**2.2 PARTS OF SPEECH**

**Introduction to the Topic**

The parts of speech occupies the most important part in the English Grammar.

It explains the fact that every word used in English language functions as at least one part of speech and can be used in various contexts.

Parts of speech comprises of different topics like Nouns, Pronouns, Verbs, Adjectives, Adverbs, Prepositions, Conjunctions and Interjections.

One cannot escape this topic from English Grammar at all.

**Relevance in CAT**

Parts of Speech helps in solving CAT level sentence correction questions and also help the students to be grammatically correct in their sentence formation and spoken English which will ultimately help them in getting through their GD's and PI's.

**Nouns**

A noun is a word used to name a person, animal, place, thing and abstract idea.

e.g. Chandragupta Maurya was a great king.

**Definition:** A noun is defined as a naming word. It is a word that is used to refer to the name of

A Person (particular or referred to in common).

A Place (particular or general)

A thing (referred to the same kind of class)

A Collection of person or thing

A notion

e.g. Vijay (a person), boy (a class of person), Delhi (a particular place), city (a kind of place), joy (a notion).

Vijay, is a talented boy, who comes form, Delhi which is often referred to as the city of joy.

**■ Kinds of Nouns**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Noun** | | | | |
| **Proper Noun** | **Common Noun** | **Collective Noun** | **Abstract Noun** | **Material Noun** |
| Name of particular person or place  **e.g.** Tulsidas was a great writer. | Name given in common to a person or thing of the same kind or class **e.g.**  She is a good girl.  This city is beautiful. | Name of persons or things taken together and spoken as whole number of  **e.g.**  Herd of cattle  Bunch of keys | The name of a quality, a state of mind or a state of life.  **e.g.** Honesty is a virtue. | All those nouns which are used to refer to metals and materials.  **e.g.** This ring is made up of gold. |

**■ Another Classification of Nouns**

● **Countable Nouns:** Are the name of object, people etc that we can count.

e.g. Book, Pen, Apple, Boy, Sister, Doctor, House.

● **Uncountable Noun:** Are the name of things which we cannot count.

e.g. Milk, Oil, Honesty

They mainly denote substances and abstract things.

**■ Noun based on Number**

● **Singular Noun:** denotes one person or thing

e.g. Bird, River, Girl.

● **Plural Noun:** denotes more than one person or thing.

e.g. Birds, Rivers, Girls.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Singular Noun | Plural Noun |
| Calf | Calves |
| Wife | Wives |
| Knife | Knives |
| Tooth | Teeth |
| Man | Men |

**■ Some nouns have both singular and plural alike.**

e.g. This sheep is mine.

These sheep are mine.

**■ Basic Rules**

**Rule 1:** Before Singular Countable Noun use **a/an**.

e.g. What a beautiful sky.

**Rule 2:** Use **‘Some’** with plural Countable Nouns.

e.g. I read some good novels recently.

**Rule 3:** Use **‘few’** with Countable Nouns and **‘less’** with Uncountable Nouns

e.g. Last year less amount of money went into IT companies.

**Rule 4:**

● Use **‘some’** and **‘any’** with Uncountable Nouns.

e.g. We bought some tea.

● You can use **some** and **any** with **plural** countable nouns:

e.g. Are there any pens in the box?

**Rule 5:** We use **much** and **little** with Uncountable nouns:

e.g. The girls were looking a little off colour.

There wasn’t much to write.

**Rule 6:** Countable nouns are used with:

e.g. A, an, the , many, few/fewer, number, this, that, each, either, neither, there, those, some, any, enough, a number, of.

**Rule 7:** Non countable nouns are used with:

e.g. Much, less/lesser, this, that, some, any, enough, amount of. Many nouns can be used as countable or uncountable nouns, usually with a difference in meaning.

**Rule 8:** Some nouns have the same form for the plural as well as for the singular. The following are some nouns that belong to this category.

e.g. Sheep, species, deer, aircraft, off spring, yoke, spacecraft, salmon etc.

**Rule 9:** Some nouns are used in the singular only, The following are nouns that belong to this category.

e.g. Advice, corn, grain, justice, clothing, information, poetry, scenery, machinery, hair etc.

**Note:** **Advice** is the noun form and **advise** is the verb form.

The advice of the doctor is that I should not smoke.

Noun

The doctor advised me not to smoke.

Similarly, Practice is a noun and Practise is a verb.

**Rule 10:** There are some nouns which are used only in the plural form.

e.g.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Scissors | Shears | Spectacles |
| Trousers | Pantaloons | Shorts |
| Bowels | Intestines | Biceps |
| Genitals | Gymnastics | Premises |
| Proceeds | Riches | Thanks |
| Nuptials | Outskirts | Gallows |
| Doldrums | Earnings |  |

**Rule 11:** Some nouns are apparently **plural in form** but are **singular in use**.

e.g. News, Economics, Physics, Measles, Mumps, Ethics etc.

**Rule 12:** The following nouns are always used in plural.

e.g. Cattle, police, people, poultry etc.

**Interesting Collective Nouns**

**Rule 1:** **People**

A faculty of academics.

A benches of bishops.

A shuffle of bureaucrats.

A worship of writers.

**Rule 2:** **Reptiles**

A quiver of cobras.

A bask of crocodiles.

**Rule 3:** **Fish**

A flock of dolphins.

A school of fish.

A shiver of sharks.

**Rule 4:** **Insects**

An intrusion of cockroaches.

A clutter of spiders.

A flight of butterflies.

A worship of writers.

**Rule 5:** **Birds**

A murder of crows.

A descent of woodpeckers.

A run of poultry.

A flight of doves.

**Rule 6:** **Miscellaneous**

A motorcade of cars.

A babble of homework.

A flight of stairs.

A word that replaces a noun or a group of words used as a noun. It acts as a substitute of a noun.

**■ Type of Pronouns**

●Personal

● Possessive

● Relative

● Demonstrative

● Reflexive

● Emphatic

● Distributive

● Indefinite

● Reciprocal

● Interrogative

**■ Personal Pronoun**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **It stand for the three persons** | **Pronouns used** |
| The person speaking. | I, my, mine, me, myself, we, out, ours, us, ourselves. |
| The person spoken to. | You, your, yours, youself, yourselves. |
| The person spoken of. | He, his, him, himself, she, her, hers, herself, it, its, itself, they, their, theirs, them, themselves. |

e.g. She is my sister. [nominative = subject of a sentence.]

I like them a lot. [accusative = object of a sentence.]

These books are mine. [possessive = shows possession.]

**■ Possessive Pronouns**

Some personal pronouns are called possessives because they show to whom something belongs. They are the following pronouns : **my, mine, your, yours, his, her, hers, its, our, ours, their,** and **theirs.**

e.g. This pen is his.

**■ Relative Pronouns**

Relative Pronouns join dependent clauses to independent clauses. They are **who, whose, whom, which** and **that.**

e.g. He found his book that he had lost.

**That** joins the two clauses together into one sentence. **'which'** is used to indicate selection from many.

e.g. I picked up suit which was pink.

**■ Demonstrative Pronouns**

It is used to point out the object to which they refer. They are **this, that, these** and **those.**

e.g. This is a gift from my grand parents.

Both dresses are good; but this is better than that.

That is the Taj Mahal.

A Demonstrative Pronoun points to and identifies a noun or a pronoun. "This" and "these" refer to things that are nearby either in space or in time, while "that" and "those" refer to things that are far away in space or time.

**■ Reflexive Pronouns**

It is used when the action done by the subject turns back (reflects) upon the subject.

The following pronouns: **myself**, **yourself**, **yourselves**, **himself**, **herself**, **itself**, **ourselves**, and **themselves**.

e.g. He hurts himself.

They killed themselves for no reason.

**■ Emphatic Pronouns**

It is used to stress or put emphasis on the persons in question. The difference between Reflexive and Emphatic Pronouns is that Emphatic Pronouns emphasize the words more forcefully.

e.g. I will do it myself.

She herself said so.

He himself says so.

