

## SPOTTING ERRORS

**Directions** (Q. Nos. 1-249) Each questions has a sentence with three parts labeled (a), (b) and (c). Read each sentence to find out whether there is any error in any part and indicate your answer in the answer sheet against the corresponding letter i.e., (a) or (b) or (c). If you find no error, your answer should be indicated as (d).

1. He asked her that (a)/ whether she knew (b)/ what had happened last week when she was on leave. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Delete 'that'. That is not used after asked such sentences.

2. Until you do not go to the station (a)/ to receive him (a)/ I can hardly feel at ease. (c)/ No error (d)/

*Explanation* (a) Delete 'do not'. Do not is not used with until.

3. I did not know where they were going (a)/ nor could I understand (b)/ why had they left so soon. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Replace 'why had they' with 'why they had'.

4. The distinguished visitor said that he had great pleasure to be with us for some time (a)/ and that the pleasure was all the greater (b)/ because his visit afforded him an opportunity to study the working of an institution of such eminence as ours. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Add 'that of' before 'ours'.

5. Please convey (a)/ my best wishes (b)/ back to your parents. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Remove back.

6. The call of the seas (a)/ have always (b)/ found an echo in me. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'has' in place of 'have'.

7. Hardly, I had left home for Mumbai (a)/ when my son who is settled in Kolkata arrived (b)/ without any prior information. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Replace 'hardly I had' with 'hardly had I'.

8. Now, it can be easily said (a)/ that the population of this city is greater (b)/ than any other city in India. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Add 'that of' after than.

9. It is difficult to explain (a)/ why did Rajagopalachari resigned (b)/ from the Congress in 1940. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Write 'resign' in place of 'resigned'.

10. The boss reminded them of the old saying (a)/ that honesty was the best policy (b)/ and told them that they had better be honest in their work. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Write 'is' in place of 'was'.

11. 'Gulliver's Travels' are (a)/ the most fascinating adventure story (b)/ that I have ever read. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'is' in place of 'are'.

12. The teenager reassured his father at the station (a)/ "Don't worry, dad" (b)/ I will pull on very nicely at the hostel." (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'carry on' in place of 'pull on'.

13. The way he's behaving (a)/ he'll soon spill the beans (b)/ I'm afraid. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) Replace 'behaving' with 'behaving in'.

14. Most of the developing countries find it (a)/ difficult to cope up with the problems (b)/ created by the sudden impact of technological progress. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'sudden arrival' in place of 'sudden impact'.

15. People blamed him (a)/ for being (b)/ a coward person./ (c) No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Remove person after coward.

16. We swam up to the drowning man, caught hold of his clothes (a)/ before he could go down again (b)/ and pulled him out, safe to the shore. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'got hold' in place of 'caught hold'.

17. Meena was so tired (a)/ that she could not hardly (b)/ talk to the guests for a few minutes. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Remove not.

18. If I was knowing (a)/ why he was absent, (b)/ I would have informed you. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'I knew' in place of 'I was knowing'.

19. He goes (a)/ to office (b)/ by foot. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'on foot' in place of 'by foot'.

20. The hundred-rupees notes (a)/ that he gave them for the goods bought from them looked genuine (b)/ but later they reliably learnt that the notes were all counterfeit. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) It should be hundred rupee notes in place of hundred rupees notes.

21. Lack of winter rains (a)/ have delayed the sowing of (b)/ wheat crop in this area. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'has' instead of 'have' as the subject 'lack' is singular in number.

22. The teacher let the boy off (a)/ withy a warning though he (b)/ was convinced with his guilt. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'of' instead of 'with' as the verb 'convinced' always takes the preposition 'of' after it.

23. Our first trip was the most interesting one, (a)/ but our second one, (b)/ was even more interesting. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Remove 'the'. Article 'the' is used before a superlative degree adjective only when comparison is made with all. If no comparison is made, the superlative degree adjective is used as positive degree adjective.

24. He has been going to the office (a)/ for a year now, (b)/ and he even can't understand its working. (c)/ No error. (d)

*Explanation* (c) Remove 'and' and use 'but' or 'yet'. The clauses that show contrary results are joined by the adversative conjunctions not by the cumulative ones.

25. He boasts of having visited Europe many times (a)/ but he can neither speak English (b)/ nor he can speak French. (c)/ No error. (d)

*Explanation* (c) Remove 'he can'. It is superfluous.

26. Whenever possible, one should avail the opportunity (a)/ that come one's way (b)/ if one wants to achieve success in life. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Replace 'come' by 'comes' because the subject 'opportunity' is singular in number.

27. When my friends cam to visit us (a)/ at the railway station (b)/ they left some of their luggages. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Replace 'luggages' by 'items of luggage'.

28. As an officer (a)/ he not only was competent (b)/ but also honest. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'was' after 'he'. The clause would be 'he was not only competent'.

29. If you will come tomorrow (a)/ we can go to the market (b)/ and do our own shopping together. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Remove 'will'. In the conditional sentences, where both the acts are to take place in future the clause with 'if' is in present indefinite tense.

30. If we exercise regularly (a)/ we will be (b)/ more healthier. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Remove 'more'. 'More' is not used with an adjective in its comparative degree.

31. News travel (a)/ very fast today (b)/ due to advancement in technology. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'travels' as the noun, 'News' is singular.

32. The Chairman made it clear at the meeting (a)/ that he will not step down (b)/ from his position as chairman. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Replace 'will' by 'would' as the first clause is in the past tense.

33. We had (a)/ lot of difficulty (b)/ in finding the way here. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'a' before 'lot of'.

34. Just as he was driving along the road, (a)/ a bus pulled up and the driver asked him (b)/ if he has seen a briefcase on the road. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Replace 'has' by 'had' because the first clause is in the 'past indefinite tense. In such a case an event that took place earlier than that must be in the past perfect tense.

35. Experience has taught me (a)/ not to ignore any man, high or low, (b)/ not to ignore anything, great or small. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Remove the words 'not to ignore and use 'nor'.

36. I have spent (a)/ most of my money, (b)/ so I can travel only bus. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'the' before 'most'. When the preposition 'of' is used after a superlative degree adjective like most, best, greatest, the article 'the' is used before it.

37. When he asked me as to why (a)/ I had not finished my work in time, (b)/ I felt confused. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Remove 'as to'. The sentence is complex one with noun clause.

38. The Foreign Minister said (a)/ there was no use to criticize the policy of non-alignment (b)/ which had stood the test of time. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Replace 'there was no use' by 'it was of no use' or 'it was useless'.

39. The train should arrive at (a)/ 7:30 in the morning (b)/ but it was almost an hour late. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Replace 'should' by 'could' or 'was to'.

40. I should do (a)/ the same (b)/ If I were in your place. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'would' in place of 'should'.

41. He has been suffering (a)/ with fever (b)/ for the last six weeks. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'from' in place of 'with'. Suffer from something is used.

42. The examination begins (a)/ from Monday (b)/ next week. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'on' in place of 'from'. On is used to show a day or date.

43. My father says (a)/ that one should always be sincere (b)/ to his duties. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'one's' in place of 'his'.

44. There has been (a)/ a number of railway accidents (b)/ during the last month. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'have' in place of 'has'. A number of always takes a plural noun and a plural verb.

