	Cancel
Call on	Visit
Call for	Demand
Call in	Ask someone to do a job

Eg. Owing to lockdown, IPL has been called _____.

1) off 2) on 3) in 4) for 5) to

The sentence says that the match has been cancelled. So, it should be option 1 i.e. 'off'.

However, while solving a cloze test, we need to apply all these aspects to make the passage grammatically and contextually appropriate. Let us understand this by solving a cloze test.

Question: In the given passage, there are blanks each of which has been denoted by (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), and (F). Against every five words have been given. Read the passage carefully and decide which of the given words will come in place of the blank in each case. (ESIC SSO PT 03/11/18)

Whether you are an (A) public speaker or just flirting with the idea of sharing your message with the world, you probably know that giving a great presentation involves much more than just (B) from cue cards. The good news? Learning about the

essential qualities of other great presenters is an easy way to become one yourself. To be an effective speaker, you must first understand who you are as a speaker and as a person. What are your strongest interpersonal qualities? How do you best (C) with others? What qualities do you need to work on? The most effective speakers are constantly working to capitalise on their strengths - whether that's great storytelling or a talent for getting the audience to participate – and also to improve upon their weaknesses. (D) into your most powerful interpersonal qualities is an excellent way to make yourself accessible, engaging and unique. To start, make a list of your best traits and the areas in which you excel. Then, think about how each of these traits is (E) when speaking or presenting in front of others. For example, if you're great at explaining complex concepts in simpler terms or if you have a dynamic, engaging personality, make sure you're incorporating and (F) these qualities throughout your presentation.

1. What will replace (A) in the passage?

1) experienced 2) stranger 3) invite 4) advantage 5) knowing

2. What will replace (B) in the passage?

1) making 2) bouncing 3) source 4) reading 5) open

3. What will replace (C) in the passage?

1) known 2) said 3) pay 4) connect 5) presents

4. What will replace (D) in the passage?

1) Booking 2) Tapping 3) Living 4) Existing 5) Following

5. What will replace (E) in the passage?

1) monitor 2) creatively 3) longed 4) spreads 5) expressed

6. What will replace (F) in the passage?

1) preventing 2) lacking 3) pointing 4) highlighting 5) hiding

Solution 1:

Step 1: Apply grammar- Here, we need to apply the basics of an article. It's a well-known fact that the word that comes after 'an', must have a vowel sound.

Step 2: Shortlist - Options 2 and 5 automatically get eliminated since they start with a consonant sound.

Step 3: Apply grammar- Here 'speaker' is a noun that needs an adjective before it.

Step 4: Choose -'Invite' is both a noun and a verb but not an adjective. 'Advantage' is a noun. 'Experienced' is an adjective since V_3 is used in the form of an adjective. Hence, we are left with only one option.

Answer: Since we require an adjective starting with a vowel sound, the answer is option 1 i.e. 'experienced'.

So, this question does not require reading.

Solution 2:

Step 1: Read-Read the lines from the beginning to the completion of the sentence where the blank lies.

Step 2: Apply grammar- There is a verb 'giving' which has to be compared with another verb. So, the other verb should also be in '-ing' form.

Step 3: Shortlist-Options 3 and 5 get eliminated as they are not in '-ing' form.

Step 4: Apply logic- 'Cue cards' are used for reading.

Answer: The answer is option 4 'reading'.

Solution 3:

Step 1: Apply grammar- The sentence wherein the blank lies contains the word 'do'. 'Do' indicates a simple present tense and takes V_1 only after it.

Step 2: Shortlist- Among the given options only options 2 and 3 are in V_1 form. So the rest is eliminated.

Step 3: Read-Read the sentence from the second blank to the third one.

Step 4: Apply logic- The paragraph is about the qualities of a public speaker. The lines say that the audience will listen to the speaker only when there is a connection between them. Also, 'pay' does not make the sentence coherent.

Answer: Between the remaining two options, option 4 'connect' best represents the meaning of the paragraph.

Solution 4:

Step 1: Read- Read the passage from the previous blank to the next blank.

Step 2: Apply logic- The paragraph says that connecting the interpersonal qualities is an excellent way to drag out the best in a speaker.

Step 3: Apply phrasal verb- 'Tap into' means 'to establish a connection'

Answer: Among the given options, option 2 i.e. 'tapping' provides the best answer.

Solution 5:

Step 1: Read- Read the line wherein the blank lies.

Step 2: Apply grammar- 'Is' is followed by either V_3 or V_4 . If the sentence is in the active voice, V_4 is used while if it is in the passive, V_3 will be used. Since none of the words is in '-ing' form, it must be in passive. So, the required word must be in V_3 .

Step 3: Shortlist- Among the given options, only options 3 and 5 are in the third form of the verb. So, the rest is automatically eliminated.

Step 4: Apply vocab- Between 'longed' and 'expressed', 'expressed' provides a meaningful sentence. 'Long' means 'wish' which does not provide a logical answer.

Answer: The correct answer is option 5.

Solution 6:

Step 1: Read- Read the passage from the previous blank to the end.

Step 2: Apply logic- The lines say that a public speaker should make use of his abilities or any good trait he possesses.

Step 3: Shortlist- Options 1, 2 and 5 i.e. 'preventing', 'lacking' and 'hiding' will not provide this meaning so these must be ignored.

Step 4: Apply vocab- Good features are highlighted not pointed.

Answer: The answer is option 4 'highlighting'.

So, this is how we solve a cloze test.

FILL IN THE BLANKS

What are fillers?

You will be given a sentence with **One**, **Two** or **Three** blanks with 4-5 options. In single fillers, there will be one word in each option. For double fillers, there will be two words while in triple fillers, three words will be provided in each option. In double and triple fillers, the options will be in sequence i.e. the first word for first blank and second word for second blank and so on.

Usage

- Elimination
- Grammar
- Comprehension

Strategy

Every question demands different strategies still, the fundamentals are same i.e. eliminate the options using grammar and comprehension.

Direction: A sentence with one blank is given, indicating that something has been omitted. Choose the word that best fits the blank appropriately. **(IBPS Clerk Pre 2018)**

1. Usually, when the local festival is a week away, the number of customers in the shop _____.

- A. Will have increased
- B. Has increasing
- C. Will be increased
- D. Increases
- E. Increased

Answer: D.

Solution:

- The use of the **Adverb**, 'usually' indicates the requirement of **Simple Present Tense**.
- The given sentence is in simple present tense and states a general fact, hence the latter half of the sentence with the blank will also be in the simple present tense.
- Since the subject in the latter part of the sentence is **Singular**, i.e., 'the number', the verb 'increases' will follow accordingly.
- Hence, option D is the correct answer.

Note: The expression 'the number' is followed by a singular verb while the expression a number is followed by a plural verb.

2. You will have to undergo a _____ of tests before the interview.

- A. large
- B. series
- C. design
- D. booklet
- E. delegation

Answer: B.

Solution:

- This needs to be attempted carefully.
- There is 'a' before the blank and plural 'tests' after the blank so the word in the blank should express a collective to make the sentence grammatically correct.
- Among the given options, the only series fits in grammatically as well as contextually.
- 'A large of tests' doesn't make any sense.
- One doesn't undergo a design of tests or a booklet of tests or a delegation of tests.
- Hence, these are incorrect as well.

3. One has to be very _____ during the monsoons as the roads become slippery.

- A. Smart
- B. Cautious

C. Presentable

D. Prepare

E. Healthy

Answer: B.

Solution:

- 'Cautious' can be used to make the sentence meaningful which means alert or be careful.
- The context of the statement is that the monsoon is a bit troublesome due to slippery roads and needs to be navigated with care.
- 'Prepare' uses the incorrect form of grammar.
- 'Smart' may appear to be correct, but we need to choose the most suitable response which in this case is 'cautious'.
- Hence, option B is the correct answer.

4. The judge used his _____ in settling the matter.

A. Know

B. Tactics

C. Discretion

D. Brains

E. Bias

Answer: C.

Solution:

- To settle a dispute, one needs to have a sound decision-making ability to be able to judge both sides.
- Also, a judge is a free body to decide upon any issue.
- 'Know' is a verb which means to be aware of through observation, inquiry, or information.
- 'Tactics' refer to an action or strategy carefully planned to achieve a specific end.
- A judge doesn't need tactics to make a judgment.
- 'Discretion' means the freedom to decide what should be done in a particular situation.

- 'Brains' refer to intellectual capacity.
- 'Bias' means inclination or prejudice for or against one person or group, especially in a way considered to be unfair.
- Hence option C is the correct response.

5. The Board members could not arrive at a unanimous _____ on the issue.

A. Judgement

B. Progress

C. Policy

D. Dissent

E. Action

Answer: A.

Solution:

- Judgement means the ability to make considered decisions or come to sensible conclusions.
- Progress means advancement. Policy means a strategy or an approach.
- Dissent means lack of approval.
- Action means activity.
- The Board members are usually involved in making decisions/ judgements.
- "Unanimous" is an adjective which means (of two or more people) fully in the agreement.
- It can appropriately modify the noun 'judgement'.
- No other word except 'judgement' makes sense in the given context.
- Hence, 'judgement' is the correct answer.

Direction: The following question carries one statement with one blank. Choose the most appropriate word from the options to fill the blank. **(SBI Clerk Pre 2019)**

1. The local goons tried to _____ him into retracting his complaint.

A. Scare

B. Stalls

C. Rendered

D. Forcing

E. Destroyed

Answer: A.

Solution:

- To retract means to withdraw a statement or accusation.
- The word "goon" is used to refer to a violent criminal who is paid to hurt or threaten people and in this context, the concerned person will be forced to withdraw the complaint because of fear.
- Thus, "scare" is the appropriate word for the blank. **The Infinitive "to"** should be followed by the base form of the verb. Hence, options D and E can be eliminated.
- "Goons" is a plural subject, thus, a singular verb "stalls" cannot be used.
- "Render" is incorrect in the given context.
- Thus, option A is the correct answer.

2. The _____ of success depends completely on the amount of effort we put in.

A. Ranges

B. Drop

C. Want

D. Possibly

E. Likelihood

Answer: E.

Solution:

- "Likelihood" means the state or fact of something's being likely; probability.
- None of the other words except 'likelihood' will fit in the blank.
- This is because the statement uses the words 'depends' which indicates that something is determined by something else.
- This provides the base for a possibility.
- Thus, option E is the correct answer.

3. She lied blatantly, thus, driving the _____ of the police officers.

- A. Visiting
- B. Attention
- C. Duty
- D. Suspicion
- E. Supplies

Answer: D.

Solution:

- "Blatantly" means in an open and unashamed manner.
- If someone lies outrightly, it will definitely make the police suspicious.
- So, option D is the correct answer.

4. When the elephants saw so much water in the lake, they _____.

- A. Happy
- B. Rejoiced
- C. Declined
- D. Sentenced
- E. Awaited

Answer: B.

Solution:

- Since the sentence talks about an incident that occurred in the past, the word in the blank must be in the past tense.
- This eliminates option A.
- Among the other options, "rejoiced" (feel or show great joy or delight) is the best fit.

5. All the members had assembled _____ the chairman of the committee.

- A. Although
- B. Except

C. Because

D. So

E. Notwithstanding

Answer: B.

Solution:

- None of the conjunctions but "except" fit in the passage.
- The sentence now means that the chairman of the committee was not present.

So, this is how we solve questions on fillers.

New Type: We will solve a new type in the Bank PO practice questions.

Since the pattern in Banking Exams is changed so frequently hence please try this type cloze test as well.

Bank PO Level:

Direction: In the following passage, there are blanks, each followed by a word given in bold. Every blank has four alternative words given in options (A), (B), (C) and (D). Find the word which best suits the place. If the given word suits the blank, mark 'no correction/change required' as the answer.

"Between the year 1946 and the year 1955, I did not file any income tax returns." With that (1) **[Striking]** statement, Ramesh embarked on an account of his encounter with the Income Tax Department. "I originally owed Rs 20,000 in unpaid taxes. With (2) **[Investment]** and fines, the 20,000 became 60,000. The Income Tax Department then went into action and I learned firsthand just how much power the Tax Department wields. Royalties and trust funds can be (3) **[Sanctioned]**; automobiles may be (4) **[Reprocessed]** and auctioned off. Nothing belongs to the (5) **[Innocent]** until the case is settled."