**■ Distributive Pronouns**

It refers to persons or things one at a time.

e.g. Each of the girls gets a prize.

Either of these roads leads to the airport.

Neither of the solutions is true.

**Note:** The distributive pronouns are in the singular number and are therefore followed by singular verbs.

**■ Indefinite Pronouns**

Indefinite Pronouns are pronouns that do not point out specifically. They point out generally. They include such words as **another**, **any**, **any body**, **any one**, **anything**, **both**, **each**, **either**, **everybody**, **everyone**, **everything**, **many**, **neither**, **nobody**, **none**, **no one**, **one**, **other**, **others**, **some**, **somebody**, and **someone**.

e.g. None of his songs are well known.

Anybody can climb it if he/she tries.

**■ Reciprocal Pronouns**

**Each other** and **one another** express a mutual or reciprocal relationship. They are considered as single units, and are called reciprocal pronouns or 'compound personal

pronouns.'

e.g. The two friends helped each other in every respect.

The communist parties quarrelled with one another.

**Note: Each other** is usually used to refer to two persons or things and **one another** to more than two persons or things.

**■ Interrogative Pronouns**

Interrogative pronouns ask question. **Who, whom, whose,**

**which** and **what** are interrogative pronouns.

Generally **"who", "whom",** and occasionally **"which"** used to refer to people, and **"which"** and **"what"** used to refer to things and to animals. **"Who"** acts as the subject of a verb, while **"whom"** acts as the object of a verb, preposition, or a verbal.

e.g. Who wrote the novel 'HARRY POTTER'?

Here "who" is the subject of the sentence.

Whom do you think we should invite?

In this sentence, "whom" is the object of the verb "invite".

**■ Basic Rules**

**Rule 1:** While confessing a fault (or expressing a negative idea) the sequence of the personal pronouns should be as follows:

Sequence: First person, second person next and third person last.

e.g. I, You and Neha will be punished severely for the crime we have commited.

**Rule 2:** While expressing a positive idea or praise, the sequence of the personal pronouns should be as follows:

Sequence: Second person, third person and first person.

e.g. You, he and I, will be rewarded for the good work we have done.

**Rule 3:** When a singular noun and a plural noun are combined by **or**, **either....or**, **neither....nor,** the singular noun usually comes first in the sentence, and the pronoun must be in the plural number.

e.g. Either the manager or his subordinates have distorted the main contents of the important project.

**Rule 4:** The personal pronouns - yours, ours, hers, theirs and its - are written without the apostrophe (').

e.g. (Wrong): Your's truly

(Right): Yours truly

**Rule 5:** A pronoun should be used in the objective case in a sentence beginning with **let**.

e.g. Let him go wherever he wants to.

Let her submit the project in time.

**Some Important Points**

● **'It's'** means **'It is'** and not belonging to it.

e.g. It's a mad dog which bites its tail.

It's my dog.

This dog bites its tail.

● When two singular nouns joined by **'and'** denote the same person or thing, the pronoun used for them must be singular in number.

e.g. The manager and auditor should be careful in his work of auditing accounts.

● Singular nouns joined by **'and'** but preceded by **'each/every'** will take a singular pronoun.

e.g. Each boy and girl must be responsible for his/her act in this play.

● **'I'** is a nominative case used when the pronoun is subject.

e.g. Rohan is more intelligent than I.

(It is incorrect to say, Rohan is more intelligent than me.)

**'Me'** accusative case is used when the pronoun is the object or with preposition.

e.g. "Between you and me" not "between you and I".

She talked to me nicely.

**Verbs**

A verb indicates the action done by the subject or the state of the being of the subject.

e.g. He has completed the task. (action)

My friend is an air force pilot. (state)

**■ Classification of Verbs**

I. Main Verbs

II. Auxiliary Verbs

**■ Main Verbs**

● Simple Present Tense – Sing

● Simple Past Tense – Sang

**Basic forms**

● Present Participle – singing

● Past Participle – Sung

**■ Auxiliary Verbs and their forms**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Primary Auxiliaries (PA)** | **Modal Auxiliaries (MA)** |
| BE | Be, is, are, am, was, were, being, been, | Can, might, may, must, will, needn’t, |
| HAVE | Have, has, had, having, | Shall, daren’t, should, ought, |
| Do | Do, does, did, doing, done | Would, used to, could |

e.g. I teach Maths.

MV

I am teaching Science now.

PA MA

I will have been teaching Political Science.

MA PA PA MV

● **Transitive and Intransitive verbs**

Transitive verbs are verbs that have subjects or objects that receive the action. They are either active voice or passive voice.

I. **Transitive verbs** are the verbs in sentences with a direct object.

e.g. The driver stopped the train.

(The subject is the doer and the direct object is the receiver of the action.) *Transitive passive* verbs have the subject receiving the action with the doer in a prepositional phrase or omitted in the sentence.

e.g. The train was stopped by the driver.

(The train was stopped suddenly).

(The verb in the *transitive passive* voice always has *is, am, are, was, were, be, being*, or been as an auxiliary or helping verb.)

**II. Intransitive Verb** have no receiver of the action.

e.g. The girl is Neha (Predicate nominative). The girl is beautiful (Predicate adjective) *Intransitive complete* are all the verbs that don’t fit one of the other kinds of transitive or intransitive verbs.

e.g. The bell rang suddenly.

(The boy slept whole day.) (There is no receiver of the action)

They were not here. (no action or predicate nominative or predicate adjective)

■ **Linking verbs and Action verbs**

● **Action verbs:** Action verbs are verbs that show the performance of an action. They are a dynamic verb that show something is or was happening. There are regular and irregular action verbs.

**I. Regular action verbs:** Regular verbs are those verbs that can be conjugated easily to learn rules.

For example, past tense of look is looked. We may simply

transform a regular verb from its present tense form to past tense form by adding ‘ed’ at the end. Similarly, we may add an – 'ing' and make a present continuous (looking).

**II. Irregular action verbs:** Irregular verbs have no verbs, have no rules for conjugation.

For example, the past tense of the verb run is run. Similarly, the past tense for bite is bit.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Present Tense | Past Tense |
| Run | Run |
| Bite | Bit |
| Fight | Fought |

● **Linking verbs:**

A linking verb connects a subject and its complement (complement is any word or phrase that completes the sense of a subject, an object, or a verb). Linking verbs are often forms of the verb to be, but are sometimes verbs related to the five sense. (look, sound, smell, fell, taste) and sometimes verbs that somehow reflect a state of being (appear, seem, become, grow, turn, prove, remain).

The linking verb will be either followed by a noun complement or an adjective complement:

e.g. Those students are talented.

This place smells bad.

Today, I feel happy.

**■ Verbals**

A verbal is verb form used as some other parts of speech. There are three kinds of verbals: **gerunds, participles** and **infinitives**.

A Gerund always ends in ‘ing’ and is used as a noun.

e.g.Dancing is fun.

●The Gerunds can be a subject (Dancing is fun.): a direct object (I like Dancing.); A Predicate nominative (A fun

time is Dancing.); an appositive (A fun time, Dancing,

takes much time.); and indirect object (I give eating too much time.); or an object of a preposition (I give much time to dancing) .

● **Noun Infinitives** can be a subject (To dance is fun.); a direct object (I like to dance.); a predicate nominative (A fun thing is to dance.); an appositive (My hope, to travel, never happened.); an object of a preposition (I want nothing but to save.)

● **Participles**

A participle is used as an adjective and ends in various ways. A Present participle always ends with 'ing' as does the gerunds, but remember that it is an adjective. A past verb mostlyends with ed, n, ied.

e.g.Played, broken, brought, sung, seeing, having, seen, being seen, seen, having been seen.

Participles that end in ‘ing’ with gerunds. Participles are used as adjective; gerunds are used as nouns.

**■ Basic Rules**

**Rule 1:** When two subjects are joined by ‘and’, the verb is plural.

e.g. My cousin **and** his father are in London.

**Rule 2:** When two singular nouns joined by and refer to the same person or thing, the verb is singular.

e.g. The chairman **and** secretary has been arrested.