45. Inspite of all efforts to eradicate malaria (a)/ it still prevalent (b)/ in many parts of India. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) say 'it is still prevalent'

46. It is only three days ago (a)/ that (b)/ he has arrived. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Remove 'has'.

47. He has lost (a)/ all what (b)/ I gave him. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) use 'that' in place of 'what'. That is usually used with all, only, etc.

48. I have (a)/ No news from him (b)/ for a long time. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'of' in place of 'from'.

49. Mahatma Gandhi's entire life (a)/ was one unrelenting experiment (b)/ on truth. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) use 'an' in place of 'one'.

50. As the thieves ran out of the bank (a)/ they got into the gateway car (b)/ which was waiting with its engine running. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Say 'which was left with its engine on'.

51. He denied that he had not stolen my purse, (a)/ though I was quite sure (b)/ that he had. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Remove 'nor'. Two negative words cannot be used together.

52. The media of films has been accepted by all (a)/ as the most powerful force (b)/ that influences the younger generation. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'young' in place of 'younger'.

53. The French Embassy employs him (a)/ regularly (b)/ as he knows to speak French. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Add 'how' before 'to' or say 'as he knows French'

54. How is it that neither your friend Mahesh (a)/ nor his brother Ramesh (b)/ have protested against this injustice ? (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'has' in place of 'have' neither is used for singular.

55. The scientist was seemed (a)/ to be excited (b)/ over the result of his experiment. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Remove 'was'. Its use is superfluous.

56. The student could not answer the teacher (a)/ when he was asked to explain (b)/ why he was so late that day. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

57. John could not come (a)/ to school (b)/ as he was ill from cold. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) It should be 'suffering from cold' or 'ill with cold'.

58. Though she has aptitude in Mathematics (a)/ I won't allow her to take it up as a subject of study for the Master's Degree (b)/ because I know the labour involved will tell upon her health. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'for' in place of 'in'.

59. I am not familiar with (a)/ all the important places in this town, (b)/ although I have been living here since two years. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'for' in place of 'since'.



60. If I would be a millionaire, (a)/ I would not be wasting my time (b)/ waiting for a bus. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'were' in place of 'would be'.

61. Until you begin to make a better use of your time, (a)/ I shall not stop (b)/ finding fault in you. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'with' in place of 'in'. find fault with somebody is used.

62. Neither of the two boys (a)/ is sensible (b)/ enough to do this job. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

63. They left (a)/ their luggages (b)/ at the railway station. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'luggage' in place of luggages. Luggage is an uncountable noun.

64. You will get (a)/ all the informations (b)/ if you read this booklet carefully. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'information' in place of informations. Information is an uncountable noun.

65. She sang (a)/ very well, (b)/ isn't it ? (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) It should be 'didn't she'. The sentence is in Past Tense.

66. He is working (a)/ in a bank in New Delhi (b)/ for the past several months. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'has been' in place of 'is'. The sentence is in Present Perfect Continuous Tense.

67. There is no question (a)/ of my failing (b)/ in the examination. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'failure' in place of 'failing'.

68. He is going everyday (a)/ for a morning walk (b)/ with his friends and neighbours. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'goes' in place of 'is going'. Present Indefinite Tense is required here.

69. Here relatives could not explain to us (a)/ why did not she come for the wedding (b)/ as she was expected. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'she did not' in place of 'did not she'. The sentence is not interrogative sentence.

70. He was prevented to accept the assignment (a)/ because he was a government employee (b)/ and as such barred from accepting such assignments. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'from accepting' in place of 'to accept'.

71. If you repeat this mistake, (a)/ I will inform to your father (b)/ and do not blame me then. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Remove 'to'. Its use is superfluous.

72. Lieutenant Anand was short and muscular (a)/ with shoulders that bulged impressively (b)/ against his smart uniform. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

73. These are the ideas and ideals (a)/ which have shaped (b)/ our economic thought in the past. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Second part of the sentence is in the past tense and talks about what happened in the past so in part (b) 'had' should replace 'have'.

74. India's problems are not similar with (a)/ those of other countries (b)/ in several ways. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) With word 'similar' to show connectivity of two items 'to' is used. In the English language, 'similar to' is the customary collocation/ construction. That's just the way it is. Over the years and centuries, these two words have always been put together this way.

A similar word is 'comparable'. But 'comparable' can be used either with 'with' or with 'to'. e.g.,  
The weather in East is comparable with the weather in West.

75. He had lost a ring in the sand and (a)/ I helped him search for it, (b)/ but it was like a look for a needle in a haystack. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) There is no need to use 'for' with search. Search itself implies to search for' lost ring in the sentence.

76. The Ganges and (a)/ it's tributaries constitute (b)/ one of the largest river-systems in the world. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) It's is always the abbreviation of "it is" as in "it's (= it is) a nice day, isn't it?" Its is the possessive of "it" as in, "That is Mohan's cat but I don't know its name." In the second sentence, its means "belonging to it". So, it should be the Ganges and its tributaries.

77. The sudden change (a)/ of place (b)/ effected her health. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) For changing the place 'change in place' is better usage than 'change of place'. As later one shows the shift or movement. See the usage

There is a change in place of marriage venue.

There is sudden change of moods after the heated discussion.

78. There are a number of people (a)/ of every class and nationality (b)/ who doubts the truth of his statement. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) 'A number of people' is plural and verb-subject agreement should be there in part (c) of the sentence so 'doubt' will replace the 'doubts'.

79. I like this book because the writer has explained (a)/ the reasons (b)/ of his failure truly. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) There is no error in the sentence.

80. She is very weak in the subject (a)/ and does not understand things (b)/ though the teacher explains her repeatedly. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) There is no error in the sentence.

81. The speaker from the Fifth Avenue, (a)/ who was a rich banker's wife (b)/ was simple and compassionate. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) There is no error in the sentence.

82. There was no any piece of paper (a)/ in my pocket (b)/ as I had expected. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) In this part 'any' is a redundant word and makes the sentence grammatically wrong. 'There was no ..... ' is correct usage. In the other way of constructing a sentence 'There is not any piece of...

83. Neither the teacher (a)/ or the student (b)/ is keen on joining the dance. (c) No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Neither-nor combination is a standard usage. Either-Or is also standard. In the context of sentence first one is required. So in the part (b) of the sentence a change has to be made.

84. My neighbour Deepak (a)/ is a person (b)/ that will help anyone. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) There is no error in the sentence.

85. I'll ask that man (a)/ which of the roads (b)/ are the one we want. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use of one with 'are' is not acceptable in this part 'is' should replace 'are'.

86. Now we have banks (a)/ and people deposit there money their, (b)/ and draw it out be cheques. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) there is generally used for a place, there is plural for third person and used for possession.

87. Apart government agencies, (a)/ a number of private organizations too (b)/ have been making use of satellites. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) 'Apart from' is to be used, Use of apart does not make any sense here.

88. What sort of a drug this is (a)/ that no one seems to be able to predict its long-term effects (b)/ with any certainty ? (c)/ No errors (d)

*Explanation* (a) 'sorts' is the correct word.

Sort – A group of persons or things of the same general character; a kind : sort out on basis of marks.

Sort – Character or nature : books of all sorts.