1. Find the appropriate word for blank (1).

A Devious

- B Blunt
- C Tactful
- D Pretentious
- E No change required

2. Find the appropriate word in blank (2).

- A Interest
- B Taxes
- C Principal
- D Returns
- E No change required

3. Find the appropriate word in blank (3).

- A Closed
- B Detached
- C Attached
- D Open
- E No change required

4. Find the appropriate word in blank (4).

- A Smashed
- B Seized
- C Dismantled
- D Frozen
- E No change required

5. Find the appropriate word in blank (5).

- A Purchaser
- B Victim
- C Investor
- D Offender
- E No change required

Solution:

1. (B)

The statement before the blank is an honest and to the point statement which shows us its nature. Hence the word 'blunt' is apt. Option A and D are out of context.

'Devious' means showing a skilful use of underhand tactics to achieve goals.

'Tactful' means having or showing skill and sensitivity in dealing with others or with difficult issues.

'Pretentious' means attempting to impress by affecting greater importance or merit than is actually possessed.

2. (A)

The statement is talking about fines and unpaid amounts. With an unpaid amount **interest** is a compulsion. It is the only option that completes the meaning of the sentence.

3. (C)

The author is talking about his discovery of the power of the income tax department and in doing so he states the various things the IT office can do. Trust funds are usually ATTACHED. ATTACH refers to confiscation. Hence it is apt over here.

4. (B)

Smashed in choice (a) and 'dismantled' in choice (c) are far from being logical. 'Frozen' is a wrong choice. 'Frozen' is used in the context of making bank accounts inoperable etc. Automobiles are seized.

5. (D)

The previous statement is making it obvious that the author is talking about a guilty party. The guilty is often called an offender. Hence option D is correct.

Bank Clerk Level

In the following passage, there are blanks each of which has been numbered. These numbers correspond to the question numbers; against each question, five words have been suggested, one of which fills the blanks appropriately.

Banks have a long history and have (1) economies and politics for centuries. The development of central banks, responsible for the monetary policy of their country and with supervisory powers over banks, (2) that financial institutions do not behave

recklessly or fraudulently. In most countries, the central bank is state-owned and has a minimal degree of (3) to allow for the possibility of government intervention in monetary policy. While commercial banks serve individuals and businesses, (4) the flow of money and thus supporting economic transactions, the central bank's function is to maintain economic (5) by storing and regulating the flow of money, much as various organs in the human body regulate the production and flow of blood, including the production and flow of red and white blood cells, to support the health of the body as a whole.

1. Find the appropriate word for blank (1).

- A. reflected
- B. influenced
- C. amended
- D. untouched
- E. revolutionise

2. Find the appropriate word in blank (2).

- A. concludes
- B. addresses
- C. ensures
- D. alters
- E. traces

3. Find the appropriate word in blank (3).

- A. coercion
- B. compulsory
- C. emancipation
- D. liberationist
- E. autonomy

4. Find the appropriate word in blank (4).

- A. facilitating
- B. urging
- C. transporting
- D. declining
- E. pertaining

5. Find the appropriate word in blank (5).

- A. versatility
- B. reactivity
- C. stability
- D. mobility
- E. feasibility

Solution:

1. (B)

Reflect(ed) means think deeply or carefully about.

Influence(ed) means the action or process of producing effects on the actions, behavior, opinions, etc.

Amend(ed) means to alter, modify, rephrase, or add to or subtract from a motion, bill, constitution, etc. by formal procedure.

Untouch(ed) means not affected, changed, or damaged in any way.

Revolutionise means change something radically or fundamentally.

The sentence is written in present perfect tense and the word "revolutionise " is in simple present tense so it cannot be the answer. Banks have affected the economic functioning and political aspects for centuries so **influenced** is the correct answer.

2. (C)

Concludes means bring or come to an end.

Addresses means a formal speech delivered to an audience.

Ensures means to make certain that something will occur or be the case.

Alters means to cause the characteristics of something to change.

Traces means find or discover by investigation.

It is the duty of Central Banks to ensure and make it certain that financial institutions do not behave recklessly. Therefore, '**ensures**' is the correct answer.

3. (E)

Coercion means the action or practice of persuading someone to do something by using force or threats.

Compulsory means required by law or a rule.

Emancipation means the fact or process of being set free from legal, social, or political restrictions.

Liberationist means the seeking of equal status or just treatment for or on behalf of any group believed to be discriminated against.

Autonomy means freedom from external control or influence.

The Central Banks are mostly state owned so they would not be having freedom to work independently without external influence so **autonomy** is the correct answer.

4. (A)

Facilitating means to make something possible or easier.

Urging means to drive with incitement to speed or effort.

Transporting means to take or carry people or goods from one place to another by means of a vehicle, aircraft, or ship.

Declining means decrease.

Pertaining means be appropriate, related, or applicable to.

The commercial banks make the flow of money easier thus making the transactions easier therefore **facilitating** is the correct answer.

5. (C)

Versatility means ability to adapt or be adapted to many different functions or activities.

Reactivity means the quality or condition of being reactive. Stability means resistance to change, especially sudden change or deterioration.

Mobility means the ability to move or be moved freely and easily. Feasibility means possible and practical to do easily or conveniently.

The main function is to provide protection against resistance to financial change so **stability** is the correct answer.

Bank SO Level:

Read the passage given below. In the following passage, some words/ phrases/ idioms have been highlighted in bold. Choose the correct combination of words/ phrases/ idioms that can fit in the passage to make grammatical and contextual sense.

A decision on Bt brinjal has been **(A) hanging fire/advancing / suspending** for nearly a decade. The Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee cleared Bt brinjal in October 2009, but the Ministry of Environment held back its clearance, citing a lack of scientific **(B) accord/dissension/consensus**. In the meantime, Bt brinjal grown in Bangladesh, in particular, has found its way into the Indian market. Such uncertainty has encouraged farmers to take the law into their own hands. Activists and academics in the anti-GM camp have alleged that ‘quasi-official’ leaks of GM varieties are **(C) engineered/doctored/planned** to ensure that approval becomes a fait accompli. The Centre should adopt an open, consultative process so that producers and consumers’ interests are well served. The climate of suspicion needs to be **(D) cancelled/expelled/dispelled**. The issue of conserving traditional varieties as well as monitoring carcinogenic effects, if any, should be entrusted to public agencies. There can be no dismissing the concerns worldwide over the health effects of glyphosate. However, in trying to **(E) abbreviate/expand / curtail** its use, farmers’ issues of rising pest attacks, in a context of drought and climate change, too need to be addressed.

1. Which of the following words should be used at (A) as per the context of the passage from the given options?

- I. Hanging fire
- II. Advancing
- III. Suspending
- a) Both II and III
- b) Only I
- c) Both I and III
- d) Both I and II
- e) All I, II and III

2. Which of the following words should be used at (B) as per the context of the passage from the given options?

- I. Accord
- II. Dissension
- III. Consensus
- a) Both II and III
- b) Only I
- c) Both I and III
- d) Both I and II
- e) All I, II and III

3. Which of the following words should be used at (C) as per the context of the passage from the given options?

- I. Engineered
- II. Doctored
- III. Planned
- a) Both II and III
- b) Only II
- c) Both I and III
- d) Both I and II
- e) All I, II and III

4. Which of the following words should be used at (D) as per the context of the passage from the given options?

- I. Cancelled
- II. Expelled
- III. Dispelled
- a) Both II and III

- b) Only III
- c) Both I and III
- d) Both I and II
- e) All I, II and III

5. Which of the following words should be used at (E) as per the context of the passage from the given options?

- I. Abbreviate
 - II. Expand
 - III. Curtail
- a) Both II and III
 - b) Only III
 - c) Both I and III
 - d) Both I and II
 - e) All I, II and III

Solutions:

1. (b)

The correct answer is option b i.e. Only I.

Concept:

The given question is based on the cloze test. We have to find the correct filler from the options provided that fits best in the sentence.

Application:

According to the given context, we are here talking about the issue that the government is not doing anything to legalize the usage of genetic crops in India. It is confusing the farmers, also making illegal use of such seeds too prevalent in the country.

Hanging fire refers to *getting delayed for some reason* whereas the rest of the two words are not correct as per the given context. Hence only I can be used to fill this blank in the passage whereas the other two should be eliminated from consideration.

Hence, the chosen option is correct.

2. (c)

The correct answer is option c i.e. Both I and III.

Concept/Grammar rules:

The given question is based on the cloze test. We have to find the correct filler from the options provided that fits best in the sentence.

Application:

According to the given context, the main problem with the genetic seeds in India is that the scientific community of the country is divided over the usage of such crops in the country. It will take place only when there is the go-ahead from the technical community so that the government can go ahead with the decision regarding these seeds to be used in the country.

Among the given words, both accord and consensus can be used to fill the given blank whereas dissension is just the opposite of the words we have just chosen making it unfit for this blank. Hence this word should be eliminated from consideration.

Hence, the chosen option is correct.

3. (d)

The correct answer is option d i.e. Both I and II.

Concept:

The given question is based on the cloze test. We have to find the correct filler from the options provided that fits best in the sentence.

Application:

According to the given context, it is being said that the whole episode of giving approval to the genetically designed seeds by the government. The whole thing is like something that has already been decided even before those affected by it will hear it. It is the reason that nothing is happening regarding this.

Among the given words, engineered and doctored may be used to fill the blank but planned cannot be used to fill the blank though it is the synonym of the two words already mentioned before. So, this should be eliminated from consideration.

Hence, the chosen option is correct.

4. (b)

The correct answer is option b i.e. Only III.

Concept:

The given question is based on the cloze test. We have to find the correct filler from the options provided that fits best in the sentence.

Application:

In the given context we mean to imply that the air of suspicion regarding the genetic seeds should be done away with so that there is approval for the same from the government. It will make sure that such seeds are utilized properly in the country and no illegal use takes place of such seeds by the farmers.

Among the given words, both cancelled and expelled are not correct since both of these words will not go with the context in which we are talking about suspicion. 'Dispelled' may be used here to fill the blank so that it will imply that the confusion and suspicion are not there in the whole episode of approval for the GE seeds.

Hence, the chosen option is correct.

5. (b)

The correct answer is option b i.e. Only III.

Concept:

The given question is based on the cloze test. We have to find the correct filler from the options provided that fits best in the sentence.

Application:

According to the given context, we are saying that the farmers should be assured of the rising pest attacks during farming so that nothing of that sort brings down the morale of the farmers. It will make sure that such seeds are utilized properly in the country and more utilization can be done using these high yielding seeds once proper approval is provided by the government.

Among the given options, abbreviate should be eliminated since it may mean something similar to what may be placed, it is not going with the context at all. Expand is not going with the context whereas curtail is the right choice for the blank.

Hence, the chosen option is correct.

PARA JUMBLES & SENTENCE REARRANGEMENT

PARA JUMBLES

We are going to discuss the most-discussed topic, and that is none other than **Para jumbles!**

Of course, this is a nightmare to all the students who dream of being a banker. The reason is that there is no hard and fast rule to solve this. In fact, a language does not follow a rule, it has to be understood by reason and emotion. Now, the question arises if we can solve it. Definitely, we can, all we need to do is to pay some attention to the question.

Application

- Comprehension: Identify the topic
- Grammar: Mostly pronoun and conjunction
- Elimination: Go through the options
- Vocabulary

Now, let's see how we solve it. Actually, it's a blend of all i.e. understanding capability, knowledge of grammar, shortlisting through the options and so on. The **Strategies** vary from question to question.

Question: Rearrange the following five sentences (A), (B), (C), (D), and (E) in a proper sequence to form a meaningful paragraph; then answer the questions given below them. (**IBPS Clerk PT, 2018**)

A) And people like the Indian President and Prime Minister get 3 cents and 1 cent respectively.

B) Sachin Tendulkar, arguably India's best-ever cricket player, earns some \$30 a minute.

C) India's highest-paid CEO, Mukesh Ambani of Reliance Industries, gets \$10, and celluloid superstar Amitabh Bachchan, \$8.

D) That makes it tempting to assume that the business of cricket must be huge and thriving, too.

E) But even if you ignore the numbers, the conclusion is that India's cricket stars are handsomely paid.