**Rule 3:** If two different singular nouns express **one idea**, the verb should be in the singular form.

e.g. Bread and milk **is** good for dinner.

Rice and Rajma **is** my favourite dish.

**Rule 4:** When there is only **one auxiliary** to **two principle** **verbs**, it should be such that it may be correctly associated with both.

e.g. Ten new members have been enrolled and seven have resigned.

**Rule 5:** The following verbs are often wrongly used with the ‘to’ form of other verbs: **enjoy, avoid, miss, postpone, suggest.** They should be used with the – **ing**.

e.g. He enjoys dancing.

**Some Important Points**

● Article **‘The’** is used only once when the two nouns refer to the same person or thing.

If the two nouns refer to different persons or things article **‘The’** is used before each noun. In such cases, the verb will be in the plural form.

e.g. **The** secretary and **the** president have been given warm welcome.

● A common blunder is to leave the verb without proper agreement or with no agreement at all.

e.g. **(Wrong)** Being it raining, I remained in my car.

**(Right)** As it was raining, I remained in my car.

● An infinitive should be in the present tense unless it represents action prior to that of the forming verb.

e.g. I like to [to + 1st form of verb]

● **'Lay'** Transitive verb are always followed by object.

**'Lie'** Intransitive and cannot have an object.

e.g. Lay the little down to sleep.

The hen has laid an egg.

**Adverbs**

An adverb is a word which modifies a verb, an adjective or another adverb in a given sentence.

e.g.

1. He is running very fast.

Verb Adj.

2. She is very talented girl.

Adv. Adj.

3. Sugandha walks quickly.

Verb Adv.

Adverb qualify the antecedent in the following manner: **how** (manner), **when** (time), **where** (place), **how much** (degree), and **why** (cause). **Why** is a common one – word adverb that tells why. Adverbs that tell us **how, when, where**, and **why** always modify the verb.

Adverbs that tell us **how much**, modify adjectives or other adverbs. These adverbs are also called **qualifiers** because they strengthen or weaken the words they modify.

**■ Types of Adverbs**

● Adverb of Time

● Adverb of Frequency

● Adverb of Place

● Adverb of Manner

● Adverb of Degree or Quantity

● Relative Adverb

● Interrogative Adverb

**■ Adverb of Time**

It shows **when** an action takes place.

e.g. We shall now begin to dance.

He comes here daily.

**■ Adverb of Frequency**

It shows **how** often an action takes place.

e.g. He often visits us.

I have told you my problem thrice.

**■ Adverb of Place**

It shows where an action takes place.

e.g. The puppy followed the boy everywhere.

We were asked to walk forward.

**■ Adverb of Manner**

It shows **how** or **in what** manner an action takes place.

e.g. The child slept peacefully.

The Maharana Partap fought bravely.

**■ Adverb of Degree or Quantity**

It shows the **quantity** or **degree** or **extent of an action** or a quality.

e.g. He was too careless.

You are quite good at this.

**■ Relative Adverb**

It relates back to something else.

e.g. Show me the house where he was stabbed.

This is the reason why I lied.

**■ Interrogative Adverb**

It is used to **ask questions**.

e.g. Where are you going?

How many students are there in you class?

Why are you late?

**■ Basic Rules**

**Rule 1:** When there are **two or more adverbs** after a verb (and its object). The normal order is.

● Adverb of Manner

● Adverb of Place

● Adverb of Time

e.g. He spoke sincerely at the conference last night.

Manner place time

**Rule 2:** Adverb of frequency & certain other adverbs like **almost, already, hard, nearly, just, quite** are normally put between the subject and the verb if the verb consists of only one word: if there is more than one word in the verb they are put after the first word.

e.g. He has never seen a zoo.

I have often told him to walk fastly.

I quite agree with you.

**Rule 3:** When an adverb **modifies an adjective** or **another adverb**, the adverb usually comes before it.

e.g. Rohit is rather lazy boy.

I was quite upset.

**Rule 4:** When an adverb modifies an intransitive verb, it usually follows it.

e.g. She sang melodiously.

She writes neatly.

**Rule 5:** USE OF Hard, Hardly, Scarce, Scarcely

● **Hard** as an adverb means ‘diligently’. It usually follows the verb.

e.g. He works hard to make both ends meet.

● **Hardly** When used as an adverb means **scarcely, barely**

It conveys a negative meaning.

e.g. Hardly (scarcely) had he reached the station, when the train left.

**Note:** Hardly and scarcely are followed by when not than no sooner is followed by than not when or then. (This is very important)

● **Scarce** as an adjective means ‘not plentiful’ hard to find, not often found.

e.g. Coal has become scarce in England.

**Scarcely** as an adverb is almost synonymous with ‘hardly’. I can scarcely hear you.

e.g. They have scarcely enough money to look after their children.

**Rule 6:** Split Infinitive

The infinitive is to + the simple form of the verb.(V)

Do not put an adverb between to and verb.

He refused to do the work quickly.

(to + verb) Adv.

e.g. He wanted to read the directions carefully.

**Rule 7:** Some adverbs have no special form. These are adverbs of time, place, frequency, degree, manner and time.

e.g. Perhaps she isn’t going.

Amish is always late.

Everybody will have to write fast.

We usually meet over lunch.

**Rule 8:** Adverbs are sometimes whole phrases, not just one word.

e.g. The party is next weekend.

I meet Arijit Singh form time to time.

**Rule 9:** Adverb like **always, also, probably** goes with the verb in the middle of a sentence.

e.g. Krishna’s watch has probably been stolen.

She always goes to the office by bus.

Usually, if the verb is word e.g. goes, fell, cooked… the adverb goes **before** the verb.

e.g. She always goes to work by car.

Sharon almost fell when she was going down the stairs.

They cleaned the house and also cooked the lunch.

**Rule 10:** Adverbs like **always, often, also** etc. go before **have to**:

e.g. We always have to wait a long time for the office cab.

**Rule 11:** Use all and both here:

e.g. We all felt good after the party.

His parents are both doctors.

**Rule 12:** The conjunctive adverb is a special king of adverb that often serves as a transition between two independent clauses in a sentence. Words like **therefore, however, moreover, nevertheless, consequently** and **furthermore**.

e.g. The girls had been playing therefore, they needed a break.

The students were shouting consequently, they got punished.

**Some Important Points**

● The adverb **'enough'** is always placed after the word which it modifies.

e.g. Is the room big enough?

● If the verb is am/are/is/was, these adverbs are placed after the verb.

e.g. He is always with friends on weekends.

● The word **‘only’** should be placed before the word it is intended to modify.

e.g. I solved only two questions.

**Adjective**

A word used with a noun to describe or point out, the person, animal place or thing which the noun names, or to tell the number or quantity, is called an **Adjective**.

**■ Types of Adjectives**

● Adjective of Quality

● Adjective of Number

● Interrogative Adjective

● Exclamatory Adjective

● Adjective or Quantity

● Demonstrative Adjective

● Emphasizing Adjective

**■ Adjective of Quality**

It shows the kind or quality of a person or thing.

e.g. Kolkata is a large city.

He is an honest man.

The foolish old crow tried to sing.

**■ Adjective of Quantity**

It shows **how much** of a thing is meant.

e.g. I ate some chocolates.

He showed much patience.

You have no clue.

**■ Adjective of Number**

It shows **how many** persons or things are meant, or **in** **what order** a person or thing stands.

e.g. The leg has five fingers.

Few cats like cold water.

Monday is the first day of the week.

**■ Adjectives of Number are of the three kinds:**

● **Definite Numeral Adjectives**, which denote an exact number. One, two, first, second.

● **Indefinite Numeral Adjectives**, which do no denote an exact number.

Few, some, any, all, no several, certain, many.

● **Distributive Numeral Adjectives**, which refer to each one of a number.

Each, every, either, neither

e.g. Either pencils will do.

Teacher expects every student to complete his home work.

**■ Demonstrative Adjective**

It points out **which** person or thing is meant.

e.g. This girl is taller than Sita.