Here second one is desired to show nature of drug.

89. You will lose (a)/ your dog (b)/ if you did not tie it up. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Sentence talks about the future and use of 'would be' is desired in place of the helping verb of past 'did not'.

90. In view of the fact that almost all varieties of rural games and sports (a)/ are fast gaining national importance it is desired (b)/ that the rules of such games are strictly adhered. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use of 'all is' or 'all are' is to be decided between. Both can be correct depending on the context.

'All is well' would be correct when talking about a situation.

'There was a storm last night, but all is well now'.

'all are well' would be correct when referring to a group of people, or animals.

I went to check on the neighbours after the storm, and all are well.

91. The parties disagreed (a)/ on the two first clauses (b)/ in the agreement. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) 'Two first' is inappropriate as a proper sequence of 'first two' should be used to make the sentence correct.

93. The composition contained (a)/ even no less (b)/ than twenty mistakes. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Remove 'even'.

94. He told us (a)/ that (b)/ he has not read the book. (c)/ No error (d)/

*Explanation* (c) Use 'had' in place of 'has'.

95. The minister announced (a)/ compensation for (b)/ the victims from the accident. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'of' in place of 'from'.

96. I should (a)/ have preferred (b)/ to go by myself. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

97. There is (a)/ no place (b)/ in this compartment. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'room' or 'seat' in place of 'place'.

98. The (a)/ young man (b)/ had no manner. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Say 'had no manners'.

99. There are many (a)/ beautiful furnitures (b)/ in the room. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'articles of furniture' in place of 'furnitures'.

100. The policeman prevented us from (a)/ entering into (b)/ the hall. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Remove 'into'.

101. The world (a)/ comprises (b)/ good and bad people. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Say 'both good and bad people'.

102. Would you please order (a)/ for tea and biscuits (b)/ for all of us? (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Remove 'for'.

103. I have paid (a) / my bill for electricity (b)/ only a week ago. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Remove 'have'.

104. He has just been appointed (a)/ Ambassador to an important country (b)/ for a five-year term. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Add 'an' before 'ambassador'.

105. This is the old man (a)/ whom I said (b)/ had helped me. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'who' in place of 'whom I said'.

106. The dog pushed (a)/ the door open (b)/ and stole the meat. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

107. The truck driver accused (a)/ the lady for walking (b)/ in the middle of the road. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'of' in place of 'for'.

## 2011 (I)

108. Everybody (a)/ it must be admitted (b)/ has their ups and downs. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) It should be 'her or his'.

109. When the thief broke into their house (a)/ they raised a hue and cry (b)/ and the thief caught immediately by the people. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Add 'was' before 'caught'.

110. I have tried (a)/ to meet him several times (b)/ he isn't never at home. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'is' in place of 'isn't'.

111. This house (a)/ is (b)/ mine. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

112. He is proficient in Hindi (a)/ and can speak English (b)/ but he does not know to read and write English. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Add 'how' after 'know'.

113. Every woman in the world (a)/ fervently hopes that their child (b)/ will be a normal and healthy baby. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'her' in place of 'their'.

114. Neither of them (a)/ send their papers (b)/ in time for the last seminar. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) are 'sent his'.

115. There is not many traffic (a)/ along the street (b)/ where I live. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'much' in place of 'many'.

116. The font page story was about a school girl (a)/ that had hurt herself (b)/ while saving a child in a accident. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) The relative pronouns here used 'that' for a girl is not proper. It must be 'Who' because it is always used for proper nouns and human beings.

117. He took (a)/ leave of (b)/ four days. (c)/ No error (d)



*Explanation* (b) are 'for' in place of 'of'

118. The police arrived and discovered (a)/ a large number of hoarded sugar (b)/ in his shop. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'quantity' in place of 'number'.

119. Raju doesn't come to our house because our dog barks at him (a)/ and licks him (b)/ although I have often told him not to afraid of it. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Add 'be' before 'afraid'.

120. Running across the playground, my pen fell in the mud (a)/ fortunately, I noticed it (b)/ and picked it up. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use while I was before running.

121. The last thing that the fond mother (a)/ gave her only son (b)/ was his blessing. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'her' in place of 'his'.

122. To his innovative ideas and practices in farming (a)/ he was given (b)/ the Krishi Pandit Award last year. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'for' in place of 'To'.

123. As a dramatist (a)/ Shaw is superior than (b)/ any other 20<sup>th</sup> century writer. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'to' in place of 'than'.

124. Molly speaks (a)/ French well (b)/ isn't it? (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Say 'doesn't she'.

125. Mutton is more hard (a)/ to digest (b)/ than vegetables. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'harder' in place of 'more hard'.

126. I have found that he is (a)/ neither willing (b)/ or capable. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Say 'nor capable'.

127. Fr times immemorial (a)/ sea shells have been used by man (b)/ in many ways. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Say 'From time immemorial'.

128. He will not (a)/ listen (b)/ what you say. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Say 'listen to'.

129. I have done my best (a)/ the whole thing is now (b)/ in the hands of the Gods. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Say 'in the hands of God'.

130. Oh for God sake (a)/ leave me alone (b)/ and go away from here. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Say 'oh for God's sake'.

131. This is a strange world (a)/ where each one pursues their own golden bubble (b)/ and laughs at others for doing the same. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'his' in place of 'their'.

132. Each of the boys (a)/ were to blame (b)/ for the accident. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'was' in place of 'were'.

133. Young school students now-a-days (a)/ are subjected to intense pressure from peers and parents alike (b)/ to fetch high marks in public examinations. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Add 'their' before 'peers'.

134. The candidate's performance (a)/ was not upto mark (b)/ in the interview. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Add 'the' before 'mark'.

135. After a successful tour of Europe (a)/ may old parents returned back to India (b)/ on New Year's day.  
(c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Remove 'back'.

136. The commission set-up to submit a report (a)/ about the reasons for the fall in educational standards  
(b)/ could not complete its work even after two years. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use standard.

137. Though death is a daily fact (a)/ it is a wonder that people should (b)/ behave to be immortal. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Remove 'daily'

138. It would be more better (a)/ If you could paint (b)/ the gate green. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Remove 'more' or use 'much' in place of 'more'.

139. Being his sole companion (a)/ I was the one to who (b)/ he naturally looked for help. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'whom' in place of 'who'.

140. He came to report that the work went very slowly (a)/ because the X-ray machine was not working  
very good (b)/ that morning (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'well' in place of 'very good'.

141. The principal objected (a)/ to them wearing short skirts (b)/ at the function. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'their' in place of 'them'.

142. I spent nearly four and half years (a)/ at Harrow (b)/ of which three were in the Army class. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) years and ahalf

143. Considerable encouragement for the scheme (a)/ has been received from the Bengal Chamber of  
Commerce (b)/ which has promised their full support. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'its' in place of 'their'.

144. He collected his bags (a)/ said good-bye to us (b)/ and left for home immediately. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) use bade in place of 'said'

145. All the players agreed to divide (a)/ the cash prize between themselves (b)/ without any argument.  
(c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'among' in place of 'between'.