1. Which of the following should be the FIRST sentence after rearrangement?

A. B

B. D

C. A

D. C

E. E

2. Which of the following should be the THIRD sentence after rearrangement?

A. B

B. D

C. A

D. C

E. E

3. Which of the following should be the FIFTH sentence after rearrangement?

A. B

B. D

C. A

D. C

E. E

4. Which of the following should be the SECOND sentence after rearrangement?

A. B

B. D

C. A

D. C

E. E

5. Which of the following should be the FOURTH sentence after rearrangement?

A. B

B. D

C. A

D. C

E. E

Solution:

Step 1: Identify the first sentence-

(i) The first sentence should be an **Independent** one i.e. it should mostly contain **Nouns**. Moreover, neither it contains **Pronoun** nor it starts with **Conjunctions** generally.

(ii) It should reveal the topic.

In the above question, if we apply this approach, sentences A, D and E cannot be the first sentence as they start with **Conjunction** i.e. 'and', 'that' and 'but' respectively.

Out of B and C, B will be the first sentence as it is completely an independent sentence.

Step 2: Connect the remaining sentences-Search for **Connectors** if any. Since the topic of discussion is the payment of celebrities. After B, the next sentence will be C since it continues the same discussion.

A further continues the argument. Also, it contains 'and' which shows similar ideas. Hence, A will follow C.

The topic is still continuing in E though it shows little contrast by the usage of 'but'.

D will be the last sentence as the usage of 'that' indicates 'India's cricket stars are handsomely paid', used in E.

Answer: BCAED

So, in this question, options did not play much role. Though, in some cases, we can make use of options as well. Let's take some questions where **Options** make our task easier.

Direction (1-5) : Rearrange the following six sentences, (A), (B), (C), (D), (E) and (F), in a proper sequence to form a meaningful paragraph, then answer the questions that follow. (**SBI CLERK PT 2019**)

A. During the construction of both types of buildings, a lot of fuel is burnt due to which a large amount of carbon dioxide is emitted in the atmosphere.

B. The major source of carbon dioxide is power plants.

C. Another twenty percent of carbon dioxide emitted in the atmosphere comes from the burning of gasoline in the engines of vehicles.

D. Buildings, both commercial and residential represent a larger source of global warming pollution than the said cars and trucks.

E. The major cause of global warming is the emission of greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, etc, into the atmosphere.

F. These power plants emit large amounts of carbon dioxide produced from the burning

of fossil fuels for the purpose of electricity generation.

1. Which of the following would be the SECOND sentence after rearrangement?

A. E

B. B

C. C

D. D

E. A

2. Which of the following would be the THIRD sentence after rearrangement?

A. A

B. B

C. C

D. D

E. F

3. Which of the following would be the FIRST sentence after rearrangement?

A. A

B. B

C. C

D. D

E. E

4. Which of the following would be the sixth sentence after rearrangement?

A. A

B. B

C. C

D. D

E. E

5. Which of the following would be the FOURTH sentence after rearrangement?

A. A

B. B

C. C

D. D

E. E

Solution:

Step 1: Eliminate- A, C, D and F cannot be the first sentence as they are not independent. A contains 'both type', C contains 'Another', D contains 'said' and F contains 'these'.

Step 2: Identify the first sentence- Out of E and B, E represents an independent idea and therefore it is the first sentence.

Step 3: Connect- B will follow E as B is the **Extension** of E. And both E and B contain the same **Vocabulary** 'major'.

Step 4: Make logical pairs- FC makes a pair as they talk about the emission of carbon dioxide. DA makes a **Logical pair** as they talk about buildings. Also, F will follow B as F holds 'these power plants' which is mentioned in B.

Answer: EBFCDA

Directions (1-2): Sentences given in each question, when properly sequenced form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a letter. Choose the most logical order of sentences amongst the five choices given to construct a paragraph.
(IBPS CLERK MAINS 2016)

Q1. (a) The newspaperman, the flower seller, the milkman, the sweeper, they are all privy to the chatting and sharing of news that the elderly find comforting.

(b) When we remove them from their homes, it is not only the family that they are being removed from but all those other people that they see every day and whose joys and woes become their own.

(c) In our system of living, the elderly at home have a circle of acquaintances and friends.

(d) The loneliness of the discarded elderly is manifold.

(e) When we forcibly remove people from surroundings they have been part of for decades we put an un-mendable tear in the fabric of their lives.

(a) DECAB

(b) ABDCE

(c) ECADB

(d) DBAEC

(e) CBAED

Solution:

Step 1: Go through the option- Options tell that B cannot be the first sentence.

Step 2: Identify the first sentence/topic- D is the first sentence as it is an **Independent** sentence and it alone can express the topic.

Step 3: Eliminate – Only options a and d start with D. So, the rest is automatically eliminated.

Step 4: Connect- According to options, after D, either E or B can come. If we take B after D, it does not make the sentence coherent as the 'those' used in B. is used for the newspaperman, the flower seller, the milkman and the sweeper. But, A **Pronoun** (those) should come after its **Noun**. So, B cannot come before A. Now, it's not required to solve the question further.

Answer: (a)DECAB

Sometimes **Vocabulary** and **Interrogative sentences** too help us to find the proper sequence.

Q2. (a) Some of the worst cancers aren't detected by screening.

(b) The only way to be sure is to look at the results of randomized trials comparing cancer deaths in screened and unscreened people.

(c) So how can we be confident that getting a screening test regularly is a good idea?

(d) Even when screening "works" in such trials, the size of the benefit observed is Surprisingly low: Generally, regular screening reduces fatalities from various cancers

between 15 per cent and 25 per cent.

(e) They appear suddenly, between regular screenings, and are difficult to treat because they are so aggressive.

(a) DBAEC

(b) AECBD

(c) ADBEC

(d) ACBED

(e) ACBDE

Solution:

Step 1: Go through the options- Options tell us that either A or D can be the first sentence. D does not seem to be the first sentence as it starts with 'even' which is used to give additional information. So, A is the first sentence.

Step 2: Apply the question-answer method- A question always comes before its answer. Here, C holds the question while B holds the answer. So, C must come before B. Applying this, option C gets eliminated.

Also, D will come after B as 'such trials' in D is used for 'randomised trials' in B. So, here **Pronoun** (such) and **Vocabulary** (trials) helped us to find the order. So, CBD will come together.

Options B and E hold 'CBD'.

Step 3: Find conclusion/solution- The solution is generally given at the end of a paragraph. Here, D holds the solution. Also, E is the extension of A as both sentences are discussing the problem.

Answer: (b)AECBD

Pre-requisites:

1. Conjunctions

2. Prepositions
3. Voices (Active and Passive)
4. Adverb and Pronoun
5. Articles

Let us first discuss some of the key points that one must keep in mind while solving Para jumbles:

1. Read the entire jumbled paragraph once. By this, you will understand:
 1. Context of the paragraph
 2. Tone and message of the paragraph
 3. Idea of the introductory line
2. One of the most important aspects of solving Para Jumbles is to find the introductory line of the paragraph. Once we are able to find the initial line it becomes easier for us to determine the flow of sentences in a proper context. How to do that? Look for a name i.e. a person, place, organization, country, or anything upon which the entire paragraph resembles.
3. Understand the usage of Conjunctions and prepositions in the paragraph. This will help you in decoding the flow of speech or occurrence.
4. Don't be so quick in judging that a pronoun can never be the first sentence of a paragraph. Because there are many questions where these tricks are being used to confuse you.

E.g. He said he will not come with me to the party tonight, Sameer told Nisha about Ritesh.

As you can see, the sentence starts with a pronoun but can be used as an introductory line of a paragraph. So, be careful before making any spontaneous judgments.

5. Decode the line of conclusion or the last line of the paragraph. There are some words that usually signify conclusions i.e. Clearly, Thus, Therefore, Eventually, Finally, On a final note, Conclusively, Lastly, etc.
6. The most important tip: If you are unable to find a correct order with the above six strategies then start the heat and trial method i.e. start eliminating the irrelevant options. This will help you a lot in framing the sentences correctly.

That's enough on the theoretical part. Let us now solve some previous year questions along with concept-based questions to understand the above points with a clear vision.

Direction: A paragraph that is jumbled and divided into five parts i.e. A, B, C, D and E is given below. Find out the correct sequence of sentences by rearranging them in the correct order to make the paragraph contextually and grammatically coherent then mark the correct option.

While fiscal excesses and financial sector stress remain big issues today, India has improved significantly on at least one dimension on (A)/In summer 2013, when the Federal Reserve indicated a possible reversal of its ultra-accommodative policy, (B)/initiated an effort to build credibility with domestic savers and international investors on maintaining inflation at prudent levels. (C)/ macroeconomic parameters for India were so weak that it got caught up in the “taper tantrum” and experienced external sector fragility. (D)/inflation, which has also stabilized the external sector. How was this beneficial progress achieved? Starting in September 2013, the Reserve Bank of India. (E)

This question has asked to find the correct order of the sentences.

Step 1: Read the jumbled paragraph once. Upon reading, we can say that:

1. The paragraph talks about inflation and improvements in the financial sector.
2. The message of the paragraph is India’s significant improvement in tackling inflation.
3. The tone of the paragraph is neutral because it cites a report.

Step 2: Find the introductory line of the paragraph: As discussed above, the sentence cites a report. So, the sentence that cites the date seems to be the introductory line i.e. ‘B’.

Step 3: Find the connectors: Once we have the idea of introductory line, let us now match that sentence with one that makes the entire line contextually and grammatically coherent. The line that matches the tone of the first sentence is option ‘D’ and the rest of the sentences don’t look appropriate.

Likewise, we can form the correct sequence. The next line out of ‘A’, ‘E’, ‘C’ that fits as the third sentence seems to be ‘A’. Why?

See, the sentence ‘A’ starts with a Conjunction that means it will have one more sentence after it in contrast to it. And, out of ‘E’ and ‘C’, none of them fits to be the third statement. (You will assess after reading both the sentences).

Step 4: Find the Concluding line: Out of the remaining two sentences, find out which one could fit best as the last line. Sentence ‘E’ starts with the word ‘inflation’, sentence ‘C’ starts with the word ‘initiated’ and the third statement ended with ‘dimension on’. The sentence that fits grammatically after the third sentence is ‘E’

because “dimension on initiated” sounds completely inappropriate. So, the concluding line is the sentence ‘C’. That means the fourth sentence is ‘E’.

Step 5: Read the re-arranged sentences again and verify whether it sounds correct or not. Since the arranged order is “BDAEC” and it sounds completely valid and coherent with the paragraph. So, we can mark the correct option.

This is how we can solve any question from para jumbles by keeping the basic grammatical rules in mind. Moreover, by reading the sentence and assessing the tone we can answer many questions from para jumbles. Let us solve one more question:

Direction: Given below are six statements A, B, C, D, E and F, which when arranged in the correct order, form a coherent and meaningful paragraph. The sentence marked D is fixed and would fit in the fourth position. Rearrange the other statements in a proper sequence to form a meaningful paragraph, then answer the questions that follow.

A. Acts of grand corruption usually involve a set of illegal actions – like the bribery of public officials, substitution of materials or resources, and the complicity of a group of actors – that may lead to fatal consequences.

B. For a number of years, the anticorruption community has discussed the possibility of prosecuting cases of grand corruption. This could have a positive impact on raising awareness and reform and may fill a vacuum if a state is unable or unwilling to prosecute certain cases of grand corruption.

C. There is a need to protect the universality of human rights, and to do so, we must stop regarding corruption as something cultural or contextual. The ambiguity of the concept makes it more difficult to include anti-corruption among human rights issues.

D. Because of this, dozens of children were given false cancer treatments in Veracruz. Children were given water instead of chemotherapy treatments. Funding was also cut from security and police forces; 2,500 homicides were registered during Duarte’s administration.

E. Corruption affects human rights in a variety of ways, yet it is still not considered a “human rights violation”. Instead, it is solely deemed an international offence.

F. The consequences of corruption are far worse than they appear in plain sight. Between 2012 and 2016, Javier Duarte in Mexico transferred millions of pesos from public funds into his private accounts, including money destined to health providers and security forces.

Let us follow the steps as we did previously and solve this question. The passage is on corruption, so either C or E could logically be the opening lines of the passage.

The options 'A', 'B', 'F' and 'D' start with such conjunctions and connectors, which indicate that they are the continuation of other statements.