Those oranges are sour.

Don’t be in such a hurry.

**■ Interrogative Adjective**

It is used with nouns to **ask questions**.

e.g. What kind of woman is she?

Which way shall we go?

Whose pen is this?

**■ Emphasizing Adjective**

It is a word like **own** or **very** that is used to emphasize nouns.

e.g. I heard it with my own ears.

Mind your own business.

**■ Exclamatory Adjective**

The word **what** is used.

e.g. What an idea !

What a blessing!

**Usage of Adjective:**

**■** An adjective can be used in two ways:-

I. Attributively

II. Predicatively.

● An adjective is used attributively if it is placed imme-

diately before the noun it qualifies.

e.g. She is a cute girl.

Adj. Noun

● An adjective is used predicatively if it is used after the verb.

e.g. Kalpana is intelligent.

Verb Adj.

**■** Sometimes they appear in a string of adjectives, and when

they do, they appear in a set order according to category.

e.g. A long, sharp and shining knife was discovered form her bag.

**■** When indefinite pronoun – such as something, someone, and anybody – are modified by an adjective, the adjective comes after the pronoun.

e.g. Something horrible happened to him that day and he laid the blame on someone close to him.

**■** And there are certain adjectives that, in combination with certain words, are always “postpositive” (coming after the thing they modify):

e.g. Nothing interesting happened this afternoon.

**Degree of Adjectives:**

**■ Positive degree** of an adjective is the adjective in its simplest form. It is used to refer to the mere distance of particular quality.

e.g. No other student in the class is as good as Manisha.

**■ Comparative degree** of an adjective denotes a higher degree of the quality than the positive and is used, when two things are compared.

e.g. Manisha is better than any other student in the class.

**■ Superlative degree** denotes the highest degree of the quality.

e.g. Manisha is the best student in the class.

**■ Basic Rules**

**Rule 1:** The words **superior, inferior, senior, junior, prior** take **‘to’** instead of **‘than’**.

e.g. Subhash is inferior to Kundu in intelligence.

**Rule 2:** We do not use more with the – **er** form of an adjective.

e.g. In Bihar, the food is cheaper than in Delhi.

**Rule 3:** In comparing two things or classes of things the Comparative should be used.

e.g. Between Mumbai and Delhi, the former is the wealthier.

**Rule 4:** The usages “as …….as” and “so ……as” appear in positive degree.

Comparative degree has “adjective + er ……than”. Superlative degree has “the + adjective in the superlative from”.

**Note:** the use of ‘the’, before the adjective in the Superlative (superlative form).

**Rule 5:** (Very important) When two qualities in the same person or things are compared, the comparative degree is formed by using more, instead of – **r** or – **er** with the positive.

e.g. Reddy is more wise than intelligent.

(This sentence means that Reddy is both wise and intelligent. But his wisdom is greater than his intelligence.)

**Rule 6:** There are some words which are used in the positive and cannot be used in the comparative or in the superlative.

These are: **interior, exterior, ulterior, major, minor**

e.g. This is inferior to that.

**Rule 7:** Certain adjectives, when preceded by **the** become nouns in plural and require a plural verb if they are used as subjects.

These are: **rich, poor, needy, aged, blind, dead, meek, wicked** etc.

e.g. The rich (rich people) usually hate the poor (poor people).

**Rule 8:** Modifiers: **Few, Little, Much** and **Many**

Few is used with plural nouns. Little is used with singular non – count nouns.

● **Without articles, few** and **little** usually have rather negative meanings. They often suggest ‘not as much/ many as one would like’, or ‘not as much/many as expected’ or a similar idea.

● **With articles,** **‘few’** and **‘little’** *i.e*. **a few** and **a little** are more positive in meaning. Their meaning is closer to ‘Some’. They often suggest ideas like ‘better’ than nothing’ or ‘more than expected’.

e.g.

1. There are few books on “Thermodynamics” in the library, so you have to purchase them.

2. You don’t need to go shopping. There are a few eggs in the fridge.

3. I’ve got a little bread and cheese. It’ll be enough for supper.

**■ Difference between Fewer and Less**

In theory, fewer (the comparative of few) is used before countable nouns, and less (the comparative of little) before uncountable words.

e.g. There are fewer exploited workers than there used to be.

My friend earns lesser than a postman does.

**Note:** The following:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Positive Degree** | **Comparative Degree** | **Superlative Degree.** |
| Few | Fewer | Fewest |
| Little | Less/Lesser | Least |

● **Fewer** and **less** **(lesser)** are followed by **than** as they are the comparative forms.

**Note:** ‘Many’ like ‘few’ is used before a count noun. e.g. Many/few students.

Countable Noun

● **‘Much’ / ‘less’** is used before a non – count or a material noun.

e.g. Much/less water.

Non countable noun

**Rule 9:** Be careful, also, not use **more** along with a comparative adjective formed with – **er** nor to use **most** along with a superlative adjective formed with – **est** (e.g. do not write that something is more heavier or most heaviest).

**Some Important Rules**

● Be careful not to form comparative or superlatives of adjectives which already explains an example of comparison.

e.g. wealthiest, unique

● **'Later'** and **'Latest'** refer to time.

**'Latter'** and **'Last'** refer to position.

● **'Elder'** and **'Eldest'** are used only of person, not of animals or things.

**'Older'** and **'Oldest'** are used for both persons and things.

e.g. Rohan is my eldest son.

This is the oldest building in Delhi.

● Further not farther is used to mean "additional".

e.g. After this he made no further argument.

Delhi is farther/further from the equator than Sri Lanka.

● **'Nearest'** means the shortest distance away.

**'Next'** means one of a sequence of things coming one after the other.

e.g. Where is the nearest PCO?

My aunt lives in the next apartment.

**Preposition**

A preposition is a word placed before a noun or a pronoun to show in what relation the person or thing denoted by it stands in regard to something else.

e.g. He is fond of coffee.

The cat jumped off the chair.

**■ Types of Prepositions**

**● Simple Preposition**

It is a word placed before a noun or pronoun to show its relation with another Noun/ Pronoun/ Adjective/ Verb in the same sentence.

e.g. The teachers are in the staffroom.

I bought this piece of fabric from a shopkeeper.

**● Compound Preposition**

It is generally formed by prefixing a Preposition to a Noun, an Adjective or an Adverb.

e.g. She stood beside me.

The path runs along the river.

We sat inside the car and talked for hours.

**● Phrase preposition**

It is a group of words used with the force of a single Preposition.

e.g. We went out in spite of the snowfall.

As a consequence of his accident he could not finish the project in time.

In course of time, they realised their mistake.

**■ Object of the preposition**

The noun or noun- equivalent (Pronoun, adverb, gerund, infinitive, adverbial clause, or any clause that can be used as the object of the Preposition) before which the preposition is placed is called its objects.

e.g. The book is on the table. (Noun)

He is dependent on me. (Pronoun)

Get out from here. (Adverb)

She is fond of swimming. (Gerund)

Time goes very quickly. (Adverbial Phrase)

**■ Relationships expressed by prepositions**

**Place: a**t, on, in, inside, within, by, near, behind, beyond, among, between, above, below, beneath, over, under, to, towards, from, into, out (of), off, onto, across, along, down, past, round, through

**Time: a**t, on, in, during, for, after, before, by, since, till, throughout, until

**Reason:** because of, despite, for

**Similarity:** as, like, unlike, than

**Addition:** with, without

**Means:** by, with

**■ Basic Rules**

**Rule 1:** A preposition is placed at the end of a sentence in the following ways:

● When the relative pronoun is ‘that’:

e.g. Here is the that you are looking for.

● If a preposition governs a relative pronoun:

e.g. This is the girl whom I spoke about.

● When the relative pronoun is understood:

e.g. This is the man you spoke to.

● If a preposition governs an interrogative pronoun or an interrogative adverb:

e.g. What are you looking at?

● When the preposition is used with the infinitive placed at the end of the sentence:

e.g. Do you have a desk to sit on?