146. he is very ill (a)/ I am afraid (b)/ he is going to die. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) use too in place of very

147. The tourist did not know the local language (a)/ but he used signs to make people understand (b)/ that  
he wanted to reach to Darjeeling quickly. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Delete 'to'

148. The Vice-Chancellor consulted the students as well as the teachers (a)/ on last Monday and decided  
(b)/ to reopen the University on Friday next. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'next Friday' in place of 'Friday next'.

149. Everybody was trying (a)/ to shake hand (b)/ with the Minister. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) add 'his' before 'hand'.

150. A friend of his (a)/ received him (b)/ at the station. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

151. Mohan was your best friend a month ago (a)/ but you now seem to (b)/ have broken with him altogether. (c)/ No error (d)/

*Explanation* (c) Add 'up' before 'with'

152. It is a great loss indeed (a)/ but how far he is to be blamed for it (b)/ I am not quite sure. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) He is to be blamed is a correct structure by the rules & passive voice. The is not convincing.

153. The 'Akbar Nama' (a)/ is among the major historical texts (b)/ in the Indian past. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Say 'in the Indian history'.

154. Whether he is writing about a taxi driver (a)/ and an interesting sketch of a woman (b)/ he is always at his ease. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'or' in place of 'and'.

155. There will be no more supplies (a)/ unless all arrears of payment (b)/ were cleared by next Monday. (c)/ No error (d)/

*Explanation* (c) Use 'are' in place of 'were'.

156. After her latest experience of eve-teasing, (a)/ she seems worried (b)/ as to how she would reach her office everyday. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'to be' after 'seems'

157. He is every bit (a)/ as guilty (b)/ as I. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Add 'am' after 'I'.

158. A woman opened the door (a)/ and standing at a distance she pushed the plate (b)/ containing the food to him. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'for' in place of 'to'.

159. We were greatly worried (a)/ that the train might be late (b)/ but it arrived exactly in time. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'on' in place of 'in'.

160. He is one of those few post-colonial writer who believes (a)/ that this talk about colonialism has gone too far (b)/ and has turned into a cliché. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Say 'writers who believe'.

161. Put you in my position (a)/ and you would realise (b)/ the problems faced in my profession. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'yourself' in place of 'you'.

162. Your association is doing good work (a)/ and we would like to help it (b)/ in meaningful way. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Add a after in

163. he asked me (a)/ if I know (b)/ where the principal lived. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'knew' in place of 'know'.

164. fish and chips (a)/ is my favourite (b)/ dish for lunch. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'food' in place of 'dish'.

165. One of the peculiarities (a)/ which distinguishes the present age (b)/ is the multiplication of books. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) use 'distinguish' in place of 'distinguishes'.

166. If you had (a)/ just hinted at your difficulty, (b)/ I would most certainly help you. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) It should be written—‘I would have most certainly helped you’.

167. This TV serial (a)/ is going on (b)/ for three years. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* 9b) Use ‘has been’ in place of ‘is’.

168. It is my pleasure (a)/ to congratulate you for your success (b)/ in the civil services examination. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use ‘on’ in place of ‘for’.

169. Despite of repeated warnings (a)/ he touched a live electric wire (b)/ and was electrocuted. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Remove ‘of’.

170. he says that he has renounced the world (a)/ and that he has nothing (b)/ that he can call as his own. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Remove ‘as’

171. Drydus’ prose, which is meant to be popular (a)/ loses nothing of its value (b)/ by being compared with his contemporaries. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Add ‘those of’ before ‘his’

172. In the early years of the renaissance of Bharatanatyam hereditary dancers have their own set of accompanists (a)/ who lived with the dancers and traveled with them from place to place (b)/ when they gave performances. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) a use ‘had in place of ‘have’

173. At this turn of the conversation Vikram blurted out (a)/ that he was not knowing me (b)/ when I used to live in the same town as he. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use ‘did not know me’ in place of ‘was not knowing me’.

174. Neither of them (a)/ are going to attend (b)/ the party on 10<sup>th</sup> October. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use ‘is’ in place of ‘are’.

175. I have not seen him since twenty years (a)/ and so I cannot say with certainty (b)/ whether he is alive or dead. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use ‘for’ in place of ‘since’.

176. He walked five miles which are really a great distance (a)/ for a man like him (b)/ who is not only old but also ill. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use ‘is’ in place of ‘are’.

177. The student requested the teacher (a)/ to explain him the theory of relativity (b)/ with some examples which he could understand easily. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Add ‘to’ after ‘explain’.

178. When he did not find his cook in the kitchen (a)/ he asked his wife (b)/ where had he gone. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Say ‘where he had gone’.

179. We are proud to announce (a)/ that everyone on our team has earned (b)/ a good name. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use ‘in’ in place of ‘on’.

180. Either my colleague (a)/ or a peon are coming home (b)/ with the material today. (c)/ No error (d)



*Explanation* (b) Use 'is' in place of 'are'.

181. never I asked (a)/ my Englishman (b)/ how much he earned. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Say 'I never asked' or 'Never did I ask'.

182. The Vice-Chancellor of our university urged to (a)/ the agitating students to shun violence (b)/ and maintain peace on the campus. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'in' in place of 'on'.

183. When her son got a job (a)/ she was (b)/ besides herself with joy. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'beside' in place of 'besides'.

184. Here is (a)/ the man whom I think (b)/ committed the crime. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Insert 'who' in place of 'whom' in fact, it must be 'who I think has committed' according to the rule of 'consistency of tense' in a sentence.

185. We have studied the two specimens carefully (a)/ X differs to Y (b)/ in only one respect. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'from' in place of 'to'.

186. Bread and butter (a)/ is (b)/ all we want. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'what' after all

187. What are (a)/ their reasons (b)/ to say it. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Say 'for saying it'.

188. He took (a)/ his younger sister (b)/ with himself. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'him'.

189. Can you cite (a)/ any precedent (b)/ in support of the case? (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) use 'some' in place of any

190. We must work (a)/ very hard now (b)/ to making up for the lost time. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'make' in place of 'making'.

191. Right from his childhood (a)/ he used to prefer (b)/ sports than studies. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'to' in place of 'than'.

192. I went to his house but (a)/ couldn't see him (b)/ because he went out before I arrived. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'had gone' in place of 'went'.

193. When I shall see him, (a)/ I shall tell him that (b)/ what he has done is wrong. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Remove 'shall'.

194. Literature remains the interest of a minority (a)/ and the majority has choosen to ignore those aspects of language (b)/ which, at school they were told to value highly. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'it was' in place of they were because majority the collectivbe noun is singular.

195. I look (a)/ forward to meet you (b)/ in future. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'am looking' in place of 'look'.

196. If I was the king, (a)/ I would change the face (b)/ of my country. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'were' in place of 'was'.

197. He admits that (a)/ he is not following (b)/ the instructions. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

198. Life on boardship (a)/ was not as I expected (b)/ it to be (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Add 'had' after 'I'.

199. He did not pass the examination (a)/ in spite of (b)/ his best efforts. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'could' in place of 'did'.

200. I tried to read your letter, (a)/ but it was so badly written (b)/ that I had to leave the attempt. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Place 'written' before 'so'.

201. I prefer (a)/ my job (b)/ to yours. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use your one'

202. If there a guarantee (a)/ then we are prepared (b)/ to place a bulk order for your product. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Add 'is' after 'there'.