Between C and E, 'E' should be the first sentence as it lays down the argument that corruption affects human rights and C takes the idea forward towards a resolution. So, E and C for the first and the second sentence respectively.

Now since we have found the first and the second sentence, and having the fourth sentence fixed, we need to look for the third sentence.

D mentions the phrase, "Because of this, dozens of children were given false cancer treatments"; so, we need to find a specific reason.

F carries this reason for the consequence mentioned in D. Thus, F is the third sentence.

Now we are left with only A and B, and B follows A as it concludes the passage by stating how the anti-corruption community helped in raising awareness.

So, the correct sequence stands as ECFDAB

SENTENCE REARRANGEMENT

We are going to discuss the **Strategy** for **Sentence Jumble**. But before that, we must be aware of what a sentence jumble is.

Well, it is actually a sentence which is not in the proper sequence. All you need to do is to rearrange the parts to make a meaningful sentence.

There is no certain rule to solve this. Every question requires a different approach according to the formation of the sentence. Still, it's quite easy to attempt and score in the examination. Let's take some **examples** and see what **approaches** we can apply.

Direction: In each question below some sentences are given which are divided into five parts. The first part of the sentence (1) is correct and is given in bold followed by four parts named A, B, C and D. Rearrange the four parts of the sentences to make

a coherent sentence. The rearranged sequence of the parts will be your answer. If the given sentence is correct as it is then choose option (5). **(SBI PO PT 07-07-2018)**

1. Crashes in the early days (1)/to be caused by technical faults, (A) / of commercial jets tended (B) / such as metal fatigue (C) / in the airframe or engines. (D)

1) DCAB 2) ABCD 3) BACD 4) CABD 5) No arrangement required

Solution:

- First of all, it is required to find out if the sentence is already correct. Since the given sentence does not seem to be meaningful, we need to rearrange it.
- Now, have a look at the options. According to the options, the sentence can start with any of the given parts.
- The sentence talks about 'crashes'. Now, we need to find out 'crashes of what'. The answer lies in part B i.e. 'of commercial jets'.
- Since only one option starts with B, we **do not** require to go **further**.
- **Options** play a major role.
- Still, let's frame the entire sentence to be satisfied. B ends in 'tended' and 'tend' always takes 'to' after it which is there in part A.
- A ends in 'technical faults' and C holds the example of 'technical faults'.
- C ends in 'metal fatigue' and D indicates its place.
- So, option 3 is the appropriate answer.

Answer: 3

2. There have been a lot of (1) / drivers not obeying (A) / complaints recently about (B) / in downtown Boston (C) / the speed limits (D).

1) BADC 2) ABCD 3) BCAD 4) CABD 5) No arrangement required

Solution:

- Needs rearrangement.
- According to the options, the sentence cannot start with D.
- (1) ends in 'a lot of'. After 'a lot of', a plural **noun** is required.
- A contains 'drivers', B contains 'complaints' and C contains 'in'.
- Hence, C is eliminated.
- If we start the sentence with A, according to the options, we have to go for option 2 as only option 2 starts with A.
- According to option 2, A is followed by B. So, we get 'obeying complaints' which is meaningless.
- So, the sentence must start with B.

- We have two of the options starting with B. According to them, B should be followed either by A or C.
- B should be followed by A as it contains the reason for the 'complaint'.
- Now, it is not required to go further.
- **Saving time** is also a challenge in the examination.

Answer: 1

3. Chinese officials say (1) / dropped to a three-year (A) / low because of (B) / economic growth has (C) / the world economy (D).

1) BADC 2) CABD 3) BCAD 4) CADB 5) No arrangement required

Solution:

- Needs rearrangement
- According to the options, the sentence will either start with B or C.
- (1) ends in 'say'. Now, we need 'say what'.
- The answer lies in C i.e. 'economic growth'.
- Hence, the sentence will start with C.
- Options 2 and 4 start with CA.
- A contains 'a' i.e. an article so a noun is required after it.
- B contains 'low' which is a noun.
- So, the answer is option 2.

Answer: 2

4. I think it's a shame that (1) / some foreign language teachers (A) / studied with a native speaker (B) / college without ever having (C) / were able to graduate from (D).

1) BADC 2) CABD 3) BCAD 4) ADCB 5) No arrangement required

Solution:

- Needs rearrangement.
- According to the options, the sentence cannot start with D.
- (1) ends in 'that'. After 'that', a **subject** and a **verb** is required.
- A contains the subject.
- Since only option 4 starts with A, it would be the appropriate answer.
- No need to solve this further.

Answer: 4

Now, let's do some tougher questions when none of the parts are fixed.

Directions: Rearrange the given group of words (A), (B), (C), (D) and (E) in a proper sequence so as to form a meaningful sentence. Select the combination which represents the correct sequence of the sentence as your answer. If none of the given combinations represents the correct sequence of the sentence mark "None of the given combinations is correct" as your answer. **(IBPS Clerk PT 07-12-2019)**

1. (A) area collected single-use

(B) useful household items

(C) plastic waste and used

(D) the residents of this

(E) it to make several

1) BDCEA

2) CBEDA

3) DACEB

4) DBCEA

5) None of the given combinations is correct

Solution:

- It's not necessary that we have to start with the first part.
- Just try to find connections between the parts.
- In part A, there is a word 'collected', since there is not any form of 'be' before it, it means that it is in the active voice.
- Therefore we need a subject who can 'collect'
- In part D, we find the subject i.e. 'the residents'. So, part D should be the first subject.
- If we go through the options, only options 3 and 4 start with D. According to the options, part D should be either followed by part A or B.
- In part D 'the residents of this', requires a location from which they belong to. So, 'area' provides the appropriate meaning which is contained in part A.
- We do not need to go further as we have identified the answer.

Answer: 3

2.

- (A) opportunity to allow free
- (B) time, the leader
- (C) unlike most others of his
- (D) exchange of culture
- (E) viewed food as an

- 1) None of the given combinations is correct
- 2) ACEDB
- 3) BCEDA
- 4) CBEAD
- 5) DEBAC

Solution:

- Part E ends with 'an' which requires to be followed by a word having **vowel sound**.
- Also, that word must be a noun.
- Parts A, C and D start with the words having vowel sound i.e 'opportunity', 'unlike' and 'exchange' respectively.
- Among these three words, only 'opportunity' is a noun.
- Going through the options, we find that 'EA' is contained in option 4 only.
- Now, it is not required to solve it further.

Answer: 4

3. (A) gap between urban and rural communities by

- (B) on village life
- (C) of education widened the
- (D) not including lessons
- (E) the traditional system

- 1) CBDEA

2) None of the given combinations is correct

3) ECADB

4) DEBAC

5)BDCAE

Solution:

- Parts B, C and D cannot be the first part as they start with either **preposition** or **conjunction**.
- Part A also cannot be the first part as 'gap' is a countable **noun** so it must take an **article** before it.
- Moreover, none of the options starts with part A.
- Hence, we are left with only one option i.e option 3.
- So, it is not required to arrange all the parts, **options** are good enough to provide the correct answer.

Answer: 3

Sentence Jumbles are those questions that require students to select words or phrases from a jumbled sentence and arrange them in the correct way so that the sentence becomes contextually and grammatically coherent.

As we always say in our blogs, one thing that will never stop following you while dealing with English is "**Parts of speech**". In sentence jumbles, some of the important topics as pre-requisites from the parts of speech are as follows:

1. Conjunctions (correlative conjunctions to be precise): These are the conjunctions that occur in pairs. E.g. Both / and; Either/or; Hardly / when; If / then; Just as / so; Neither/nor; Not only / but also; Rather / or; Whether / or.

Example: *Neither Seema nor her sister showed any interest in meeting me.*

2. Tenses

3. Clause and prepositions

4. Voices and Narration

Let us now discuss some of the tips and tricks to follow for solving sentence jumbles in the least possible time:

- A. Read the entire jumbled sentence once. By this, you will understand the context and tone of it.
- B. Find the introductory part of the sentence and try merging it with others. Then, assess the usage of grammar in it. A jumbled sentence will surely be grammatically incorrect.
- C. If you could find any two correct jumbled parts of a sentence and you are confident enough with it then look at the options and start eliminating the irrelevant options. (We will solve one example below).
- D. Once you are able to find a relation between two parts of a sentence, it is quite easier to join the other ones. All you need is to merge the traces. By doing this, you will be able to form the correct sentence.
- E. Pro Tip: Always keep the options in mind. The elimination process works wonders at times. Moreover, it saves your time.

That's all from our side. Now if you have a different approach for solving these questions, it would be better if you practice a good number of questions by yourself to boost your confidence.

Bank Clerk Level:

The following questions are based on the five passages given and the passage is divided into five parts (A), (B), (C), (D) and (E). Find out the actual sequence by rearranging them in a proper way to make it contextually and grammatically correct and then answer the questions that follow.

- A. Income tax department issued nearly 14 lakh refunds up to five lakh each to date to help taxpayers.
- B. CBDT informed the Income-tax refunds are obtained over eight lakh small businesses worth over five thousand 204 crore rupees issued in the last ten days.
- C. Income tax refunds will help MSME to carry on their business activities without pay cuts and layoffs in COVID-19 pandemic situations.
- D. CBDT gave its request to taxpayers to respond regarding reconciliation queries about outstanding tax demands.
- E. CBDT will issue refunds worth Rs.760 crore.

1. Which of the following will be the FIRST sentence after realignment?

1) A

2) D

3) B

4) C

5) E

2. Which of the following will be the SECOND sentence after realignment?

1) A

2) D

3) B

4) C

5) E

3. Which of the following will be the THIRD sentence after realignment?

1) A

2) D

3) B

4) C

5) E

4. Which of the following will be the FOURTH sentence after realignment?

1) A

2) D

3) B

4) C

5) E

5. Which of the following will be the FIFTH sentence after realignment?

1) A

2) D

3) B

4) C

5) E

Solution:

1. (3)

The correct answer is Option 3, i.e. B

Concept:

As the passage comprises five statements, the First sentence will stand as the introduction of the entire passage.

Application:

The entire passage seems to be describing CBDT and that it has informed the Income-tax refunds obtained over eight lakh small businesses worth over five thousand 204 crore rupees issued in the last ten days and statement "B" seems to provide description on that by acting as an introduction to the entire passage.

Hence, option 3, i.e. B is the First sentence after realignment.

2. (4)

The correct answer is Option 4, i.e. C

As the first sentence introduces CBDT announced and part C seems to be succeeding it by denoting Income tax refunds which will help MSME to carry on their business activities without pay cuts and layoffs in COVID-19 pandemic situations. This statement seems to be continuing the introduction.

The remaining sentences seem to succeed this statement.

Hence, option 4, i.e. C will be the SECOND sentence after realignment.

3. (1)

The correct answer is Option 1, i.e. A

Concept:

As the passage comprises five statements, the THIRD sentence will provide inferences on the further statements of the entire passage.

Application:

By looking at the second statement, Part A will stand as the third statement as it is stating further explanation by stating that the income tax department issued nearly 14 lakh refunds up to five lakh each to date to help taxpayers.

Hence, Option 1 is the THIRD sentence after realignment.

4. (5)

The correct answer is Option 5, i.e. E

Concept:

As the passage comprises five statements, the Fourth sentence will stand as the determiner of the rational or the conclusion of the entire passage.

Application:

The fourth statement here seems to be depicting a contrast to the entire passage to which the remaining statements seem to be preceding by stating "CBDT will issue refunds worth of Rs.760 crore."

Hence, Option 5, i.e. E is the Fourth sentence after realignment.

5. (2)

The correct answer is Option 2, i.e. D

Concept:

The entire sentence is based on five sentences therefore, the fifth sentence will be the one that provides a conclusion for the theme of the passage.

Application:

Statement "D" seems to be the FIFTH one as it suggests an ending of the provided theme of the passage. This also indicates that the sentence "D" provides conclusion for the entire passage by stating CBDT gave its request to taxpayers to respond regarding reconciliation queries about outstanding tax demands.

Further, the remaining sentences stand as the exemplars for the entire theme of the passage.

Hence, Option 2, i.e. sentence "D" will stand as the FIFTH statement after realignment of the passage

Bank PO Level:

1. A sentence divided into 4 different segments is given below. These segments may or may not be in the correct sequence. Rearrange these parts of the sentence so as to make it contextually and grammatically correct and mark the correct option. In case of no arrangement, mark the option "No rearrangement required".

