

English Language for Competitive Exams
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Week - 10
Lecture - 46
Grammar - Part 2
Sentence Correction

Welcome back friends and we continue with the second part of sentence correction. To tackle sentence correction type of exercises you need to be attentive, more sensitive to grammar idiom, style and diction, now what do all these things mean.

Remember there are these are the four broad categories of errors in any question that is of sentence correction type and you have to correct. The answer, choose the correct grammatically correct option. When you look at a question like choice like he has left, he have left, he lefting or things like that you know where is the rule of grammar - the ing form, the gerund form; he is to left, I use to walk everyday even nowadays, so when you cannot be having; this these kinds of sentence at all used to cannot go with simple present something that is going on even now.

Sun was rising. So, sun was rising in the east or sun was raising or sun was setting all these are for example, the universal phenomenon. Himalaya is the highest mountain range xyz. So, you do not say was the highest mountain range these are universal truths, you are expected to be attentive or, and also familiar to the basic rules of grammar. As I keep telling you again and again Wren Martin English grammar and composition is as standard text if you have any doubt about any aspect of, the basic aspect of grammar.

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They give you all the universal truths the exceptions, the ways languages used in different situations and the basic grammar. If you feel that fundamentals is a problem or in issue with you then please look up Wren Martin English grammar and composition book.

Diction, now what do you mean by a second term. This is the let say the choice between few were present and less were present, we are talking about the students. Now, fewer a student, lesser a students; fewer milk, lesser milk; how do you use it? Fewer students mean you can count them, less is also quantity, but it is not number; the difference of quantity and number. You do not say fewer milk was given you have to say lesser milk was given, fewer water no less water; fewer students - yes fewer teachers, fewer audience; lesser audience, lesser teacher, lesser students - wrong. So, countable, uncountable degree, this also if you have any confusion Wren Martin will give you Martin Heung, Heung book is also that advance English grammar book is also great value here.

What do you mean by idiom? Now if I say I prefer let say cheese potato and I say I prefer cheese over potato - it is idiomatic in the case 'to' is the correct proposition, I prefer cheese to potato, you have to understand the idioms. Let say he walked away indignantly; that means, he walked away furiously - you cannot replace he walked away with any other proposition; you cannot say walked in furiously. If the meaning is if you

what you are trying to suggest is that he came in, but if you are talking about away going out going away. So, walked out is also furiously walked away, he walked off. So, you have to be very careful about the idioms. I was blown away by the beauty of the writer style or the speaker speech, blown away - you do not say.

So, this is we are using in a positive way swept of your feet in a positive way, but you have to remember you know you are swept off your feet when you are passionate when you admire somebody strongly. So, therefore, you get swept off your feet these are the idioms - you cannot say swept of my leg for example. Swept of my leg feet and leg are the same, swept of my knees you cannot say that, swept of my toes you cannot say that - it has to be feet.

So, idioms are important in understanding there are books that claim to improve your idiomatic and slang improvement to development. So, look at the best one, best kind of book available, I think there is an oxford dictionary of idioms and there are innumerable Cambridge has brought out an number of books English vocabulary, English idioms. Go to your standard book shop and see how it is or on the net you can always order if you thing that your book stall owner is not keeping such kinds of books. So, please look up these books if you are interested. Net is very useful, but try to have books as well, there is nothing equals the pleasure of holding the book in your hand and turning the pages. So, please cultivate the habit of reading if you are interested in developing your language.

We will also talk about style and IIT students, IITians, students of IIT simplest version is IIT students we say, let say watermelon juice - not juice of watermelon, mango juice - not juice of mango this is style, shorter, crispier grammatically correct. Remember in grammar you have subject verb agreement we have done something, but there are all kinds of errors apart from tense of the verb, you have to remember singular and plural nouns especially in complex construction. Multitasking are is stressful or multitasking jobs are is stressful, multitasking jobs is stressful you have to see, you have to see which is decide which is correct which is more correct or the better version, correct choice is of course, is subject agrees with the singular multitasking, not jobs. Balancing several jobs is or are stressful. So, is naturally correct choice is corresponds to balancing, the gerund. Remember several jobs is a plural and gerund is the one the verb must correspond to and therefore, is the subject in the sentence.