● When the object governed by the preposition is placed first:

e.g. He is known to all the school over.

**Rule 2:** A preposition can also be used at the beginning of an interrogative sentence.

e.g. In which apartment do you live?

To whom are you talking about?

**Rule 3:** There are many words which can be used as prepositions or as adverbs. The most important of these are about, above, across, along, before, below, behind, besides, by, down, in, near, off, over, past, round, through, under, up, etc.

e.g.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Preposition** | **Adverb** |
| She was here before six. | She has completed this before. |
| They were behind us. | They are long way behind. |
| The mall is just round the corner. | Come round and see me this evening. |

**Rule 4:** The verbs, which are placed immediately after prepositions are usually in the gerund form.

e.g. Shikha insisted on buying a refrigerator.

They left the hotel without paying the bill.

**Rule 5:** '**In'** and '**Within'**

● In refers to the end of a period of time usually in the future.

e.g. He will go back in a month.

● Within means before the end of a period of time (at any time before the specified period)

e.g. They will return within two weeks.

**Rule 6:** Uses of **‘For’,** **‘While’** and **‘During’**

● **‘For’** is used with a period of time to express the duration

or ‘how long’ something has happened:

e.g. For two weeks, for many years

● **‘While’** is used with a verb as in the following case:

e.g. While I was playing

While I lived in Delhi

● **‘During’** is used with a noun to express the time ‘when’ something happened.

e.g. During class

During my exams

**Rule 7:** '**At'** and '**In'**

We use **at** with a position, an address, an activity, a journey etc.

We use **in** with something big enough to be all around a person, a road, a building, a city and a country.

e.g. Vanita was in the school.

It was dark in the hall.

**Rule 8:** **'On', 'At'** and **'In'**

e.g. I had my breakfast at 10 o’clock.

We graduated in the year 2003.

I met him on Friday morning.

**Rule 9:** **'Before', 'During', 'After/Till', 'Until'** and **'By'**

e.g. I am always busy during the day.

They had to leave immediately after the breakfast.

The audience was very excited before the show began.

I am very busy until Friday.

We shall be returning home by this month.

**Rule 10:** Preposition **from, since, for** with reference to time.

● **From, Since** indicate a point of time.

e.g. I have not seen here since Friday.

I have not seen her from January.

● **For** indicates a length or period of time.

e.g. I have not seen her for a year.

**Some Important Rules**

● It is 'by my watch' not 'ín my watch'.

e.g. What is the time by your watch?

● Use **‘On’** before the names of days and dates.

e.g. On Saturday.

On the 15th of August

● I. **‘Beside’** means ‘by the side of’

e.g. My office is beside the Durga Temple.

II. **‘Besides’** means in addition to or moreover

e.g. Besides Mathematics we taught English.

● **'Between'** and **'Among'**

I. Between is used for two persons or things

e.g. Distribute these chocolates between the two boys.

II. Among is used for more than two persons or things.

e.g. The girls were fighting among themselves in the absence of their parents.

**Conjunctions**

A conjunction is a word which connects words, phrases, clauses or sentences. It also brings about relationship between the elements which are thus joined.

The most familiar and commonly used Conjunctions… are ‘and’, but, ‘and’ ‘or’.

e.g. Two and two make four.

She must weep or she will die.

**■ Types of Conjunctions**

I. Co-ordinate Conjunction

II. Subordinating Conjunction

**■ Co-ordinate Conjunction:** A co-ordinate conjunction joins two clauses or sentences of equal rank. Also, it joins two words of equal grammatical rank.

And, but, for, nor, or, but, otherwise, else, also, either-or, neither-nor etc. are the chief co-ordinate conjunctions.

e.g. He went to the school and met the principal.

Rohit and Shreya are best friends.

**The co-ordinate conjunctions are of four kinds:**

● **Cumulative Conjunction:** A Conjunction which adds one statement or fact to another is a cumulative conjunction.

e.g. The principal as well as the teacher has accepted to conduct the examination next week.

The following are the cumulative conjunctions:

Not only…….but also, Both…………… an, As well as, too, also, moreover etc.

● **Alternative Conjunction:** A conjunction of this kind expresses a choice between two alternatives.

Either …..or, neither……nor, otherwise, else, etc. are alternative conjunctions.

e.g. He is good neither at cricket nor at football.

Work hard, otherwise you will not pass the examination.

● **Adversative Conjunction:** An adversative conjunction expresses a contrast between two facts or statements. Only, however, but, still, yet, whereas, nevertheless etc. are adversative conjunction.

e.g. He was angry, but he kept quiet.

● **Illative Conjunction:** Such a conjunction shows that a statement or fact is proved or inferred from another.

Therefore, hence, so, consequently, for etc, are illative conjunctions.

e.g. She is honest and friendly, hence she is revered.

**■ Subordinating Conjunction:** This type joins one clause to another on which it depends for its full meaning.

e.g. After a heavy shower, the sun shone again.

As she was not there, I spoke to her mother.

She ran away because she was afraid.

The word ‘than’ is also a subordinating conjunction

e.g. She is taller than I (am tall).

I love you more than she (loves you).

**■ These Conjunctions are classified into…..**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Time | I would die **before** I gave up.  His mother died **when** he was five years old. |
| Place | I shall go **wherever** you order me to go.  Put back the file **where** you had found it. |
| Cause /Reason | She will be given a prize **because** she deserves it. |
| Purpose | She held my hand **lest** I should fall. |
| Result/Consequence | I was so tired **that** I could hardly stand.  It was so cold outside **that** my fingers became numb. |
| Condition | **Unless** you work hard you cannot get success in life.  I will dance if you do. |
| Comparison | She is stronger **than** her sister. |
| Manner | He talks **as if** he were a king.  She dresses **as** she likes. |

**■ Basic Rules**

**Rule 1:** We join two main clauses together with the conjunction **and**, **but** and **or**.

e.g. I have got a terrible stomach ache, **and** I feel sick.

**Rule 2:** **A Sub clause** can begin with a conjunction **if, when, because, so that.**

e.g. We can go if you like.

If you like, we can go.

**Rule 3:** **A reported clause** begins with **that** or **had** conjunction.

e.g. It is said in the news that it finishes at ten.

**Rule 4:** **A relative clause** begins with a relative pronoun.

e.g. The magazine that was given first was very boring.

**Rule 5:** **Clauses of Time:** [Until, As soon as, While]

These appear either before or after the main clause.

e.g. Rohit came as soon as he heard the news.

While I was eating my breakfast, the doorbell rang loudly.

**Rule 6:** **Too** and **as well** normally come at the end of a clause. Use **either** instead of **too** in a negative sentence.

e.g. Reena can’t sing, and she can’t dance either.

Arpana ride a cycle, and she can drive a car as well.

I like both classical music and modern jazz.

**Rule 7:** We use or to talk about an alternative and use **either** and **or** in positive or a negative sentence.

e.g. We can either buy a play station or hire one for the party.

Neither CNBC nor India Today is showing this news.

**Rule 8:** We provide contrasts by using **whereas, while** and **on the other hand.**

e.g. Rohit is a great singer, whereas Jitesh is not.

Haryana is an agricultural state, Mumbai on the other hand is technology driven.

**Rule 9:** **Though** usually comes at the end of a sentence and **however** comes after the main clause.

e.g. Though Govind did well at College, he can’t find a job.

**Rule 10:** We express reason with **because, as** or **since**….

e.g. We could get out because it was raining heavily.

Since we got delayed, we missed the flight.

**Rule 11:** Purpose can be expressed through **to, in order to, so as to, that, for.**

e.g. I made the checklist so that I wouldn’t forget it.

Exercise is good for health.

Taxes are imposed to get better infrastructure development.

**Rule 12:** **Consequently, therefore, as a result, so** are used to convey the consequence of certain actions.

e.g. The vegetable sellers are on strike **as a result** food items have become scarce.

The novel was very boring **so** I left it unfinished.

**Rule 13:** **Unless, even, whether, as long as, provided, in case** are all used in sentences to express conditions.

e.g. Take your medicine in case you get headache.