- (A) The swans' closest relatives include the geese and ducks.
- (B) Sometimes, they are considered a distinct subfamily, Cygninae.
- (C) Swans are birds of the family Anatidae within the genus Cygnus.
- (D) Swans are grouped with the closely related geese in the subfamily Anserine where they form the tribe Cygnini.

- 1. CDBA
- 2. CBAD
- 3. CADB
- 4. ADBC
- 5. No rearrangement required

2. A sentence divided into 4 different segments is given below. These segments may or may not be in the correct sequence. Rearrange these parts of the sentence so as to make it contextually and grammatically correct and mark the correct option. In case of no arrangement, mark the option "No rearrangement required".

- (a) as not so calm surface winds in Delhi will help in the dispersion of pollutants.
- (b) the level of PM2.5.
- (c) is likely to be the lowest in the past four years.

(d) under the 'zero-firecracker' scenario.

1. DBCA
2. BCDA
3. DCBA
4. DCAB
5. No rearrangement required

3. A sentence divided into 4 different segments is given below. These segments may or may not be in the correct sequence. Rearrange these parts of the sentence so as to make it contextually and grammatically correct and mark the correct option. In case of no arrangement, mark the option "No rearrangement required".

- (A) As far as our defence cooperation with India is concerned,
 (B) it is immune to any restrictions and foreign interference,
 (C) because it reflects the national interests of both countries
 (D) and we are proceeding with a great sense of confidence to the future progress in our ties.

1. ADBC
2. BACD
3. BCDA
4. ACBD
5. No rearrangement required

4. A sentence divided into 4 different segments is given below. These segments may or may not be in the correct sequence. Rearrange these parts of the sentence so as to make it contextually and grammatically correct and mark the correct option. In case of no arrangement, mark the option "No rearrangement required".

P- They have abilities, but different from those in a 'normal' person.

Q- The term person with disabilities (PwD), which was used earlier is not an accurate and positive term.

R- So, other expressions have come into use.

S- One of these is 'differently' abled.

1. PSRQ
2. QRSP
3. QPSR
4. SPRQ
5. No rearrangement required

5. A sentence divided into 4 different segments is given below. These segments may or may not be in the correct sequence. Rearrange these parts of the sentence so as to make it contextually and grammatically correct and mark the correct option. In case of no arrangement, mark the option "No rearrangement required".

- (A) the gut is linked to and
- (B) all the things
- (C) We're super-interested in
- (D) it's our passion to educate and empower people with facts and science.

1. CBAD
2. CDAB
3. ADBC
4. DBCA
5. No rearrangement required

Solutions:

1. (3)

The correct answer is option 3 i.e. CADB.

Concept:

The given question suggests finding the correct arrangement of parts forming a coherent sentence.

Application:

The theme of this sentence is '**Swans**'.

The most appropriate sequence of the parts forming a sentence is:

"**(C)** Swans are birds of the family Anatidae within the genus Cygnus.

(A) The swans' closest relatives include the geese and ducks.

(D) Swans are grouped with the closely related geese in the subfamily Anserine where they form the tribe Cygnini.

(B) Sometimes, they are considered a distinct subfamily, Cygninae."

Hence, option 3 is correct.

2. (1)

The correct answer is option 1 i.e. dbca.

Concept:

The given question suggests finding the correct arrangement of parts forming a coherent sentence.

Application:

The theme of this sentence is: **PM2.5 levels on Diwali will be lowest in 4 yrs if no crackers are burnt, as per an agency.**

The most appropriate sequence of the parts forming a sentence is:

"**(d)** Under the 'zero-firecracker' scenario, **(b)** the level of PM2.5 **(c)** is likely to be the lowest in the past four years **(a)** as not so calm surface winds in Delhi will help in the dispersion of pollutants."

Hence, option 1 is correct.

3. (5)

The correct answer is option 5 i.e. No rearrangement required.

Concept:

The given question suggests finding the correct arrangement of parts forming a coherent sentence.

Application:

The theme of this sentence is a statement of officials from Russia on delivering the S-400 missile systems to India

The most appropriate sequence of the parts forming a sentence is:

"As far as our defence cooperation with India is concerned,
it is immune to any restrictions and foreign interference,
because it reflects the national interests of both countries
and we are proceeding with a great sense of confidence to the future progress in our ties."

Hence, option 5 is correct.

4. (2)

The correct answer is option 2 i.e. QRSP.

Concept:

The given question suggests finding the correct arrangement of parts forming a coherent sentence.

Application:

The sentence 'Q' comes first as it introduces the topic of PwD

The sentence 'R' comes second as it is in continuation to the first statement that says PwD is not a positive term.

The third statement is 'S' as it states one of the terms other than PwD.

The last statement is 'P' as it explains the name mentioned in the previous sentence.

So, the correct order is QRSP.

Hence, option 2 is correct.

5. (1)

The correct answer is option 1 i.e. cbad.

Concept:

The given question suggests finding the correct arrangement of parts forming a coherent sentence.

Application:

The part that introduces the sentence is 'c' as it cites the basic and primary idea of the sentence.

The correct formation of the sentence is "We're super-interested in (c)/ all the things (b)/ the gut is linked to and (a)/ it's our passion to educate and empower people with the facts and the science. (d)"

Hence, option 1 is correct.

Bank SO Level:

In the following questions, a statement is divided into 5 different segments. Part (A) in the sentence is fixed and other parts may not be in the correct sequence. You have to rearrange the other parts of the sentence to make it contextually and grammatically correct and if the correct option of the sequence doesn't match any of the given sequence, mark (5) i.e., "None of the above" as your answer.

Indian migrant workers during the COVID-19 pandemic have faced multiple hardships (A)/ shortages and uncertainty about their future. Following this, many of them and their families went hungry. Thousands of them then began walking back home, with (B)/ no means of transport due to the lockdown. In response, the Central and State Governments took various measures to help them, and later arranged transport for them (C)/ With factories and workplaces shut down due to the lockdown imposed in the country, millions of migrant workers had to deal with the loss of income, food (D)/ More than 300 migrant workers died due to the lockdown, with reasons ranging from starvation, suicides, exhaustion, road and rail accidents, police brutality and denial of timely medical care (E).

1. ADCBE

2. ADBCE
3. ACDEB
4. ABCDE
5. None of the above

Solutions:

1. (2)

The correct answer is Option 2, i.e. ADBCE

Concept:

The sentences must be realigned in a way that makes a meaningful statement as a result. Option 2, i.e. ADBCE here seems to be the best sequence as it conforms to the entire theme of the passage

Application

Taking statement "A" under consideration "D" seems to show conjunction with it by stating that Indian migrant workers during the COVID-19 pandemic have faced multiple hardships. With factories and workplaces shut down due to the lockdown imposed in the country, millions of migrant workers had to deal with the loss of income, food shortages and uncertainty about their future.

Statement "B" seems to be succeeding "D" and after this "C" seems to be preceding "E" as "E" provides an ending to the statement.

So, we got a sequence i.e. ADBCE, i.e. "Indian migrant workers during the COVID-19 pandemic have faced multiple hardships. With factories and workplaces shut down due to the lockdown imposed in the country, millions of migrant workers had to deal with the loss of income, food shortages and uncertainty about their future. Following this, many of them and their families went hungry. Thousands of them then began walking back home, with no means of transport due to the lockdown. In response, the Central and State Governments took various measures to help them, and later arranged transport for them. More than 300 migrant workers died due to the lockdown, with reasons ranging from starvation, suicides, exhaustion, road and rail accidents, police brutality and denial of timely medical care."

READING COMPREHENSION

Now let's jump to the topic from beginning

i.e.

What is Reading comprehension?

It is an ability to read a text, process it and understand its meaning. Reading comprehension is a very important topic in various Banking sector exams. It can be your savior in the exams, as it does not require any grammar rules or guesswork, all you need to do is to find the answers.

Note: Develop a habit of reading newspapers, magazines or novels on a daily basis. This will help you in maintaining your speed and understanding the context because a lot of reading comprehension in the exams are related to current affairs.

The **major goal** of reading comprehension is to help us develop knowledge, skills and experiences in order to become competent and enthusiastic readers.

Now coming back to the point of the blog, that is how to solve reading comprehension in an effective manner. as we know we will hardly get 8- 10 min to solve this topic in the exam. So if I think of solving this topic in a traditional way like reading the passage then going to the question and vice versa, that is going to take a lot of time and that will create a mess and there is a chance that we can lose our speed, time and energy as well. The things that you need to prioritize while doing the comprehension is:-

- ❖ **Flow**
- ❖ **Structure**
- ❖ **Main points**
- ❖ **Tone of the topic**

So here I am with steps or we can say with a correct order to solve reading comprehension in a minimum amount of time.

First step:- role on the eyes on the questions first then on passage.

Reading the question first and then going to the passage will be more beneficial because this will make you clear on which part of the line you have to focus more. Understand what is asked and answer accordingly.

Just read all the questions, without reading the answer options. then read the passage and try answering the questions by reading them with the given options.

Note:- Passage= Main idea + supporting details.

Second step:- Highlight the keywords from the question.

What are **keywords**? Keywords are the most important words around which the questions revolve and we find them useful.

Now the question arises how you will identify them. In the exams we basically get 3 types of questions are:

1. **Passage- based question:-** Passage based question includes at what time or at what place this thing was done.
2. **Complete passage-based questions:-** Complete passage-based questions focus on the tone, summary objective of the passage. For e.g. what is the tone of the given passage or what is the summary of the given topic or what is the objective of the author. It also includes the positive and negative types of questions.

For e.g. whether the given statement is true or false .

Note:- In true and false questions we mark the answers with the given options of the keyword.

3. Vocabulary based questions – in this we need to find which word is closest in need of the meaning of the given word. These questions include synonyms, antonyms, meaning of phrases.

For e.g. The winning team of the World Series often has a jovial attitude. Jovial means...

- Merry
- Sad
- Sombre

Ans. Here jovial means happy , or merry which is the opposite of sad and somber. So the correct answer is option 1 Mercy.

Note: the above given types of questions should be solved in the given order of the questions as it will help you in finding the answer accordingly.

Third step- go through the passage:-

After following the two steps, now focus on the given passage and read it. Read the given passage quickly and accurately and simultaneously deal with the meaning of the words. Keeping the keywords and the questions in mind, continue reading the passage. Ensure you derive the maximum possible information from the passage.

Fourth step pen-down the answer:-

This is the final step of your comprehension. Write down the answer smartly and attractively so that it is easy for the examiner to check out your answer.

For e.g. while reading the passage we got a line that says Britain withdrew from India because they realized that the Indian empire was not at all profitable.

Here we have found a keyword that is Profitable, and the question was why Britain withdrew from India? So there only you will mark the answer of the question which is our final step of reading comprehension.

These were the steps you need to follow while doing reading comprehension and if you follow these steps than it will really reduce a lot of time and you will answer the question accurately

While going through the references I found that most candidates face a lot of confusion between **THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CONCLUSION AND INFERENCE**

Conclusion means that while reading the passage what you understand from it. **Inference** means you read the passage, apply your understanding in it and then answer the question.

For e.g. In a given passage I found a conclusion which says “rivers should not be linked because it creates water wars”. This is my conclusion.

Then if I want to write the inference I will write that dams should not be constructed because if we construct dams we change the way of the river.

In the conclusion part you will write what you understand from the given passage and in the inference you will apply your understanding to it and then answer the passage. This was the basic difference between conclusion and inference.

some steps to comprehend the passage:-

- Restrict yourself to the information provided in the passage which may either be stated or implied
- Answers(Conclusions and Inferences) are always restricted and can not extend outside the premises of the provided information.
- Avoid options ‘**extreme**’ position on an issue : **TRAPS**
 - Keywords like – always, every, only, no, never, must, all – indicates such traps
- Learn to differentiate between the possibility and certainty as per the given information.
- Quick glimpse of the questions before reading the passage is always a good idea.
- **Circle/Underline Keywords** in a sentence: to go back and reread later.

- **Pay attention to summary words-** ‘therefore’, ‘thus’ ‘as a result’ in conclusion. Make sure you understand the author’s point and assumption that has led to his conclusion.
- **Expand your vocabulary-** good vocabulary increases your understanding of the author’s intent.
 - To enhance vocabulary, develop reading newspapers, magazines, books.