203. I meet him (a)/ once a blue moon (b)/ so I do not know much about his activities. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Add 'in' after 'once'.

204. My daughter-in-laws (a)/ who are in Kolkata (b)/ have come to visit us. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) It should be 'My daughters-in-law'.

205. He asked me (a)/ what my name is (b)/ and where I came from. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'was' in place of 'is'.

206. There has always been (a)/ some form of education (b)/ but there has not always been schools. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'have' in place of 'has'.

207. At the (a)/ annual function of the school (b)/ the principal advised to the students to be ideal citizens. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Say 'advised the students'.

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208. During the Earthquake (a)/ people listened a strange noise (b)/ and rushed out of homes. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'heard' in place of 'listened'.

209. My friend has got an appointment (a)/ in a television company (b)/ some three months ago. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Remove 'has'.

210. When the plane landed (a)/ he found that (b)/ one of the wings is damaged by a shell. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'had been' in place of 'is'.

211. He had no objection (a)/ to forward my application (b)/ to the higher authority. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'in forwarding' in place of 'to forward'.

212. People shouldn't (a)/ drop litter on pavements, (b)/ should they? (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

213. She could not believe (a)/ that it had all (b)/ happened to her. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) 'all' should be placed before 'had'.

214. I always like to have (a)/ about four toasts (b)/ for breakfast. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Say 'four pieces/slices of toast'.

215. I was (a)/ baffled with (b)/ the instructions he gave me. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) The original sentence should be checked. It must read like this: “..... baffled at the instructions he had given to me”.

216. Nobody (a)/ in their senses (b)/ would have acted so. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use ‘her or his’ in place of ‘their’.

217. Thousands of people far and near (a)/ started gathering outside the auditorium (b)/ from early morning to pay their tributes to the departed leader. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use ‘wide’ in place of ‘near’.

218. He went in the room (a)/ opened a box (b)/ and took out a gun. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use ‘into’ in place of ‘in’.

219. The reason why the plane crashed (a)/ as soon as it took off (b)/ is the failure of one of the engines. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use ‘was’ in place of ‘is’.

220. If you don’t start behaving properly, (a)/ I will be forced to (b)/ tell to your supervisor. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Remove ‘to’.

221. language is a skill activity (a)/ by which fine distinctions on meaning can be made (b)/ for a better understanding of behaviour. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use ‘of’ in place of ‘on’.

222. Every man is conditioned by the age in which he lives (a)/ and if he were to return to another age (b)/ he would not be happy. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use ‘to’ in place of ‘by’.

223. The work of an uneducated farmer (a)/ is far important than (b)/ that of a professor. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Add ‘more’ before ‘important’.

224. the question is often raised (a)/ that whether it is desirable to send Indian students abroad (b)/ since they rarely return. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Remove ‘that’.

225. The watch is a valuable present from my uncle (a)/ and it costed him (b)/ more than two thousand rupees. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use ‘cost’ in place of ‘costed’.

226. Old age and infirmity (a)/ had began to (b)/ catch up with him. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Replace ‘began’ with ‘begun’.

227. Its colour makes (a)/ the moth undistinguished (b)/ from the branch it rests on. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Replace ‘undistinguished’. With ‘indistinguishable’.

228. With only a week (a)/ to go for the election (b)/ things are really hotting up. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

229. Romanticism of melancholy (a)/ in art and literature are the reasons (b)/ for insensitivity of those suffering from depression. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) use ‘to’ in place of ‘of’.

230. Taking life as it comes (a)/ I am someone who thrives on challenges and believe that my purpose in life (b)/ is to give on hundred percent to every opportunity that comes my way. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) use 'cent' in place of 'one hundred'.

231. The police were baffled (a)/ and Sherlock Holmes was 9b)/ called in to investigate. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Replace were 'with was'.

232. The boat came (a)/ abreast at us (b)/ and signaled us to stop. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Replace 'at' with 'of'.

233. The Chairman's comments (a)/ on future policy introduced (b)/ a jarring note for the proceedings. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Replace 'for' with 'to'/'into'.

234. The collapse of the business (a)/ was a moral blow to the (b)/ business tycoon and his family. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Remove 'moral'.

235. The taxi (a)/ came at 8 O'clock (b)/ in the next morning. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Remove 'next'.

236. The main determination (a)/ of economic success is (b)/ our ability to control inflation. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) It must be an economic success or the economic success.

237. Because of (a)/ extenuating circumstances (b)/ the court acquitted him from the crime. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Replace 'from' with 'of'.

238. In consideration for (a)/ the bereaved family's feelings (b)/ the papers did not print the story. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Replace 'In consideration for' with 'considering'.

239. No sooner had (a)/ he arrived then (b)/ he was asked to leave again. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Replace 'then' with 'than'.

240. I haven't been 9a)/ to New York before and (b)/ neither my sister. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'nor has been' for 'neither'.

241. His wife is (a)/ neurotic in switching lights off (b)/ at home to save electricity. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Replace 'in' with 'about'.

242. The loss of jobs (a)/ is regarded by some as an necessary evil (b)/ in the fight against inflation. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Replace 'an' with 'a'

243. When things get difficult, (a)/ you just have to (b)/ grit your teeth and preserve. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) This sentence is correct. It is beyond comprehension why the word preserver, a noun, should be inserted here. Please clarify.

244. I never refuse odd jobs (a)/ to complement by income (b)/ its all grist to the mill. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

245. The street lights (a)/ come in at dusk and (b)/ go off at dawn. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'on' in place of 'in'.

246. Two of the mountain climbers (a)/ were suffering (b)/ with frost-bite. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) It should be 'suffering from' not 'with'.



247. Although there was still (a)/ a faint heartbeat, the patient was (b)/ for all intents and purposes dead.  
(c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'to' in place of for.

248. When the rules for police procedure (a)/ were laid up (b)/ a lot of grey areas remained. (c)/ No error  
(d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'laid down' in place of 'laid up'.

249. Anurag is eclipsed by his wife (a)/ who is much cleverer and (b)/ more amusing than he is. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Remove 'much'.

## Sentence Improvement

**Directions** (Q. Nos. 1–68) Look at the underlined part of each sentence. Below each sentence are given three possible substitutions for the underlined part. If one of them (a), (b) or (c) is better than the underlined part, indicate your response on the answer sheet against the corresponding letter (a), (b) or (c). If none of the substitutions improves the sentence, indicate (d) as your response on the answer sheet. Thus, a 'No improvement' response will be signified by the letter (d).

1. There is no rain in our village for the last six months.  
(a) has been (b) was (c) had been (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (a) Has been

2. The police investigated into the matter.  
(a) with the matter (b) at the matter (c) the matter (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (c) The matter

3. Ramachandra Murthy and his family have in Guyana from 1985.  
(a) since (b) about (c) on (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (a) Since, is used for a point of time.

4. I am living in this town since 1980.  
(a) was living (b) shall live (c) had been you (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (c) Have been living. Present Perfect Continuous Tense.

5. If I was you I should tell him the truth.  
(a) am you (b) were you (c) had been you (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (b) Where is used after any subject in the if clause.