You have to also look at the modifiers. Now, modifiers are those words which are used to modify a noun to help make the sentence more meaningful, it adds something it could be an adjective, an adverb or even a prepositional phrase or clause. So, Leena is an actor or if you say Leena, comma, actor George's daughter is a brilliant actor, then what are you doing? You are modifying, adding something you are giving some more information about Leena she is George's daughter.

Stella is a designer, then you can also say Stella, comma, Paul McCartney daughter is brilliant designer you are modifying, adding meaning to the sentence. The other thing called parallelism, now parallelism is an issue of convention in grammar the basic principle of parallelism is that components in a sentence must be similar, tense wise, convention wise or position wise. For example, if you say last summer Helen was a baby sitter, edited her collage magazine and even took up a job delivering let say guest lectures; she is a baby sitter, she is an editor, she is also a guest teacher somewhere. Now the verb forms are all different remember a correct sentence would have matching sentences, it can be was edited and guest lecturing. Last summer Helen baby set, edited and even delivered guest lectures, guest sessions.

We have to see the comparison part also, comparison is another aspect of grammar. The basic principle is that the subject must match the quantity being compared and that the degree of comparison must also correspond. So, that is about that is all that I want to talk in today's class, laying out some of the rules of grammar.

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1. Although neither jacket is really the correct size, the smallest one fits best.

- A. the smallest one fits best.
- B. the smallest one fits better.
- C. the smallest one is better fitting.
- D. the smaller of the two fits best.
- E. the smaller one fits better.

Now, from here onwards let look at the excises. This is the first slide underlined part is the problem or is the question. Although neither jacket is really the correct size, the smallest one fits best. The smallest one fits best, the smallest one fits better, the smallest one is better fitting, the smaller of the two fits best, the smaller one fits better. The best choice is option E - the smaller one fits better. Comparison is between two therefore, better, you cannot have best between two remember the word neither one indicates that we are dealing with two jackets, when comparing two things we use the comparative form that is good-better-best, bad-worse-worst; worst is superlative, best is superlative, greatest is superlative. We do not say between x and y, she is the most beautiful girl she is the more beautiful, we use between two we use the comparative form of the adjective not the superlative.

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2. Within the scientific community, the accomplishments of Albert Einstein are referred to more often than any scientist, living or dead.

- A. than any
- B. than any other
- C. than those of any
- D. than are those of any
- E. than those of any other

Look at the next slide: Within the scientific community, the accomplishments of Albert Einstein are referred to more often than any scientist, living or dead - than any, than any other, than those of any, than are those of any, than those of any other. The best option is option E - than those of any other. Here the objects of comparison are the accomplishments of Einstein not other scientist themselves, be careful of such question. So, read carefully to find the right quantity being compared.

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3. In addition to having more protein than meat does, the protein in soybeans is higher in quality than that in meat.

- A. the protein in soybeans is higher in quality than that in meat.
- B. the protein in soybeans is higher in quality than it is in meat.
- C. soybeans have protein of higher quality than that in meat.
- D. soybean protein is higher in quality than it is in meat.
- E. soybeans have protein higher in quality than meat.

Next exercise, please look at it. In addition to having more protein than meat does, the protein in soybeans is higher in quality than that in meat - the protein in soybeans is higher in quality than that in meat, the protein in soybeans is higher in quality than it is in meat, soybeans have protein of higher quality than that in meat, soybean protein is higher in quality than it is in meat, soybean have protein higher in quality than meat. The best choice is C - soybeans have protein of higher quality than that in meat. Remember the pronoun that sub pronoun is a demonstrative, must agree with the quantity it refers to, that here refers to protein quality in soybeans and meat option C make the sentence shorter, and option D and E are incorrect because they are, they just assume that soybeans and meat protein are the same. Let us move on to the next slide.

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4. Helen sings like an angel sings.

A. Helen sings like an angel sings.

B. Helen sings like an angel does.

C. Helen sings as an angel sings.

D. Helen sings as if an angel.

E. Helen sings as if like an angel.

Helen sings like an angel sings. Helen sings options like an angel sings, Helen sings like an angel does, Helen sings as an angel sings, Helen sings as if an angel, Helen sings as if like an angel. The best choices is option C - Helen sings as an angel sings, the difference between like and as when use for comparison is that like is used in a phrase. For example, like an angel, as is here similar comparison, as is used in a clause along with the verb. So, as an angel sings that is the best choice.