By keeping all these points in mind, as well as being prepared mentally, will help you ace the exam with confidence and come out with flying colours.

One thing that you must keep in mind is that it is you who knows about your preparation in the best possible way and hence it should be your task entirely to execute the strategies that are provided by us.

Let’s Take Some Example:

Bank Clerk Level:

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

Management is a set of processes that can keep a complicated system of people and technology running smoothly. The most important aspects of management include planning, budgeting, organizing, staffing, controlling, and problem-solving. Leadership is a set of processes that creates organisations in the first place or **adapts** them to significantly changing circumstances. Leadership defines what the future should look like, aligns people with that vision, and inspires them to make it happen despite the obstacles. This distinction is absolutely crucial for our purposes here: Successful transformation is 70 to 90 per cent leadership and only 10 to 30 per cent management. Yet for historical reasons, many organisations today don’t have much leadership. And almost everyone thinks about the problems here as one of managing change.

For most of this century, as we created thousands and thousands of large organizations for the first time in human history, we didn’t have enough good managers to keep all those bureaucracies functioning. So many companies and universities developed management programmes, and hundreds and thousands of people were encouraged to learn management on the job. And they did. But, people were taught little about leadership. To some degree, management was emphasized because it’s easier to teach than leadership. But even more so, management was the main item on the twentieth-century agenda because that’s what was needed. For every entrepreneur or business builder who was a leader, we needed hundreds of managers to run their ever-growing enterprises.

Unfortunately for us today, this emphasis on management has often been institutionalized in corporate cultures that discourage employees from learning how to lead. Ironically, past success is usually the key ingredient in producing this outcome. The syndrome, as I have observed it on many occasions, goes like this: success creates some degree of market dominance, which in turn produces much growth. After a while keeping the ever-larger organizations under control becomes the primary challenge. So attention turns inward, and managerial competencies are **nurtured**. With a strong emphasis on management but not on leadership, bureaucracy and an inward focus take over. But with continued success, the result mostly of market dominance, the problem often goes unaddressed and an unhealthy arrogance begins to evolve. All of these characteristics then make any transformation effort much more difficult.

Arrogant managers can over-evaluate their current performance and competitive position, listen poorly, and learn slowly. Inwardly focused employees can have difficulty seeing the very forces that present threats and opportunities. Bureaucratic cultures can smother those who want to respond to shifting conditions. And the lack of leadership leaves no one inside these organizations to break out of the morass.

Q1. Beneficiaries of NavIC does not include

1. Providing two types of services- Standard Positioning Service (SPS) & Restricted Service (RS).
2. Primary beneficiaries will be for Indian Marines & fishermen.
3. Remote controlling and sensing.
4. It brings NAVIC technology to the mass market for use in 4G, 5G & Internet Of Things.
5. All of the above

Q.2. NavIC consists of 8 satellites located at a distance of approximately 3600km. Currently, 7 are active. From which,

1. 3 are in geostationary orbit and 4 in geosynchronous orbit.
2. 2 are in geostationary orbit and 5 in geosynchronous orbit.
3. 5 are in geostationary orbit and 2 in geosynchronous orbit.
4. 4 are in geostationary orbit and 3 in geosynchronous orbit.
5. All of above

Q.3. Choose the word that is same in meaning to the word ENCRYPTED as mentioned in the passage.

1. Inscribed
2. Decipher
3. Unravel
4. Analyze
5. Decryption

Q.4. Choose the word that is different in meaning to the word ADAPTS as mentioned in the passage.

1. Acclimatize
2. Orientate
3. Adept
4. Misadjust
5. All of above

Q.5. The process or activity of accurately ascertaining one's position & planning is _____?

1. Positioning
2. Capture
3. Geodetic
4. Navigation
5. None of the above

Solution:

1. (3)

The correct answer is Option 3 i.e. Remote controlling and sensing

Concept:

The question is based on direct observation from the passage i.e. reading the passage carefully and assessing the correct answer from the passage itself.

Application:

The statement that seems to be incorrect as per the passage is 'Remote controlling and Sensing'.

Rest alternatives are the beneficiaries of NAVIC.

Hence, option 3 is correct

2. (1)

The correct answer is Option 1, i.e. 3 are in geostationary orbit and 4 in geosynchronous orbit.

Concept:

The question is based on direct observation from the passage i.e. reading the passage carefully and assessing the correct answer from the passage itself.

Application:

According to the passage, ISRO has built a total of nine satellites in the IRNSS series of which eight (7 are active) are currently in geosynchronous(4) and geostationary(3) orbits

3. (1)

The correct answer is Option 1, i.e. Inscribed.

Concept:

The question is to find out the synonym(a word with the same meaning) of the given word as provided in the passage.

Application:

The word 'encrypted' means to conceal data in something by converting it into a code.

The word that fits as its best as the synonym is 'inscribed'.

Hence, option 1 is correct.

Meaning of Other Words:

inscribe: convert ordinary language into code.

decipher: convert a code into a normal language.

unravel: investigate and solve or explain.

analyze: examine methodically and in detail.

Decryption: converting encrypted data into original form.

4. (4)

The correct answer is Option 4, i.e. Misadjust.

Concept:

The question is to find out the antonym (a word with the opposite meaning) of the given word as provided in the passage.

Application:

The word 'encrypted' means to conceal data in something by converting it into a code.

The word that fits as its best as the synonym is 'inscribed'.

Hence, option 1 is correct.

Meaning of Other Words:

Acclimatize: become accustomed to a new climate or condition.

Orientate: to align relative to a given position.

Adept: very skilled or proficient at something

Misadjust: to adjust incorrectly or improperly.

5. (4)

The correct answer is Option 4, i.e. Navigation.

Concept:

The question is to find out the appropriate word.

Application:

The word 'navigation' is the appropriate word.

Hence, option 4 is the answer.

Meaning of Other Words:

Navigation: method of determining position, course, and distance travelled.

Geodetic: the science of accurately measuring and understanding the Earth's geometric shape.

Positioning: put or arrange something in a particular way or place.

Capture: take into one's possession or control.

Bank PO Level:

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

More than three lakh workers will be employed in the solar and wind energy sectors to meet the country's target of generating 175 gigawatts of electricity from renewable sources by 2022, an International Labour Organization (ILO) report said. The report titled, World Employment and Social Outlook (WESO) 2018: Greening with Jobs, quoted from a study conducted by the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) and the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), on the changes in sectoral employment that will occur in order to meet India's target. The study was based on surveys of solar and wind companies, developers and manufacturers.

"India is rapidly increasing its share of renewable energy sources, but still relies on coal, oil, natural gas, and the related carbon emissions for 80% of its electricity," the report released on Tuesday said. This formed a small part of the report, which focused on the trajectory of the labour market in the backdrop of environmentally sustainable production practices. Tackling the misconception that green economies pave the way for economically undesirable outcomes, the report said rather than a trade-off between the two, their development goes hand in hand. According to the ILO report, there will be a net increase of 18 million jobs across the globe as a result of environmentally sustainable measures taken in the production and use of energy. This net figure is based on the estimation that the resultant job losses of six million

will eventually lead to an increase of 24 million jobs as greener practices are adopted. Of this, 14 million jobs created will be in Asia and the Pacific.

“The transition to a green economy will inevitably cause job losses in certain sectors as carbon and resource-intensive industries are scaled-down, but they will be offset by new job opportunities,” the report said. However, the report emphasized that the net increase of 18 million jobs is dependent on a supportive policy framework to aid displaced workers and skill development programs to help ease them into jobs that require new skills. It mentioned that although India does have a specific body or council to address the skills development for the green transition, it has no existing institutional mechanism to anticipate skills needs and adapt training provision. Of the 27 countries surveyed, India and seven others fall under this category. “Developing and emerging economies have a relatively weaker institutional capacity for integrating skills and environmental sustainability,” the report said.

The report stressed the urgency of economies adopting sustainable practices, adding, in 2013, humanity used 1.7 times the amount of resources and waste that the biosphere was able to regenerate and absorb. The report reads, “It is striking that in a context of scarce resources and limited ability to absorb waste, current patterns of economic growth rely largely on the extraction of resources, manufacturing, consumption and waste.” It explained this urgency from the perspective of the job market by connecting labour productivity to climate change. “Looking ahead, projected temperature increases will make heat stress more common, reducing the total number of working hours by 2% globally by 2030 and affecting workers in agriculture, and developing countries,” the report said.

1. As per your understanding of the passage, which of the following can be said to be example/s of steps which contribute towards a green economy

- I. The government announces tax incentives for those using public transport.
- II. The government provides subsidy on diesel cars so that it becomes affordable
- III. The government supports start-ups working on the development of electric cars.

- 1. Only I
- 2. Only II
- 3. Only I and III

- 4. Only II and III
- 5. All of the above

2. As per the passage, which of the following could be a/some reason/s for the misconceptions surrounding green economies.

I. There is a belief that adopting a green economy would lead to loss of jobs which could severely impact the economy.

II. The shift from traditional energy sources to renewable energy would be expensive.

III. The technological capability required to transform into a green economy is still in the elementary phase.

- 1. Only II
- 2. Only I
- 3. Only II and III
- 4. Only III
- 5. All of the above

3. Which of the following statements weakens the argument about the urgency of economies in adopting sustainable practices?

1. The increase in temperature because of climate change would reduce the number of working hours hence productivity will suffer.

2. The resources available to us are limited and nature's ability to replenish them is limited.

3. Developing countries are dependent on agriculture which would be adversely affected because of climate change.

4. The impact of sustainable solutions for energy needs would be limited because for it to be effective all the countries need to participate which is not the case.

- 5. None of the above

4. Which of the following weakens the argument of increasing the share of renewable energy in the energy sector?

I. The environmental impacts associated with renewable energy include habitat loss, water use, and the use of hazardous materials in manufacturing, they cause more harm than good in the long run.

II. It is easier to harness and store renewable energy than the traditional sources of energy.

III. The shift to renewable energy source would create jobs.

1. Only I
2. Only II
3. Only III
4. All of them
5. None of them

5. What can be some steps that can be taken by India to improve its institutional capacity for integrating skills and environmental sustainability?

I. The government must improve the quality of skill development programs.

II. Set up institutes to produce more skilled people in this domain.

III. There should be adequate funding to support the shift of displaced workers into jobs that require new skills

1. Only I
2. Only III

- 3. Only I and II
- 4. Only II and III
- 5. All of the above

Solutions:

1. (3)

The correct answer is option 3 i.e. Only I and III.

Concept:

The given question is based on indirect observation from the passage.

Application:

Statement II is incorrect. The subsidy on diesel would not help in tackling environmental degradation in any way and would actually lead to more pollution.

Statements I and III are both correct. Both steps would help in reducing fossil fuel consumption.

Hence, the option chosen is correct.

2. (2)

The correct answer is option 2 i.e. Only I.

Concept:

The given question is based on direct observation from the passage i.e reading the passage carefully and assessing the answer from the passage.

Application:

Statement II and **Statement III** have not been mentioned in the passage.

Refer to:there will be a net increase of 18 million jobs across the globe as a result of environmentally sustainable measures taken in the production and use of energy.

“The transition to a green economy will inevitably cause job losses in certain sectors as carbon and resource-intensive industries are scaled-down, but they will be offset

by new job opportunities,” the report said. However, the report emphasized that the net increase of 18 million jobs is dependent ...

Hence, the option chosen is correct.

3. (4)

The correct answer is option 4 i.e. The impact of sustainable solutions for energy needs would be limited because for it to be effective all the countries need to participate which is not the case.

Concept:

The given question is based on indirect observation from the passage.

Application:

Options 1, 2 and 3 talk about the reasons for adopting sustainable practices.

Only option 4 fits in. If true, this weakens the point of adopting sustainable policies.

Hence, the option chosen is correct.

4. (1)

The correct answer is option 1 i.e. Only I.

Concept:

The given question is based on indirect observation from the passage.

Application:

Statement II and **Statement III** strengthen the argument for renewable energy.

Statement I is correct. It weakens the argument as the whole point of increasing the share of renewable energy in the energy sector is to reduce environmental degradation in the long run.

Hence, the option chosen is correct.

5. (5)

The correct answer is option 5 i.e. All of the above.

Concept:

The given question is based on indirect observation from the passage.