We have to work on Wednesday whether we like it or not.

I didn’t mind driving as long as the bike was good.

**Points To Remember**

● '**No sooner'** is followed by **'than'**, and not by **'but'**.

e.g. No sooner had he returned than he was off again.

● **'Scarcely'** should be followed by **'when',** and not by **'than'.**

e.g. Scarcely had he gone, when a policeman knocked at the door.

● **'If'** is used t mean 'on the condition that'.

e.g. If he is there, I shall see him.

● When using correlative conjunction, such as **either….**

**or, not only….but also,** they should be followed by same part of speech.

e.g. He lost not only his wallet, but also his cell phone.

● Compare **'inspite of'** and **'becaue of'**

e.g. He went to the school in spite of the rain.

We didn't go out to the market because of the traffic jam.

● After **'although'** we use a subject + verb.

e.g. Although it was raining, we enjoyed our picnic.

Interjection

Interjection is used to express some sudden feeling or emotion.

It will be noticed that they are not grammatically related to the other words in a sentence.

Such words as Hello! Alas! Hurrah! etc. are called interjections.

e.g. Alas! He is no more.

Oh! I got such a fright.

Hurrah! We have won the game.

**■ Interjection may express –**

1. Joy: Hurrah!

2. Surprise: Ha! What!

3. Approval: Bravo!

4. Grief Alas!

**■** Certain groups of words are also used to express some sudden felling or emotion as:-

– Ah me!

– For shame!

– Well done!

– Good gracious!

**■** There are certain moods of verbs and parts of speech which can be used in an Exclamatory or Interjectional sense:

● Noun infinitive – To think that he should have died!

● Imperative – Hear! Hear! (Applause)

● Noun – Dreadful sight! Foolish fellow! Fool! Dunce!

● Adjective – (with some Noun understood) - Strange! Shocking!

● Adverb – That's very kind of you! How wonderful!

● Pronoun – What a sad thing it is!

● Conjunction – If only I could see him once more!

**Practice Exercise – Easy**

**Directions (Q. Nos. 1 − 24):** *In each of the following sentences certain parts have been underlined. Choose the part that contains an error.*

1. The Candidate being an adult he is entitled to vote on

A B

condition that he fulfils all the formalities required of him.

C

No error

D

2. He has the optimism that would carry him through all the

A B

struggles life may have in store for him. No error

C D

3. It is not necessary that the student take an entrance

A B

exam to be admitted into an American university.

C

No error

D

4. Dr. Wilson will receive a special honour at the function to

A B

be held on the tenth of this month at the Prime Minister’s

C

residence. No error

D

5. Soon, such diagnose and treatments could be routine,

A B

says Mr. Ray, a professor of genetics and president of the

C

American Society of Gene Therapy. No error

D

6. Whoever we think deserves the scholarship will

A B C

certainly get it. No error

D

7. Neither he nor I was able to finish the task within the   
 A B C

time limit. No error

D

8. Either the manager or his subordinates failed to reach  
 A B C

everyone tried his luck. No error

D

9. Nobody but he can solve the problem of geometry.

A B C

No error

D

10. Ritesh was one of the richest and charitable men in the

A B C

town. No error

D

11. As a partner he has invested a small amount of money

A B

but he wants the greater amount of profit than

C

the other partners. No error

D

12. Harman is more beautiful than any woman in this town.

A B C

No error

D

13. No less than fifty people lost their lives in the recent bus

A B C

accident in Nainital. No error

D

14. He was looking impatient at the executive who showed

A B

no signs of leaving the room. No error

C D

15. Although he is a new recruited boy his style of working A B

is quite appreciable. No error

C D

16. Though the reception at the wedding ceremony was

A

conventional, to everyone’s amazement a fight broke out

B

when the groom took a joke serious and punched the

C

jokester hardly. No error

D

17. Being apprised to our approach, all the residents of the

A B

locality came out to meet their leader. No error

C D

18. Rahul can compose the article when he wants so that

A B

it is ready by the beginning of the next month. No error

C D

19. I left home with plenty of time to reach your promotion A B

party while my car broke down and it took me hours to

C

walk. No error

D

20. The tourism coming to East India have drastically

A B

reduced due to communism and political tensions in that

C

region. No error

D

21. Screeching his tires and blasting his horn, Ankit took of

A B C

in a cloud of dust and smoke. No error

C D

22. Fifty thousand rupees are required to complete the

A B

construction project on time and to make all the

C

necessary payments to the suppliers. No error

D

23. After all, if the cost of compliance puts company’s in

A

countries with strict rules out of business, while those

B

in other places thrive, a regulation is worst than useless.

C

No error

D

24. Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton held their political A

bonding ceremony in the middle of a ground due to the

B

small town where they did the deed had no building big

C

enough to host such an important occasion. No error

D

**Practice Exercise – Medium**

**Directions (Q. Nos. 1 − 15):** Find the best way of writing the given sentence.

1. a. Our balcony is bigger than our neighbours balcony.

b. Our balconies are bigger than our neighbours.

c. Our balcony is bigger than that of our neighbours.

d. Our balcony is bigger than our neighbours.

2. a. Nicholas Sparks the novelist’s penchant for the poignant portrayal of human emotions has earned him great respect in the literary world.

b. Nicholas Sparks’ the novelist penchant for the poignant portrayal of human emotions has earned him great respect in the literary world.

c. Nicholas Spark’s the novelist penchant for the poignant portrayal of human emotions has earned him great respect in the literary world.

d. Nicholas Sparks the novelist’s penchant for the poignant portrayal of human emotions has earned him great respects in the literary world.

3. a. Burnt out, tuned out, cropped-out, however you want to put it – the unending, anguishing coverages makes me yearn for the peaceful days of Manna De.

b. Burnt out, tuned out, cropped -out, however you want to put it – the unending, anguishing coverage makes me yearn for the peaceful days of Manna De.

c. Burnt out, tuned out, cropped -out, however you want to put it – the unending, anguishing coverage makes me for Manna De, the peaceful days of.

d. Burnt out, tuned out, cropped -out, however you want to put it – the unending, anguishing coverage make me yearn for the peaceful days of Manna De.

4. a. Growing long, beautiful and healthy hairs is not at all a difficult process.

b. Growing long, beautiful and healthy hair is none at all the difficult process.

c. Growing long, beautiful and healthy hair is not at all a difficult process.

d. Growing of long, beautiful and healthy hair is not all a difficult process.

5. a. If USSR have always had the want of empire, they have also begifted the world with the ideal of popu -list sovereignty.

b. If USSR have always had the want of empire, with the ideal of popular sovereignty they have also be gifted the world.

c. If USSR have always had the want of empire, they have also begifted the world with the ideal of popular sovereignty.

d. If the USSR has always wanted an empire, it has also begifted the world with the ideal of popular sovereignty.

6. a. First, the drive from the Pacific colonies to the Atlantic, in which settler pressure, boosted by ex- traordinarily demographic growth, demanded the acquisition of territory.

b. First, the drive from the Pacific colonies to the Atlantic, in which settler pressure, boosted by demo- graphic extraordinary growth, demanded the acquisition of territory.

c. First, the drive from the Pacific colonies to the Atlantic, in which settler pressure, boosted by ex- traordinary demographic growth, demanded the acquisition of territory.

d. First, the drive from the Pacific colonies to the Atlantic, boosted by extraordinary demographic growth, in which settler pressure, demanded the acquisition of territory.

7. a. They hope that Japanese will yet travel, although more parsimoniously.

b. They hope that Japanese will still travel, although more parsimoniously.

c. They hope that Japanese will nevertheless travel, although more parsimoniously.

d. They hope that Japanese will travel though, although more parsimoniously.