6. He is better than any boy in the class.  
(a) any boys (b) all the boys (c) any other boy (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (c) Any other boy. When a comparison is instituted by means of a comparative followed by than, the thing compared must always excluded from the class of things with which it is compared by using other or some such words.

7. Anil ought not to tell me your secret, but he did.  
(a) to be telling (b) tell (c) to have told (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (c) To have told. After 'ought to' 'have' is used.

8. If I were him I would have not accepted the offer.  
(a) If I was him (b) If I were he (c) If I had he (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (b) If I were he. 'Were' is used after subject in the if clause.

9. What the nation needs is people of character.

- (a) are the people of character (b) are people of character  
(c) is a people of character (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is already correct.

10. We now come to the important question of where this great swarm of galaxies have come from.

- (a) have come (b) has come from (c) are coming from (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (b) Has come from. The singular form 'has' is used after swarm.

11. Fewer rainfall means less traffic accidents, according to the experts' report on highway safety.

- (a) Less rainfall means fewer traffic' accidents  
(b) Less rainfall means less traffic accidents  
(c) Fewer rainfall means fewer traffic accidents  
(d) No improvement

*Explanation* (b) Less rainfall means less traffic accidents.

12. I never saw you at the party yesterday.

- (a) have not seen (b) did not see (c) had never seen (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (b) Did not see.

13. Ajeet a bigger scholar than his brother.

- (a) better (b) smaller (c) superior (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (a) Better. Comparative degree.

14. I did not wait for him because he went out before I arrived.

- (a) has gone out (b) had gone out (c) had been out (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (b) Had gone out. Past Perfect Tense is used in such sentences in one clause.

15. Whenever I saw him, he has been reading the same novel.

- (a) had been reading (b) read (c) was reading (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (c) Was reading. Past Continuous Tense.

16. Since, the beginning of the term, we are spending a lot of time on poetry.

- (a) spent (b) will spend (c) have spent (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (c) Have spent. Present Perfect Tense is used after since in such sentences.

17. your sister cooks well, isn't she ?

- (a) isn't it ? (b) doesn't she ? (c) doesn't it? (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (b) Doesn't she. The pattern of such sentences is auxiliary + not + subject.

18. Dickens' novels, like many writers, are largely autobiographical.

- (a) like those of many other writers (b) like so many others  
(c) like many other novelists (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (a) Case of comparison.

19. She was as pretty as, if not prettier than, any other girl at the party.

- (a) She was very pretty (b) She was pretty  
(c) She was the prettiest (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is already correct.

20. Never I have seen such breathtaking scenery!

- (a) Never have I      (b) Ever I have      (c) I cannot ever      (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (a) Never have I.

21. She told the children not to stop the work. (I)

- (a) not stopping      (b) don't stop      (c) not stopping of      (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

22. I am not telling that you should hunt out people to pursue your policies.

- (a) asking      (b) saying      (c) speaking      (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (b) 'saying' is the appropriate word in the context of the sentence.

23. He succeeded by dint of hard work.

- (a) by means of      (b) by doing      (c) by virtue of      (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (c) 'by virtue of' means 'because of'.

24. You have read that book for ages.

- (a) have been reading      (b) had read      (c) will be reading      (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (a) Present Perfect Continuous Tense is required here.

25. The only bit of relief for the victims has been the increase in compensation.

- (a) were      (b) have been      (c) was that the were given      (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (d) the sentence is correct.

26. He is resembling his father.

- (a) has been resembling      (b) resembles like  
(c) resembles      (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (c) 'resembles' is the appropriate choice here.

27. I am not sure why she is wanting to see him.

- (a) she wants      (b) does she want      (c) is she wanting      (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (a) 'she wants' is the appropriate choice. Interrogative form is not required here.

28. Everybody who finished writing can go home.

- (a) had finished      (b) have finished      (c) has finished      (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (c) The sentence is in Present Tense and a singular verb is used with everybody.

29. I wish I can sing as well as you do.

- (a) do      (b) could      (c) did      (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (b) In case of an unfulfilled wish, past tense is used.

30. It has been two years since I have seen him last.

- (a) when I have seen him      (b) since I had seen him  
(c) since I saw him      (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (c) The second form of verb is required here.

31. My neighbour is having two cars.

- (a) is owning      (b) has      (c) is possessing      (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (b) 'has' neighbour is a singular form followed by the singular 'has' not 'have'.

32. His flute recitation was highly appreciated.

- (a) flute recital      (b) flute play      (c) flute singing      (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (a) 'Recital' means a public performance of music or poetry. A piano/flute recital is used.

33. She must try at making him understand.

- (a) to make him to understand (b) to make him understand  
(c) to make his understanding (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (b) Along with try 'to make him understand' will be the correct option.

34. These are your new shoes, aren't they ?

- (a) isn't it? (b) is it so? (c) are they? (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (c) The sentence is correct.

35. He told to us everything he knew.

- (a) us everything he knew (b) us everything he is knowing  
(c) us everything he was knowing (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (a) to is not used after tell/told and know is not used in progressive tenses.

36. Unless you do not work hard, you won't succeed in life.

- (a) cannot work hard (b) will not work hard (c) work hard (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (c) Two negative words 'unless' and 'do not' cannot be used together delete 'do not'.

37. As I am tired, I cannot be able to climb this hill now.

- (a) can be able (b) will not be able (c) will not be possible (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (b) 'will not be able' is the appropriate phrase in the context of the sentence.

38. I should not spend money for luxuries.

- (a) on luxuries (b) in luxuries (c) through luxuries (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (a) Spend something 'on' something is used.

39. On being asked by the judge if he had murdered his wife the accused denied the charge.

- (a) refused (b) rebutted (c) contradicted (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

40. The new headmaster affected many changes in the school.

- (a) injected (b) effected (c) inflicted (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (b) Usually 'effect' is not used as a verb. But, to effect a cure/change/recovery is used.

41. More than one person was killed in the accident.

- (a) were killed (b) are killed (c) have been killed (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (a) A plural verb is required here and the sentence is in Past Tense.

42. Not a word they spoke to the unfortunate wife about it.

- (a) did they speak (b) they will speak (c) they had spoken (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (a) Inverted form of verb is used in the sentence starting with seldom, never, hardly, not, etc.

43. The poor villagers have waited in bitter cold for more than four hours now.

- (a) have been waiting (b) had waited (c) has been waiting (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (a) Present Perfect Continuous Tense should be used here. The subject is plural so plural verb is required.

44. If he had time he will call you.

- (a) would have (b) would have had (c) has (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (c) In conditional sentences the main clause should be in Future Tense and the subordinate clause should be in Present Tense.

45. All, but her, had made an attempt.

- (a) All, but she, (b) All but her (c) All, but her (d) No improvement



*Explanation* (a) 'All but she' means everyone except she.

46. I am used to hard work

- (a) work hard (b) work hardly (c) hard working (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

47. Twenty kilometers are not a great distance in these days of fast moving vehicles.

- (a) is not a great distance (b) is no distance  
(c) aren't a great distance (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (a) When plural nouns explain specific amount, distance, quantity, time as whole, the verb should be singular.

48. They were working as usually.

- (a) usual (b) as usual (c) usually (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (b) 'as usual' means in the same way as what happens most of the or in most cases.