Application:

All of the statements are correct as all state valid ways of improving India's institutional capacity for integrating skills and environmental sustainability.

Hence the chosen option is correct.

Bank SO Level:

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

Saraniyavas is a small slum pocket in Ahmedabad located at the corner of two large arterial roads near Indira Bridge. The settlement is surrounded by upper-class residential houses with upmarket bungalows and low-rises. Nearly 500 families have been residing in Saraniyavas for the past three decades.

Women collect water from the three common stand posts, all located on one edge of the settlement, contending with severe water shortage, which worsens during the summer months. Water is supplied for barely four hours each day, which is not enough for all their needs. Women go to the riverbank, about half a kilometre away, to wash clothes and collect water for use in the mobile toilet located nearby. There is also severe waterlogging during the monsoon due to absence of drainage facilities. The **slushy** soil makes for very unhygienic conditions.

The residents of Saraniyavas do not own the land on which they live; that belongs to the Forest Department. They have built kutchha houses with single-brick walls, minimal plastering and tin/cement roofs. Temperatures within their homes can be unbearable, so people tend to spend most of their time in the small, open spaces outside their homes.

The settlement lacks any tree cover: families make do with the temporary shade provided by bedsheets and blankets hung outside. Men and young children rest on the long tract of open space along the main road, even though the heat radiating from the tar of the road during the day makes it very hot.

Low-income, informal settlements like Saraniyavas, not uncommon in the cities of the global South, suffer significant impacts of heat and climate stress, though it is less documented. Life in these communities is focused on living day to day. Extreme climate events are seen as “god’s will”, especially among the women. Financial instability makes them more **prone** to resolving immediate concerns (such as poor health) rather than investing in longer term resilience measures.

The lack of a longer term view of life is not the only problem in building their resilience to climate change impacts. Lack of knowledge and information and technical and institutional barriers inhibit their capacity to adopt practices that can ensure their sustainability. **Marginalised** as “informal citizens” in governance processes, they tend to be excluded from a city’s early warning systems and public infrastructure investments, leaving them to fend for themselves.

It is vital to _____ (1) the resilience of the urban poor, particularly women, to survive, adapt and progress in the face of climate-related stress while maintaining their current level of livelihood, health and asset status.

1. Saraniyavas is located in which one of the following states?

1. Gujarat
2. Maharashtra
3. Ahmedabad
4. Bhopal
5. Uttarakhand

2. According to the passage, water is supplied for how many hours each day?

1. Eight hours
2. Two hours
3. Six hours
4. Seven hours
5. Four hours

3. Which of the following is the antonym of the term “Slushy” as given in the passage?

1. Drippy
2. Flat
3. Gushy
4. Sobby
5. Soft

4. Which of the following has been built by the residents of Saraniyavas?

1. Common stand posts
2. Kutcha Houses
3. Bungalows
4. Tree covers
5. Large arterial roads

5. Which of the following is the synonym of the term “Prone” as given in the passage?

1. Outright
2. Explicit
3. Vulnerable
4. Fault
5. Tedious

6. Identify the definition of the term “Marginalised” from the options below.

1. (Of a person) in need of special care, support, or protection because of age, disability, or risk of abuse or neglect.
2. Leaning or turning away from the vertical or horizontal; sloping.
3. Be favourably disposed towards or willing to do something.
4. Treatment of a person, group, or concept as insignificant or peripheral.
5. Inclination or prejudice for or against one person or group, especially in a way considered to be unfair.

7. Which of the following will fit the best in the blank(1) given in the passage?

1. Decline
2. Liable
3. Build
4. Estimate

5. Act

Solutions:

1. (3)

The correct answer is Option 3, i.e. Ahmedabad

Concept:

The question is based on direct observation from the passage.

Application:

According to the passage, Saraniyavas is a small slum pocket in **Ahmedabad** located at the corner of two large arterial roads near Indira Bridge.

Hence, the correct answer is Option 3.

2. (5)

The correct answer is Option 5, i.e. Four hours

Concept:

The question is based on direct observation from the passage.

Application:

According to the passage, water is supplied for barely **four hours** each day.

Hence, the correct answer is Option 5

3. (2)

The correct answer is Option 2, i.e. Flat

Concept:

The question is to identify the correct antonym of the term "Slushy" as given in the passage.

Application:

The term "Slushy" means resembling, consisting of, or covered with slush.

Among the given words, "Flat" seems to denote different meanings. The remaining words are synonyms of the given words.

"Flat" means having a level surface; without raised areas or indentations.

Hence, the correct answer is Option 2

4. (2)

The correct answer is Option 2, i.e. Kutcha Houses

Concept:

The question is based on direct observation from the passage.

Application:

According to the passage, the residents of Saraniyavas have built **kutcha houses** with single-brick walls, minimal plastering and tin/cement roofs.

Hence, the correct answer is Option 2.

5. (3)

The correct answer is Option 3, i.e. Vulnerable

Concept:

The question is to find out the synonym of the term "Prone" as given in the passage.

Application:

The term "Prone" means likely or liable to suffer from, do, or experience something unpleasant or regrettable.

Among the given words "Vulnerable" is the synonym of the given term as it means "exposed to the possibility of being attacked or harmed, either physically or emotionally."

Hence, the correct answer is Option 3.

6. (4)

The correct answer is Option 4, i.e. Treatment of a person, group, or concept as insignificant or peripheral.

Concept:

The question is to identify the correct definition of the given term.

Application:

The term "Marginalised" basically means treatment of a person, group, or concept as insignificant or peripheral.

Hence, the correct answer lies in Option 4.

7. (3)

The correct answer is Option 3, i.e. Build

Concept:

The question is to find out the appropriate fit for the blank given (1) in the passage.

Application:

The statement seems to be providing inferences on "developing" or "proposing to build" resilience of the urban poor, particularly women, to survive, adapt and progress in the face of climate-related stress while maintaining their current level of livelihood, health and asset status as it is very necessary for them to survive.

Among the given words, "Build" seems to be the correct fit for the blank as it shows congruence with the context of the passage.

Hence, the correct answer is Option 3.

At last I would just like to say that once you set your heart and mind at something, nothing is impossible and hence you can gain anything you want. It may be difficult, but it can't be impossible. No matter what, Don't Give Up. **Be Focused, Be Confident** and see you will definitely achieve it.

MATCH THE FOLLOWING & SENTENCE CONNECTOR

Match the Following is a fresh topic that has been introduced in **Bank Exams** recently. This is something that you have been doing since childhood. Here, the matching should be done on the basis of **Grammar** and **Meaning**. All you need to do is make a meaningful and grammatically correct sentence by joining the **Rows** of the two **Columns**. But the question is how to solve it in less time so as to score well in the examination. Let's discuss some **Strategies** to solve it.

PRE-REQUISITES

- Grammar
- Comprehension

Question: In this question, two **columns I and II** and three sentences are given, which are divided into two parts. **Column I (A, B and C)** consists of the first half of each sentence and **Column II (D, E and F)** consists of the second half of each sentence. Match column I with column II, so that the sentences formed are both meaningful and grammatically correct. Choose the correct option as your answer.

(SBI PO PT 2019)

1) I.

A) Market research has shown us that

B) The government has

C) Demand has outstripped

II.

D) Supplied of qualified teachers

E) People are loyal to a brand not prices

F) Reforms are entire tax system

A. C-F

B. B-D

C. A-E

D. All of the above

E. None of the above

Solution:

- First of all, we need to know if the rows are **Grammatically** correct.
- Only the **Grammatically Correct** part can be **Paired** with.
- D is grammatically incorrect so it will not be paired with any of the rows.
- A ends in 'that'. After 'that' a sentence is required.
- In column II, only E is a complete sentence.
- Also, A-E makes a coherent sentence.
- B contains 'has' so it requires the third form of the verb after it.
- D has V_3 i.e. 'supplied' but this row is grammatically incorrect.
- C and F do not make a meaningful sentence.

Answer: C.

Only A and E can be connected to make a grammatically correct and meaningful statement.

The correct sentence is "Market research has shown us that people are loyal to a brand not prices".

So, the correct answer is option C.

2) I.

A) The rumours of petrol

B) The body of the camera make

C) The threat of war has adversely

II.

D) Is highly resilient for indoor use.

E) Shortage turned out to be false.

F) Impacted burns as actively.

A. B-D

B. A-E

C. C-F

D. Both A-E and B-D

E. Both B-D and C-F

Solution:

- First of all, it is required to check if all the rows are individually grammatically correct.
- B is incorrect as 'body' requires a singular verb i.e. 'makes' or it can be 'made'.
- F is incorrect as 'as actively' is meaningless. It should be 'as actively as'.
- Also, a sentence cannot end in 'as actively as', it requires a noun/pronoun after it.
- A cannot pair with D as 'rumours' requires a plural verb while 'is' is singular.
- A and E makes a coherent sentence.
- C contains 'has' so it requires V_3 after it.
- F contains V_3 but it is grammatically incorrect.

Answer: B.

Only A and E can be connected to make a grammatically correct and meaningful statement. Anything that is a rumour can be said to uncertain or doubtful truth.

The correct sentence is "The rumours of petrol shortage turned out to be false".

Options B and D cannot connect as the sentence ends with the verb 'make'. It cannot be followed by the verb 'is'.

So, the correct answer is option B.

3) I.

A) Countries are willing to do

B) The effects of afforestation on

C) The scheme seeks to

II.

D) ensure a toilet in all households.

E) anything to avoid recession.

F) biodiversity need to be analysed.

A. C-F

B. B-D

C. A-E

D. All of the above

E. None of the above

Solution:

- All the rows are individually grammatically correct.
- A-E can be joined together to form a meaningful sentence.
- A ends in 'to do'. Now, we need the answer 'to do what'.
- The answer lies in E.
- B-F can be joined together to form a meaningful sentence.
- 'On' is a preposition which requires a noun or pronoun after it.
- F contains a noun i.e. 'biodiversity'.
- C-D can be joined together to form a meaningful sentence.
- 'To' needs the base form of the verb after it.
- D contains the verb i.e. 'ensure'.

Answer: C.

A-E, B-F and C-D can be joined together to form a meaningful sentence. But in the options only A-E has been given. So, the correct answer is C.

The correct sentences are:

I) Countries are willing to do anything to avoid recession.

II) The effects of afforestation on biodiversity need to be analysed.

III) The scheme seeks to ensure a toilet in all households.

4) I.

A) Travelling with co-workers is a great chance

B) It is scientifically proven that

C) A jam-packed business trip doesn't

II.

D) to get to know them on a deeper level.

E) running is beneficial for health.

F) allowed a lot of flexibility with time.

A. B-E

B. A-D

C. C-F

D. Both B-E and C-F

E. Both A-D and B-E

Solution:

- All the rows are individually grammatically correct.
- A says that travelling is a great chance.
- The reason for 'great chance' is given in D.
- B ends in 'that'. After 'that' a sentence is required which is there in E.
- C ends in 'doesn't'. After 'doesn't', the base form of the verb is required.
- So, C does not pair with anyone.

Answer: E.

C and F when joined together make a meaningful sentence but it is grammatically incorrect. The verb that follows 'does' should be used in its base form.

The correct sentences are

(I) Travelling with co-workers is a great chance to get to know them on a deeper level.

(II) It is scientifically proven that running is beneficial for health.

5) I.

A) The national unemployment rate

B) The policy emphasizes on

C) We need to teach children to

II.

D) increasing farmer's income.

E) make peace with your body.

F) be gentle towards fellow citizens.

A. C-D

B. B-F

C. A-E

D. All of the above

E. None of the above

Solution:

- All the rows are individually grammatically correct.
- A ends in 'rate' which requires a singular verb after it.
- None of the rows in column II starts with a singular verb.
- So, A does not pair with any of the rows of column II.
- B ends in a preposition i.e. 'on' which requires a noun or pronoun after it.
- V_4 acts as a noun and hence B-D make a coherent pair.
- C ends in 'to'. After 'to' the base form of the verb is required.
- 'Be' is the base form of the verb.

Answer: E.

B-D and C-F can be joined to make grammatically correct and contextually meaningful sentences, but the combinations have not been provided in the options. So, the correct option is E. The correct sentences are:

(I) The policy emphasizes on increasing farmer's income.

(II) We need to teach children to be gentle towards fellow citizens.

6) I.