8. a. At 65, he is reassuringly more old than Mr. ABC, but he has been a politician for less than three years, which fits nicely with Mr. ABC’s message of youth-fulness and change.

b. At 65, he is reassuringly old than Mr. ABC, but he has been a politician for less than three years, which fits nicely with Mr. ABC’s message of youthfulness and change.

c. At 65, he is reassured older than Mr. ABC, but he has been a politician for less than three years, which fits nicely with Mr. ABC’s message of youthfulness and change.

d. At 65, he is reassuringly older than Mr. ABC, but he has been a politician for less than three years, which fits nicely with Mr. ABC’s message of youth-fulness and change.

9. a. His recent achievement would not be possible without the country’s active capital markets, which have grown exceptional this decade.

b. His recent achievement would not be possibly without the country’s active capital markets, which have grown exceptionally this decade.

c. His recent achievement would not be possible without the country’s active capital markets, which have grown exceptionally this decade.

d. His recent achievement would not be possible without the country’s actively capital markets, which have grown exceptionally this decade.

10. a. One author, claimed to see light from the end of the under ground passage.

b. One author, claimed to see light to the end of the under ground passage.

c. One author, claimed to see light for the end of the under ground passage.

d. One author, claimed to see light at the end of the under ground passage.

11. a. My brother is accustomed to helping everyone.

b. My brother is accustomed off helping.

c. My brother accustomed too helping everyone.

d. My brother has been accustomed of helping

everyones.

12. a. The minister, who criticizes his main rival as a “superficial salesman”, has been unable to sell off himself.

b. The minister, who criticizes his main rival as a “superficial salesman”, has been unable to sell out himself.

c. The minister, who criticizes his main rival as a “superficial salesman”, has been unable to selling himself.

d. The minister, who criticizes his main rival as a “superficial salesman”, has been unable to sell down himself.

13. a. John and Keat, when they tried the same experiments using bronze and aluminium metals, no extraordinary effect was seen.

b. John and Keats, when they tried the same experiments using bronze and aluminium metals, no extraordinary effect was seen.

c. John or Keat, when they tried the same experiments using bronze and aluminium metals, no extraordinary effect was seen.

d. John nor Keat, when they tried the same experiment using bronze and aluminium metals, no extraordinary effect was seen.

14. a. He led the team not only in statistics but by power of his enthusiasm.

b. He led the team not only in statistics also by power of his enthusiasm.

c. He led the team only in statistics but also by power of his enthusiasm.

d. He led the team not only in statistics but also by power of his enthusiasm.

15. a. The club members complained loudly about the heat, thus they continued to play cricket this weekend.

b. The club members complained loudly about the heat, therefore they continued to play cricket this weekend.

c. The club members complained loudly about the heat, since they continued to play cricket this weekend.

d. The club members complained loudly about the heat, yet they continued to play cricket this weekend.

**Directions (Q. Nos. 16 − 36):** *Choose the grammatically correct sentence from the following options and put a tick (√) mark in the box provided.*

16. a. The only active student was Mr. Jackson’s son, who was busy trying to step on the other boys’ toes in his new shoe. ( )

b. The boy came up to her one by one and she pushed the spoon into one mouth after another, to make sure that each should have his full share. ( )

c. The children sat shivering together and seemed to lack the spirits to move about. ( )

d. I have never seen such a beautiful scenery.( )

17. a. Bacteria is too small to be seen except through a microscope. ( )

b. She lived two hundred years ago and in her spare times used to watch the tiny living things which she saw under his microscope. ( )

c. If bacteria finds suitable food and warmth it multiplies very fast. ( )

d. If you look at the bacteria of cholera through microscope you will see at once that they are alive. ( )

18. a. After a few months, the Boss stood in a corner overseeing the staff do his job. ( )

b. Seen the heap of garbage lying for months were cleared. ( )

c. The conclusion that rigid labour laws constitute a minor barrier to growth reflect poor judgement. ( )

d. Going back to the Rohit Sharma presentation one gets another indication how the firm can come up with faulty analyses. ( )

19. a. What is so damn wonderful about mass murder is that nobody in the history of the world has ever found any smarter solution to problems than killing everybody who don’t agree? ( )

b. The wounded came in batches of two hundred across the Black Sea, a fearful voyage for the sickmen, that had no beds and often no blankets and only salt rations to eat. ( )

c. The teacher assured that he would be glad to help everyone of its boys in their studies. ( )

d. This is one of the most amazing fictions that have appeared this year. ( )

20. a. It might also amaze you readers to know that even at this age there are many photographers who say a black and white film expresses its innovation better. ( )

b. Let alone new proof, there is hardly any proof that prayer works but on the suggestion of her friend, my wife started praying for a cure & told myself to do the same. ( )

c. Over the Ridge in North-Eastern Pakistan on Nov 11, 2001, five journalists clung to the outside of an armoured vehicle when a Northern Alliance general told them that the Taliban had fled. ( )

d. The answer, Raagee and others believe, has as much to do with the mind as they do with the body. ( )

21. a. At 24, the famous actress Angelina Jolie won an Oscar for playing a sociopath in ‘Girl Interrupted’ but found little satisfaction in stardom or the wealth that came with them. ( )

b. Prashant did not consider the vernacular study a pedagogic issue and advocated the study of verna- culars as the ultimate goal in education for they would take education to the masses. ( )

c. He had read and liked Charles’s book, but evidently it was his British friends rather than the first of the line of American reporters who influenced him the most. ( )

d. My girlfriend and myself plan to get married in two years if we are able to finish our education by that time. ( )

22. a. The farms located near Punjab in the lap of nature help relieve tourists of the tensions, bringing them face to face with the quintessential Indian way of life. ( )

b. To promote the use of bio-fertilizers the State Government is giving subsidy to farmers at the rate of Rs. 1000 per unit and farmers are being provided with such knowledge as it will aid him to convert bio-active substances into good quality fertilizers.

( )

c. Known for its excellent holiday packages, Malay Tours has always endeavoured to make your holidays as personalized as possible; for as little as Rs. 34,499 it gives us Malaysia and much more. ( )

d. Indian Railways believes that with their new customer – friendly services they can take on the low-cost airlines. ( )

23. a. The later chapters of this book are not important. ( )

b. Man, the most successful animal on earth, has been the more cruel. ( )

c. Fewer books are needed because I do not have time to go through them. ( )

d. This scheme is for you and I mutual benefit. ( )

24. a. We also have women-friendly work policies, where women employees can take a relax sabbatical of upto six weeks. ( )

b. None of the employees are willing of perform. ( )

c. She insisted on knowing how the terrify accident had happened. ( )

d. Married in a civil ceremony in Goa, they later held a joyous wedding celebration with 700 relatives and friends in Jaipur, where they now live.

25. a. The developer would inform you in writing regarding the stage of construction and would raise a demand for farther amounts as the construction progresses. ( )

b. It would be advised for the buyer to counter-check the stage of construction prior to making the payments. ( )

c. Mamta Kapoor, a Mumbai-based psychotherapist and counseuor recalls how a close friend made a sarcastical remark about her at a party twelve years ago. ( )

d. Furious, Shantanu refused to change his plans but deep down he did not want to break off all ties. ( )

26. a. Found only in India, one of the world’s most populous countries, the red panda clings to survival, facing habitat fragmentation and poaching as their greatest threats. ( )

b. Pandas have been an integral part of our mission for more than a decade in 1990, WWF was the first international organization to be invited into India to work on panda conservation. ( )

c. Of the two species, the Asian elephant is smaller and plentiful than the African elephant. ( )

d. Modern elephants are the last survivors of the old and varying “trunked” family of mammals that once ranged the entire planet. ( )

27. a. Someone should inspect the kitchen twice a week to look whether everything is nice and clean. ( )

b. I want you to meet him. ( )

c. An ambulance arrived and the man was carried to the hospital. ( )

d. Lie the child down to sleep. ( )

28. a. I learned from making many mistakes. ( )

b. College students are on very great pressure indeed. ( )

c. I realized how much different everybody’s personality is. ( )

d. The shop assistant asked me gently what I wanted.