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5. Because right-brained individuals do not employ convergent thinking processes, like left-brained individuals, they may not notice and remember the same level of detail as their counterparts.

- A. like left-brained individuals,
- B. unlike a left-brained individual,
- C. as left-brained individuals,
- D. as left-brained individuals do,
- E. as a left-brained individual can,

Let us look at the fifth slide. Because right-brained individuals do not employ convergent thinking processes, like left-brained individuals, they may not notice and remember the same level of detail as their counterparts; like left-brained individuals, unlike a left-brained individual, as left-brained individuals, as left-brained individuals do, as a left-brained individual can. Option D - as left-brained individuals do. Remember there is a clause with the verb do not employ, hence like is inappropriate option C does not have a mirror verb do which violates the principle of parallelism and agreement, option E refers to an individual not a group, so again violating parallelism. So, best choice is D as left-brained individuals do.

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6. As Parliament is the legislative government body of England, the Bundestag is the legislative government body of Germany.

- A. As Parliament is the legislative government body of England,
- B. As the legislative government body of England is Parliament,
- C. Just like the legislative government body of England, which is Parliament,
- D. Just as Parliament is the legislative government body of England, so
- E. Just as the government of England's legislative branch is Parliament,

Look at the next slide. As parliament is the legislative government body of England, the bundestag is the legislative government body of Germany. Choice is as parliament is the legislative government body of England, as the legislative government body of England is parliament, just like the legislative government body of England which is parliament, just as parliament is the legislative government body of England so, just as the government of England's legislative branch is parliament. The best choice is option D just as parliament is the legislative government body of England.

So, remember when presenting new information by bringing in a familiar entity like the parliament just as so two constructions are common and more appropriate than begging the sentence with as, option C and E are not economical hence D is the correct answer. Move on to the next.

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7. Despite the fact that the United States is a superpower, American high school students perform more poorly on tests of world geography and international affairs than do their Canadian counterparts.

- A. American high school students perform more poorly on tests of world geography and international affairs than do
- B. American high school students perform more poorly on tests of world geography and international affairs as compared with
- C. American high school students perform more poorly on tests of world geography and international affairs as compared to
- D. the American high school student performs more poorly on tests of world geography and international affairs than does
- E. the American high school student performs more poorly on tests of world geography and international affairs as compared with

Despite the fact that the United States is a superpower, American high school students perform more poorly on tests of world geography and international affairs than do their Canadian counterparts. Please go through the choices and the best choice is option A - American high school students perform more poorly on tests of world geography and international affairs than do. Remember constructions that are standard would be more poorly than, more poorly dash dash than, more as dash compared with are non standard and must be eliminated. Let us move on to the next slide, please look at the question.

(Refer Slide Time: 18:31)

8. Like the Alaskan brown bear and most other members of the bear family, the diet of the grizzly bear consists of both meat and vegetation.

- A. Like the Alaskan brown bear and most other members of the bear family, the diet of the grizzly bear consists
- B. Like those of the Alaskan brown bear and most other members of the bear family, the diets of a grizzly bear consist
- C. Like the Alaskan brown bear and most other members of the bear family, the grizzly bear has a diet consisting
- D. Just like the diet of the Alaskan brown bear and most other members of the bear family, the diets of the grizzly bear consist
- E. Similar to the diets of the Alaskan brown bear and most other members of the bear family, grizzly bears have a diet which consists

Like the Alaskan brown bear and most other members of the bear family, the diet of the grizzly bear consists of both meat and vegetation. Please look at the slide and read the options - like the Alaskan brown bear and most other members of the bear family, the diet of the grizzly bear consists; like those of the Alaskan brown bear and most other members of the bear family, the diets of the grizzly bear consists; like the Alaskan brown bear and most other members of the bear family, the grizzly bear has a diet consisting of; just like the diet of the Alaskan brown bear and most other members of the bear family the diets of the grizzly bear consists of; similar to these diets of dash dash dash. The best choice is option C like the Alaskan brown bear and most other members of the bear family the grizzly bear has a diet consisting of.