49. He is unlikely to come to the party. But if he comes I would talk to him.

- (a) if he would come (b) if he is to come (c) if he will come (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

50. The passengers have formed queue at the booking-counter much before a train arrives.

- (a) formed (b) have been forming (c) form (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (c) The sentence is in Present Indefinite Tense.

51. You must complete this work up to Sunday.

- (a) within Sunday (b) by Sunday (c) until Sunday (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (b) 'by' here is used in the sense 'not later than the mentioned time'.

52. If it win rain the match will be abandoned.

- (a) If it rains (b) If it would rain (c) If it rained (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (a) In conditional sentence, the subordinate clause should be in Present Tense.

53. How long do you think Mr Kamal knew John ?

- (a) will know (b) knows (c) has known (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (c) 'has known' is the appropriate phrase in the context of the sentence.

54. I have still to meet a person who is perfectly satisfied with his job.

- (a) am still to meet (b) am yet to meet (c) might still meet (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (b) 'am yet to meet' is the appropriate phrase.

55. If I were you , I would do it at once.

- (a) was (b) am (c) would be (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct. In supposition be verbs' plural in the past is used.

56. They set a strong guard, lest anyone could escape.

- (a) would (b) might (c) should (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (c) 'Lest' is always followed by should.

57. The matter called up an explanation of his conduct.

- (a) out (b) in (c) for (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (c) 'Call for something' means 'to need something'.

58. The accused refused murdered anybody.

- (a) disagreed (b) denied (c) declaimed (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (b) It should be 'denied'. Denied is related to the Bast event.

59. We need honest workers, not people of redoubtable integrity.

- (a) doubting (b) doubtful (c) doubtless (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (b) It should be 'doubtful'.

60. By the time he arrived, everybody had gone home.

- (a) when he arrived (b) at which he arrived  
(c) by which he arrived (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

61. There is no alternate, so we must leave now.

- (a) altering (b) alternative (c) alternation (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (b) It should be 'alternative'.

62. I cannot listen what she is saying.

- (a) hear what (b) listen for what (c) listen to that (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (a) It should be 'hear what'.

63. He is still in vigorous health although he is on the right side of sixty.

- (a) wrong (b) left (c) negative (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (a) It should be 'wrong'. Right implies 'less'.

64. We are sorry to hear regarding your father's death.

- (a) of (b) over (c) for (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (a) 'hear of' means 'to know about'.

65. Babu asked his friend, "where you went yesterday?"

- (a) "Where did you go yesterday?" (b) "Where you had gone yesterday?"  
(c) "Where you did go yesterday?" (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (a) 'where did you go yesterday?' as it is question.

66. He lay on the grass enjoying the sunshine.

- (a) laid (b) lied (c) led (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct. 'Lay' is past tense of 'lie'.

67. Some passengers were flown to Paris on the last trip.

- (a) fled (b) flied (c) flew (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct. The sentence is in the passive voice.

68. Fifty miles are a long distance to walk.

- (a) is (b) become (c) be (d) No improvement

*Explanation* (a) 'Fifty miles' in the sentence represents a single quantity. Hence, verb is in singular.

## SPOTTING ERRORS

**Directions** (Q. Nos. 1-127)

- (i) In this section, a number of sentences are given. The sentences are in three separate parts and each one is labeled (a), (b) and (c). Read each sentence to find out whether there is an error in any part. No sentence has more than one error. When you find an error in any one of the parts (a), (b) or (c), indicate your response on the separate Answer Sheet at the appropriate space. You may feel that there is no error in a sentence. In that case, letter (d) will signify a 'No error' response.
- (ii) You are to indicate only one response for each item in your Answer Sheet. (If you indicate more than one response, your answer will be considered wrong). Errors may be in grammar, word usage or idioms. There may be a word missing or there may be a word which should be removed.
- (iii) You are not required to correct the error. You are required only to indicate your response on the Answer Sheet.

**Example** 'P' and 'Q' have been solved for you.

P. The young child (a)/singed (b)/a very sweet song. (c)/No error (d)

Q. We worked (a)/very hard (b)/throughout the season. (c)/No error (d)

*Explanation* In item P, the word 'singed' is wrong. The letter under this part is (b), so (b) is the correct answer. Similarly for item Q, (d) is the correct answer, as the sentence does not contain any error.

1. Suppose, if you were left alone (a)/ to live on a desert island (b)/ what would you do? (c)/ No error. (d)

*Explanation* (a) 'Suppose'.

2. He wondered that what (a)/ would be the next move of his opponents (b)/ who had vowed to see him dislodged from power. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Remove 'that'.

3. The nation should be grateful (a)/ to the armed forces (b)/ for protecting them. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'grateful' in place of 'greatful'.

4. I do not know (a)/ what is he doing? (b)/ to solve the problem. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) It should be 'what he is doing'.

5. For so many years (a)/ it is almost his habit (b)/ to go to the bed at 10 pm daily. (c)/ No error. (d)

*Explanation* (c) Remove 'the'

6. He took (a)/ down after (b)/ his father. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Remove 'down'

7. His honesty (a)/ has never been (b)/ called to q2uestion. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'into' in place of 'to'.

8. I see her (a)/ most weekends (b)/ but not very often between. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'in between' in place of 'between'.

9. The chancellor (a)/ was present (b)/ on both occasions. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'at in place of 'on'.

10. The deliberations by (a)/ the committee (b)/ are completely confidential. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'of' in place of 'by'

11. If you will work hard (a)/ you will (b)/ always succeed. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Remeve 'will'

12. She has been teaching (a)/ the same lesson (b)/ since five days. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'for' in place of 'since'.

13. Many a boy were happy (a)/ dancing at the victory (b)/ of our cricket team in Australia. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) It should be 'was' instead of 'were'.

14. Imagine living (a)/ with someone (b)/ who never stops talk. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'talking' instead of 'talk'.

15. I was shocked/ (a) when he told me/ (b) that the old woman died by cancer. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Here 'of' should be used in place of 'by'.

16. To the men who worked so hard in the project, (a)/ the news (b)/ profound disappointing. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'profoundly' instead of 'profound'.

17. Even though she lost the beauty contest, (a)/ she was still more prettier (b)/ than the other girls. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Remove 'more'.

18. The novel is interesting, (a)/ informative (b)/ and it is easy to read. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Remove 'it is'.

19. The differential attractions of the Sun and the Moon have a direct effect (a)/ in the rising and failing (b)/ of the tides. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'falling' in place of 'failing'.

20. Despite of the pills (a)/ which are available, (b)/ many people still have trouble sleeping. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Remove 'of'.

21. None of the applicants have turned up (a)/ for the interview (b)/ on time. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) It should be 'has' in place of 'have' because the subject 'none' is singular so the verb form would be in singular.

22. Her mother did not reply (a)/ when I asked her (b)/ why was she weeping. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) It would be 'why she was' in place of 'why was she' following the rule of indirect and direct speech.

23. The oxygen content of Mars is not (a)/ sufficient enough to support life (b)/ as we know it. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Enough should be removed as sufficient and enough both have same meaning.

24. He told his friends that (a)/ each of them (b)/ should be able to carry out the orders oneself. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) It would be 'himself' in place of 'oneself'.