A) The objective of the exercise is to

B) The problems of poverty, homelessness

C) The villagers are furious about the

II.

D) and unemployment are all interconnected.

E) decision to close the railway station.

F) nurture the imagination of children.

A. B-D

B. A-F

C. C-E

D. All of the above

E. None of the above

Solution:

- All the rows are individually grammatically correct.
- A ends in 'to'. After 'to' the base form of the verb is required.
- F contains 'nurture' which is the base form of the verb.
- Hence, A-F makes a pair.
- B contains 'problems' which requires a plural verb.
- D contains 'are' and hence pairs with B.
- C ends in 'the' which is an article.
- An article needs a noun after it which is there in E.
- Hence, C-E makes a pair.

Answer: D.

All A & F, B & D and C & E can be joined to make grammatically correct and contextually meaningful sentences.

The correct sentences are:

(I) The problems of poverty, homelessness and unemployment are all interconnected.

(II) The objective of the exercise is to nurture the imagination of children.

(III) The villagers are furious about the decision to close the railway station.

Disclaimer: These questions won't be the same as that of your primary school questions.

There is not much to talk about tips, tricks, or steps to solve these questions. All you need is an understanding of sentence coherence and basic grammatical concepts. In the previous blog, we have discussed some strategies along with questions to solve them. Let us now dig a bit deeper to have more clarity.

Points to ponder:

1. In match the following questions, one sentence is divided into two parts. Part 1 or Column 1 contains the first half of the sentence whereas Part 2 or Column 2 contains the second half of the sentence.
2. The only **trick here** is **to match the sentences that are grammatically and contextually coherent with each other.**
3. To save your time, match the sentences with the help of options. By this, you will not have to read all the sentences every time.

We know this must have been hard to grasp. Right?

Let us discuss one question:

Direction: A sentence has been divided into two parts and placed in column 1 and column 2 respectively. Find the correct match for the sentences and mark the correct option.

Column1	Column2
A. As there is a golden opportunity for	D. thought towards integrating modern, innovative architecture with the mundane work of the Central government.
B. No other Prime Minister after Jawaharlal Nehru has given much	E. an enlightened Central government has to take the lead in creating a new philosophy of architecture.
C. Meanwhile, the government has notified the Supreme Court for	F. planning to finalize by January 2020 laws regulating social media to include provisions requiring intermediaries.

Options:

1. A-F, C-E
2. B-F, A-E
3. C-F
4. C-D
5. None of these

Explanation: Read the first sentence. It tells about a golden opportunity and ends with a conjunction 'for' which means the next word has to be a noun.

Upon framing the sentence as per the first option, we could see that the sentence is grammatically correct but sentence formation is not making any sense.

So, we can say that the first option is incorrect.

Let us now try with the second option, The first part 'B' talks about our former Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru. The second part as per the option should be 'F' that is neither grammatically nor contextually matching with the first part.

So, option 2 is also incorrect.

The third option is "C-F". The first part 'C' tells about the government's notification to the Supreme Court. This part ends with a conjunction that means the next part must begin with a noun. The second part as per the options is F. This part fits best to form a sentence that is grammatically and contextually correct.

Hence, option 3 is correct.

That is how we answer these questions but if you want to go with the conventional way i.e. matching without the help options. It's completely upon you.

Let us answer one more question with discussion:

Direction: In the following question, two columns have been provided and each column consists of three sentences i.e. the column 1 consists of sentences A, B and C whereas column 2 consists of sentences D, E and F. A sentence from column 1 may or may not connect with another sentence from column 2 to make a sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Each question consists of five options, which show the possible sequences that can be formed. Find the correct answer and mark on the respective option provided. If none of the options are correct, mark the option 'None of these'.
[hranker Mock Test SBI PO 2020]

Column1	Column2
A. Alphabet Inc. is an American multinational conglomerate headquartered in Mountain View, California. It was created through a restructuring of Google on October 2, 2015	D. making Alphabet as the world's fourth-largest technology company by revenue and one of the world's most valuable companies.
B. The two founders of Google assumed executive roles in the new company, with Larry Page serving as CEO and Sergey Brin as president	E. while allowing greater autonomy to group companies that operate in businesses other than Internet services.
C. The establishment of Alphabet Inc. was prompted by a desire to make the core Google business "cleaner and more accountable"	F. and became the parent company of Google and several former Google subsidiaries.

(i) A-D

(ii) B-D

(iii) C-F

(iv) C-E

(v) None of these

Explanation: All of the sentences in this question are based on one single passage. So, be wise and smart while marking the option.

Let us solve this question in a conventional way (because change is always good).

The first sentence 'A' talks about the parent company of Google i.e. Alphabet Inc provides a brief detail about it. Now, find the second part of this sentence that matches its tone, coherence, and grammar. And the sentence that fits best is 'F' as it continues citing the progress mentioned previously. So, the correct matching will be 'A-F'.

Look at the options now. Since there is no option as such, we will proceed towards the next sentence.

The sentence 'B' from column 1 talks about the leaders and founders of the company. The sentence from column 2 that is coherent to this sentence is 'D' as it tells about the current market position of the company and most importantly they are matching grammatically and contextually. So, **the formation is 'B-D'**.

As the second option is having this match so we will mark on this option without moving ahead.

Hence, option 2 is the correct answer.

These were the two approaches that we followed to solve questions to match the following.

Sentence Connectors:

A word or phrase that initiates a clause or sentence and serves as a change between it and a previous clause or sentence. They do the work of joining any two statements without changing the meaning.

In simple words, connectors combine two or more sentences in coherence.

For Example:

However, on the other hand, otherwise, instead, conversely, etc. are some of the words that are used as sentence connectors in bank exams.

Types of Sentence Connectors:

Simple: A sentence that includes only one clause, with a single subject and predicate.

Complex: It comprises one independent clause and one or more dependent clauses.

Compound: They have at least two independent clauses.

Coordinating: They coordinate or join two words.

Subordinating: They combine dependent clauses with an independent clause.

Correlative: They are always used in pairs.

Trick to Remember a few sentence connectors:

Some important sentence connectors can also be learned by a mnemonic device i.e “ON A WHITE BUS” is given below.

O - only if, once

N - now that

A - after, although, as

WH: where, wherever, when, whenever, whether, while

I: in case, if, in order that

T: though, that

E: even though, even if

B: before, because

U: until, unless

S: since, so that

Let's Solve some questions:

I. The storm is approaching.

II. We should move away from here.

(i) Considering that

(ii) Although we should

(iii) As the storm

1. Only I
2. Only II
3. Only III
4. Both I and II
5. Both I and III

Solution:

The correct answer is option 5 i.e. Both I and III.

Validity of Considering that,

In the first statement, it has been stated that “the storm is approaching”. Hence, it is an alarming situation for someone present over there. The second statement states an action that should be taken considering the above problem. The first option, “considering that” gives coherence to the two statements if combined-“Considering that the storm is approaching, we should move away from here”. “Considering that” is used to indicate that one is thinking about a particular fact/problem/situation when making a judgment or decision.

Invalidity of Although we should,

The second option “although we should” states a contrast and when added to the beginning of any of the given two statements it does not make sense. For example, “Although the storm is approaching, we should move away from here.” This statement is not logical. The key to solving questions based on sentence connectors lies in making the statements logical and consistent.

Validity of As the storm,

The third option “As the storm” consists of “as”. We use “as” in the beginning of a sentence to “state the reason for something”. Hence, in the given statement, it is stating the reason to leave a particular place due to imminent danger.

Hope this is clear to you. Let's Solve few questions that have been asked in various exams:

1. Select the phrase/connector from the given options which can be used to combine the given two sentences into a single sentence, implying the same meaning. If none of the options are correct then mark the option "None of these".

1. The Chairman of the Railway Board stated that "We'll not levy the charge across all 7,000 stations.
2. All major stations where the footfall of passengers is increasing over the next five years.

1. and
2. contrastingly
3. but
4. despite
5. None of these

2. Select the phrase/connector from the given options which can be used to combine the given two sentences into a single sentence, implying the same meaning. If none of the options are correct then mark the option "None of these".

1. The Scientist has asked the associates not to move from class during the thesis observation.
2. The associates kept on moving during the final observation resulting in the expulsion of two of them from getting the Grant.

1. if

2. consequently
3. yet
4. evidently
5. None of these

3. In the question given below few sentences are given which are grammatically correct and meaningful. Connect them by the word given above statements in the best possible way without changing the intended meaning. Choose your answer accordingly from the options to form a correct and meaningful sentence.

If

- (I) It wasn't for the current skirmishes in the "Galwan Valley".
- (II) The economy of the region depends heavily on tourism and construction contracts provided by the security forces.
- (III) Ladakh would continue to be discussed for its scenic beauty and be populated by tourists from all over India.
- (IV) The tourism industry received a shot in the arm after the climax of a famous Bollywood movie, 3 Idiots, was shot at the serene Pangong Lake, turning it into a popular tourism hub overnight.

1. I and IV
2. I and III
3. II and III
4. II and IV
5. None of these

4. Select the phrase/connector from the given options which can be used to combine the given two sentences, implying the same meaning.

1. It was true that Singapore, Hong Kong and South Korea managed to contain the spread of COVID-19 during the peak time without having to undertake stringent measures unlike India, China, etc.

2. These countries acted early, enforcing strong containment measures together with large-scale testing; this is not the case with America.

1. because
2. above all
3. whereas
4. all of the above
5. none of these

5. Select the phrase/connector from the given options which can be used to combine the given two sentences into a single sentence, implying the same meaning. If none of the options are correct then mark the option "None of these".

1. The White House secretariat had blocked a representative from testifying to Congress, saying it would be counterproductive for the senior member of the White House coronavirus taskforce to talk about the government's response to the pandemic in a House committee hearing.

2. The President welcomed Mitch McConnell's move to recall the Senate to Washington despite the congressional physician's office reportedly telling Republicans it would not be able to screen all 100 senators.

1. despite
2. however
3. meanwhile
4. above all
5. None of them

Solutions:

1. (3)

The correct answer is option 3 i.e. but

Concept

The theme of this question is to find a suitable connector for the two statements provided.

Application:

The statements talk about a statement given by the Ministry of railways. As both the sentences are opposite to each other i.e. statement B disapproves of the first one. So, the best suitable connector seems to be 'but' as it depicts the sense of disapproval. Hence, the correct answer is option 3.

2. (3)

The correct answer is option 3 i.e. Yet.

Concept

The theme of this question is to find a suitable connector to merge the sentences making them contextually and grammatically coherent.

Applications

The first statement is regarding something that has already been said but still, somebody did it, as is explained in the second statement. Among the given options, 'yet' is the correct choice since it is used to imply that despite something whereas 'if' is mainly used in a conditional clause. All the other three connectors given are used to indicate some cause and effect relationships. So, they can be eliminated as the given statements do not share the cause and effect relationship.

Hence, option 3 is correct.

3. (2)

The correct answer is option 2 i.e. (I) and (III).

Concept:

The given question is to find the sentence which when connected using the correct sentence structure forms a complete single sentence without altering the meaning of the sentence.

'If' is used as a condition or supposition.

Application:

Here the condition is the recent skirmish of the Galwan valley and the result is continuing to be discussed all over India. So, (I) and (III) will be that pair of sentences. After connecting two sentences the final sentence will be 'If it wasn't for the current skirmishes in the Galwan Valley, Ladakh would continue to be discussed for its scenic beauty and be populated by tourists from all over India.' Hence the chosen option is correct.

4. (1)

The correct answer is option 1 i.e. Because.

Concept

The theme of the question is to find a suitable connector for the given two statements so as to make both sentences coherent together

Applications

Out of all the options, the most suitable answer seems to be option 1 i.e. Because.

"because" is used in reason-oriented statements. So, it's correct as the statement provides a reason for the first statement.

"above all" and "presently" are used in adding a line in support or continuation of the previous one. So, it is not true.

"whereas" is used to show the difference in context.

Hence, option 1 is correct.

5. (3)

The correct answer is option 3 i.e. Meanwhile.

Concept

The theme of this question is to find a suitable connector for the two statements provided. The connector that has to be used here should be based on a logical and contextual relationship between the two statements.

Application:

'Meanwhile' represents a logical and contextual relationship.

'Above all' represents an emphasis based connector.

'Despite' and 'However' represent a contrast between the two statements.

Hence, the correct answer is option 3.