Remember when making comparison the most basic rule is to make sure to compare like thing similar thing, choice A the original compares animals with diets where honestly comparing the Alaskan brown bear and most other members of the bear family to the diet of the grizzly bear, option C is error free and compare the right entities quantities.

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g. Unlike the Miller Analogies Test, which follows a standardized format, the formats for IQ tests vary considerably in both content and length.

A. the formats for IQ tests vary considerably in both content and length.

B. the format for an IQ test varies considerably in both content and length.

C. an IQ test follows a format that varies considerably in both content and length.

D. an IQ test follows formats that vary considerably in both content and length.

E. IQ tests follow formats that vary considerably in both content and length.

Let us move on to the next one. Unlike the miller analogies test, which follows a standardized format - the formats for IQ tests vary considerably in both content and length, options are the formats for IQ tests vary considerably in both content and length, the format for an IQ test varies considerably in both content and length, an IQ test follows a format that varies considerably in both content and length, an IQ test follows

formats that vary considerably in both content and length, IQ tests follows formats that vary considerably in both content and length. Option E is the answer, remember compare the right quantities the original sentence compare the test with the format of IQ test instead, the formats of each should be directly compared; option C and D use an altering meaning to refer to only on IQ test, hence E is the best option.

Look at this slide now, number 10 exercise.

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10. A recent study has found that within the past few years, many executives had elected early retirement rather than face the threats of job cuts and diminishing retirement benefits.

- A. had elected early retirement rather than face
- B. had elected early retirement instead of facing
- C. have elected early retirement instead of facing
- D. have elected early retirement rather than facing
- E. have elected to retire early rather than face

A recent study has found that within the past few years, many executives had elected early retirement rather than face the threats of job cuts and diminishing retirement benefits. The best choice here is option E have elected to retire early than face, only choice E, remember what is the quit and easy sentence choice E use is the correct tense present perfect have elected and it observes parallelism and is also sufficiently idiomatic rather than have elected. So, that is the best choice.

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11. Although he disapproved of the political platform set forth by Senator Obama during the 2008 U.S. presidential primaries, Senator McCain had later conceded that there must be a basis for a coalition government and urged members of both parties to seek compromise.

- A. disapproved of the political platform set forth by Senator Obama during the 2008 U.S. presidential primaries, Senator McCain had later conceded
- B. has disapproved of the political platform set forth by Senator Obama during the 2008 U.S. presidential primaries, Senator McCain had later conceded
- C. has disapproved of the political platform set forth by Senator Obama during the 2008 U.S. presidential primaries, Senator McCain later conceded
- D. had disapproved of the political platform set forth by Senator Obama during the 2008 U.S. presidential primaries, Senator McCain later conceded
- E. had disapproved of the political platform set forth by Senator Obama during the 2008 U.S. presidential primaries, Senator McCain had later conceded

Let us move on to look at 11th exercise. Although he disapproved of the political platform set forth by senator Obama during the 2008 US presidential primaries, Senator McCain had later conceded that there must be a basis for a coalition government and urged members of both parties to seek compromise. Look at the choices here and the best choice is option D - had disapproved of the political platform set forth by Senator Obama during the 2008 US presidential primaries senator McCain later conceded. Only in option D we find the verb tenses matching, disapproved matches with later conceded and not with has had conceded remember the words disapproved it matches with later conceded, it does not match with has and had conceded.

Let us move on to the next slide, look at it.

(Refer Slide Time: 23:09)

12. The percentage of people remaining single in Denmark increased abruptly between 1980 and 1990 and continued to rise more gradually over the next 10 years.

- A. The percentage of people remaining single in Denmark increased abruptly between 1980 and 1990 and continued to rise more gradually over the next ten years.
- B. The percentage of people remaining single in Denmark increased abruptly between 1980 and 1990 and has continued to rise more gradually over the next ten years.
- C. The percentage of people remaining single in Denmark increased abruptly between 1980 and 1990 and had continued to rise more gradually over the next ten years.
- D. There had been an abrupt increase in the percentage of people remaining single in Denmark between 1980 and 1990 and it continued to rise more gradually over the next ten years.
- E. There was an abrupt increase in the percentage of people remaining single in Denmark between 1980 and 1990 which continued to rise more gradually over the next ten years.