( )

29. a. Fifteen years ago, Manish Sareen an Indian developmental behavioural paediatrician did a study in which 54 children were given two different strict controlled diets. ( )

b. Gathering data about species distribution and population size is crucial. ( )

c. Rohan was simply very lazy to go to school and he opted to spin lies than tell his wife and family he had dropped out. ( )

d. I prayed so hard for a miracle not realizing I had already been given one, for had it been hot, I would have severely become dehydrated and probably died. ( )

30. a. Like children, she has a craving of chocolate. ( )

b. Your behaviour calls for an immediate explanation. ( )

c. The magazine teaches parents how to behave with their children. ( )

d. The atomic bomb has given man the capacity of self destruction. ( )

31. a. On a Wednesday in late January, Rohan was before the wheel of a car that pulled into the car parking of the bar, just down the street from the bank. ( )

b. Even before he met Sneha, Raj had been eluding cops, and baffling those close to her, for years. ( )

c. Tanya arrived home just weeks after the massive African bombing of Shanghai and joined with the efforts to rebuild the devastated city. ( )

d. Shreya returned from a trip to be greeted by the news that not only would the marriage be allowed, but couple could also live where they chose to. ( )

32. a. Neither Rehan’s father nor mine couldn’t understand the problem. ( )

b. We can go in my car unless if you prefer to walk. ( )

c. She lived in New York for many years therefore, she considers New York as her home. ( )

d. I was born and brought up in Paris, nevertheless, India is the country that I have grown to love and where I now live. ( )

33. a. Our luckiest title is not that we are the contemporaries of Charles than that we are the descendants of Shakespeare. ( )

b. The right of self-defense is founded in the law of nature, and it cannot be replaced by the law of society. ( )

c. Never carry out argument with heat and force when you think or know yourself to be in the right. ( )

d. There is no power that Dr. John labored more sedulously to instill into young men but the power of truthfulness. ( )

34. a. Hurray! He is dead. ( )

b. Bravo! What was that? ( )

c. Ha! Ha! It’s really funny. ( )

d. Bad Luck! We have won the game. ( )

35. a. Rehan, Rohit or Sunny will do their best during the painting competition. ( )

b. Everyone need someone to love. ( )

c. I always wash myself before breakfast. ( )

d. Neither Shael nor his friends have performed well in their exam. ( )

36. a. Rome and Florence are indeed beautiful, but Venice is by far the most romantic. ( )

b. Imprisonment is not a good way of reducing this kind of crimes. ( )

c. Between Delhi and Punjab the former is the wealthiest. ( )

d. This is the most perfect dress for today’s occasion. ( )

**Practice Exercise – Difficult**

**Directions (Q. Nos. 1 − 20):** *Select the sentence/sentence/parts or part of sentence that is/are incorrect.*

1. A. If terrorism has been seen by enough Indians as.

B. an empirical threat, climate change has arguably acquired the

C. same status in China. And as tensions across

D. globe have shown, the countries who feel their existence threatened find

E. it hard to forgive other countries who disagree.

a. C & D b. D & E

c. B & C d. A only

2. A. If the success of a TV guru with a brown rubber nose is shameful

B. to the bore and feigning anchormen, the political success

C. in recent years of entertainers, public figures

D. who make an indescretionary power is a slap in the face of the

E. professional political class which they administer to scorn.

a. C & D b. A, C & D

c. C only d. A & D

3. A. A recent increasing in illegal deforestation threatens

B. to reverse two years of improvement,

C. guiding the government

D. to make efforts

E. fight illegal loggings.

a. A & E b. A only

c. D only d. B & D

4. A. The pupils and the faculty gave their opening remarks.

B. Then the teacher finished his lecture.

C. The pupils wrote excitedly on his sheets.

D. Neither Raj nor his classmates could finish their board exams in time.

E. Either Priya or Neha should receive an award for their speech.

a. A only b. B & D

c. A, B, C & D d. C, D & E

5. A. Two of ourselves took the cab to the office.

B. Are you and them attending the workshop?

C. No one is more concerned about the things than himself.

D. Who can go out tomorrow?

E. The conference is sure to last long.

a. D & E b. A & B

c. B only d. C, D & E

6. A. Newly appointed chairman

B. Rehansh Sinha spoke recently of its new plans,

C. of the need to build long term links with its clients

D. and look for new ways of peer survey – the involvement of artists

E. themselves in decisions about funding and policy.

a. A & B b. B & C

c. D & E d. None

7. A. The hope is that the mere expense to make suppliers pay

B. for the disposal of their digital equipment

C. wherever it is sold or being operated across the world,

D. will motivate the industry towards

E. making “greener” machines.

a. A & C b. D only

c. C only d. B & D

8. A. Robots are getting intelligent and more skillful.

B. Their time has almost come.

C. Arnold is a bit of a hulk.

D. It can lift a lemousine into the air with just one arm, swing it around and

E. then set it down again in exactly the same spot with merely a shiver.

a. A only b. B only c. C only d. D only

9. A. Sport has tholing qualities.

B. It shows how to participate in something that is bigger than ourselves, and

C. teaches us how to respect our teammates and opponents.

D. It helps us learn how to win with more humbleness and lose with more grace;

E. How to set a goal and achieve it.

a. A only b. B only c. C only d. D only

10. A. Food and diet are the cornerstones of any culture, one of the reliable most symbols of national identity.

B. Think of the long Italian lunch followed by the afternoon nap, a rhythm of

C. food and rest perfectly suited to the aggressive heat of the Siberian peninsula in summer.

D. Think of the West Bengal’s meal of rice, vegetables and (only recently) meat, usually served in

E. big collective dishes, better for extended families to dine together.

a. A only b. B only

c. C & A d. D & E

11. A. Researchers found that some spanish students who would

B. choose a chocolate bar over a coffee mug start to prefer the mug once they have been given one.

C. This “endowment effect” has been spotted

D. with all sorts of things, from hockey

E. tickets to shares and petrol vouchers.

a. A & E b. B & C

c. C & D d. No error

12. A. Her birthday is the most happiest event this year.

B. My friend only want to borrow rupees ten thousand.

C. Measles has broken out in the tour.

D. Among you and me, he is definitely in the wrong.

a. A & B b. C & D

c. A, B & D d. B, C & D

13. A. Sanjay as well as his brothers has gone home.

B. The notorious dacoit with his followers has escaped.

C. When only a child, I was taken to the circus by my mother.

D. He had enough money to buy a new car.

a. B only b. C & D

c. A & D d. No error

14. A. This scissor will not cut such a hard wire.

B. My opinion is the same as yours.

C. Little knowledge is a dangerous thing.

D. Either the chief minister or the cabinet minister are responsible for this problem.

a. D only b. A, B & D

c. B & C d. No error

15. A. God made the world so man made the town.

B. His proposals for a new international airport never saw the light of the day.

C. She is the most wealthiest lady amongst all the ladies in the kitty party.

D. Three quarters of the food have been eaten.

a. B & C b. A, C & D

c. D only d. No error

16. A. Insects like ants, termites and bees display a unique capacity to manage their own affairs.

B. A lot can be done if we forget for a moment as to whom will get the credit.

C. Parents play a critical role in determining what does, or doesn’t influence their teens.

D. Some planning is required.

a. C only b. A, B & C

c. B only d. No error

17. A. Many trees stood bordering the north entrance to the house.

B. Teasing by your friends is hard to take.

C. Our desire is nothing but to live happy.

D. She narrates the tale of crow and misery while I am hearing her version of the story.

a. C & D b. A only

c. B & D d. No error

18. A. Hurray! She is dead.

B. He is not only intelligent but also industrious.

C. The professor has given me many information about the topic.

D. My sister-in-laws will come to our house next week.

a. A only b. A, C & D

c. B only d. No error

19. A. The boy, who is my son and whom you met in the party yesterday, left for USA this morning.

B. Give me a banana which is a fresh ones.

C. Everyone of the girls got her hall ticket.

D. If I were he, I would have not misbehaved like this.

a. B, C & D b. B only

c. A & B d. No error

20. A. She is superior then me.

B. Of the two brothers he is the best.

C. Krishna is more wise than intelligent.

D. This is more preferable than that.

a. A, B & C b. C only

c. A & D d. No error