The percentage of people remaining single in Denmark increase abruptly between 1980 and 1990 and continued to rise more gradually over the next 10 years. The best choice here is option A - the percentage of people remaining single in Denmark increase abruptly between 1980 and 1990 and continued to rise more gradually over the next 10 years. Remember this is the question which replace is incorrect verb tenses in the sentence option B and C do not regard the tense rule, in option D and E the focus which is from a raise in the percentage of people to raise in the abrupt increase which makes really no sense. So, therefore, it is important to be careful to this.

Let us move on to the next example.

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13. Most houses that were destroyed and heavily damaged in residential fires last year were built without adequate fire detection apparatus.
- A. Most houses that were destroyed and heavily damaged in residential fires last year were
 - B. Most houses that were destroyed or heavily damaged in residential fires last year had been
 - C. Most houses that were destroyed and heavily damaged in residential fires last year had been
 - D. Most houses that were destroyed or heavily damaged in residential fires last year have been
 - E. Most houses that were destroyed and heavily damaged in residential fires last year have been

Most houses that were destroyed and heavily damaged in residential fires last year were built without adequate fire detection apparatus. Look at the last words were, had been, had been, have been, have been, also pay attention to the use of and or in certain sentences. So, it is not just the verb, but also the conjunction and or. And now make up your mind which is the best option, the best option is option B most houses that were destroyed or heavily damaged in residential fires last year had been, most house that were request passed house is request passed to complemented that is had been not were which is, so had been is the right answer.

(Refer Slide Time: 25:16)

14. As graduate management programs become more competitive in the coming years in terms of their promotional and financial undertakings, schools have been becoming more and more dependent on alumni networks, corporate sponsorships, and philanthropists.
- A. As graduate management programs become more competitive in the coming years in terms of their promotional and financial undertakings, schools have been becoming
 - B. As graduate management programs are becoming more competitive in the coming years in terms of their promotional and financial undertakings, schools have been becoming
 - C. As graduate management programs become more competitive in the coming years in terms of their promotional and financial undertakings, schools have become
 - D. As graduate management programs are becoming more competitive in the coming years in terms of their promotional and financial undertakings, schools have become
 - E. As graduate management programs become more competitive in the coming years in terms of their promotional and financial undertakings, schools will become

Let us look at the 14th question. As graduate management programs become more competitive in the coming years in terms of their promotional and financial undertaking, schools have been becoming more and more dependent on alumni networks, corporate sponsorships, and philanthropists. As graduate management program become more competitive in the coming years in terms of their promotional and financial undertakings, schools have been becoming; as graduate management programs are becoming more competitive in the coming years in terms of their promotional and financial undertaking, schools have been becoming; as graduate management programs become more competitive in the coming years in terms of their promotional and financial undertakings, schools have become; as graduate management programs are becoming schools have become; as graduate management programs become schools will become. Two sections to both parts of the choices are important to consider here the best answer is option E - as graduate management programs become more competitive in the coming years in terms of their promotional and financial undertakings, schools will become.

Remember this sentence is about progressive tenses therefore, it requires the future tense. The illustration here is use of the simple future tense become corresponds to will become. Next one.

(Refer Slide Time: 27:02)

15. By the time we have reached France, we will have been backpacking for twelve weeks.

- A. By the time we have reached France, we will have been backpacking for twelve weeks.
- B. By the time we have reached France, we will have backpacked for twelve weeks.
- C. By the time we reach France, we will have been backpacking for twelve weeks.
- D. By the time we will have reached France, we will have backpacked for twelve weeks.
- E. By the time we reached France, we will have been backpacking for twelve weeks.

By the time we have reached France, we will have been backpacking for twelve weeks - by the time we have reached France option A, we will have been backpacking for twelve

weeks, B - by the time we have reached France, we will have backpacked for twelve weeks, C - by the time we reach France, we will have been backpacking for twelve weeks, D - by the time we will have reached France, we will have backpacked for twelve weeks, E - by the time we reached France, we will have been backpacking for twelve weeks. Option C is the best answer by the time we reach France we will have been backpacking for twelve weeks. The problem highlight the correct use of the future perfect tense, by the time we reach we will have is the correct usage of tense, all other tenses are or options have inconsistency in them.

So, thank you very much we will continue with more exercises in grammar in our next classes.