25. If the police would have worked (a)/ in time (b)/ the riot would not have occurred. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) It should be 'had' in place of 'would have'.

26. The flag is risen in the morning (a)/ and taken down at night (b)/ by the guards. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Replace 'is' with 'was'.

27. I have seen him (a)/ going to the theatre (b)/ with his friends yesterday evening. (c) No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Replace 'have seen' with 'saw'.



28. He was charged of murder (a)/ though the evidence did every thing (b)/ to convince the judge of his innocence. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Replace 'of' with 'for'.

29. Neither he nor his brother (a)/ is a good student (b)/ but both are good players. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) No error

30. He has taken charge (a)/as principle of our college (b)/ three years ago. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Put 'had' in place of 'has'.

31. Let us (a)/ bring this discussion (b)/ to close. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Put 'conclusion' in place of 'close'.

32. Each of them (a)/ have a different version (b)/ of the crime (c). / No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Put 'has' in place of 'have' because the subject of the sentence (each) is singular.

33. I and Gopal (a)/ went to the meeting (b)/ together. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) It would be 'Gopal and I'.

34. Latin is not only hard to write (a)/ but also (b)/ to read. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) No error.

35. In most villages (a)/ the roads are rough (b)/ isn't it? (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Put 'aren't they' in place of 'isn't it'.

36. Despite of continuing pain (a)/ she worked at her temporary summer job (b)/ most of the week. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Delete 'of' after despite.

37. As soon the film started (a)/ I developed / (b) an irritating headache. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Put 'as' after 'soon'.

38. He applied for an employment (a)/ in (b)/ an office. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) It should be 'a job' in place of 'an employment'.

39. Though we drove fast, the train left (a)/ before we could reach (b)/ the station. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) It would be 'the train had left'.

40. One Indian virtue that has impressed me greatly (a)/ and touched me deeply (b)/ was the Indian people's freedom of rancour. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Replace 'was' by 'is'.

41. It was really smart of him (a)/ to have choosen the right course, (b)/ isn't it? (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'wasn't it' in place of 'isn't it'. The question tag also should be in the past tense.

42. The doctor advised me (a)/ that (b)/ I am going on a salt free diet. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'should go' in place of 'am going' because it is about the advice to be acted upon.

43. It can't be true (a)/ that he has never done something wrong (b)/ in his entire career. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'anything' in place of 'something'. 'Something' is not used in the negative and interrogative sentences.

44. He told (a)/ that his brother (b)/ was singer. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Add 'a' before 'singer' as there are so many singers.

45. When we reached at the station (a)/ I fought my way through people and luggage (b)/ and secured a place next to the window. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Remove 'at'. The verb 'reach' is not followed by the preposition 'at'.

46. The Managing Director along with the staff members were present (a)/ for (b)/ the annual general body meeting. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'was' in place of 'were'. When two subjects are joined by the cumulative conjunctions 'as well as', 'along with' or 'with', the verb is used according to the former subject.

47. If you will follow my instructions, (a)/ you will definitely score high marks (b)/ in the entrance examination. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Remove 'will'. If the conditional sentences are in future tense, the verb in Present Indefinite is used in the clause beginning with 'if'.

48. In many respects, (a)/ India is different (b)/ than western countries. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'from' in place of 'than' because the adjective 'different' is followed by preposition 'from'.

49. The members of the family (a)/ soon became (b)/ aware what had taken place. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Add 'of' after 'aware', because 'aware' is followed by the preposition 'of'.

50. I have met him (a)/ on Monday last (b)/ and had a long discussion. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Remove 'have'. When date or day is mentioned, verb in past indefinite tense is used.

51. It is time (a)/ we decide not to play cricket, (b)/ for the next two years. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'decided' in place of 'decide'. Verb in the past indefinite is used in such sentences as it is high time.

52. He likes (a)/ the sceneries (b)/ of the hills. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'scenery' in place of 'sceneries' because the word 'sceneries' is grammatically incorrect.

53. I did not know (a)/ that you have left your handbag in our office (b)/ when you came to see me last Friday. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Remove 'have'. Use past indefinite tense because the principal clause is in the past tense.

54. He wanted me (a)/ to bring two breads and some butter (b)/ for breakfast. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Say 'to bring two loaves of bread and some pieces of butter'.

55. The parents are happy to know (a)/ that a number of summer programmes have been arranged (b)/ for the benefit of their children. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

56. We are meeting today afternoon (a)/ to discuss the matter (b)/ and reach a compromise. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Add 'in the' before 'afternoon'.

57. Either Ram or (a)/ you is responsible (b)/ for this action. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'are' in place of 'is'. When two subjects are joined by the conjunctions 'either, or', the verb is used according to the subject nearer to the verb.

58. The student flatly denied (a)/ that he had copied (b)/ in the examination hall. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

59. By the time you arrive tomorrow (a)/ I have finished (b)/ my work. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Say 'I will have finished'. In such sentences, the verb in the Future Perfect Tense is used.

60. The speaker stressed repeatedly on (a)/ the importance of improving (b)/ the condition of the slums. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Remove 'on'. The preposition 'on' is not used after the verb 'stress'.

61. The captain with the members of his team (a)/ are returning (b)/ after a fortnight. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'is' in place of 'are'. When two subjects are joined by the conjunction 'with', the verb is used according to the former subject.

62. After returning from (a)/ an all-India tour (b)/ I had to describe about it. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Remove 'about'. The preposition 'about' is not used after the verb 'describe'.

63. The teacher asked his students (a)/ if they had gone through (b)/ either of three chapters included in the prescribed text. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'any' in place of 'either'. 'Either' is used in case of two alternatives.

64. Although they are living in the country (a)/ since they were married (b)/ they are now moving to the town. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'have been' in place of 'are'.

65. Do you know (a)/ how old were you (b)/ when you came here? (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Say 'do you remember'.

66. Let us congratulate him (a)/ for his success (b)/ in the examination. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'on' in place of 'for'. The verb 'congratulate' is followed by the preposition 'on'.

67. Many people prefer to travel (a)/ by the road (b)/ because it is less expensive. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Remove 'the'.

68. She was beside herself in joy (a)/ when she came to know (b)/ that she had been selected for the job. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'with' in place of 'in'. 'Beside oneself' is followed by the preposition 'with'.

69. Mother tongue is as natural (a)/ for the development of man's mind (b)/ as mother's milk is for the development of the (c)/ infant's body. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'an' in place of 'the'.

70. The Prime Minister as well as his secretary were (a)/ expected to arrive in Chennai (b)/ on Saturday morning. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'was' in place of 'were'. When two subjects are joined by the cumulative conjunctions 'as well as', 'with', 'along with', the verb is used according to the former subject.

71. The speaker was (a)/ not only slow (b)/ but also inaudible as well. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Remove 'as well', as it is superfluous.

72. The crowd surged forward (a)/ to have a glimpse (b)/ of their favourite leader. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'get' or 'catch' in place of 'have'.

73. There is a distinctive possibility (a)/ that he will leave the job (b)/ once the investigation is over. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'distinct' in place of 'distinctive'. Distinctive means 'different from', Distinct means 'clear'.

74. Many a star (a)/ are twinkling (b)/ in the sky. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'is' in place of 'are'. 'Many a' means one thing several times. 'Many a' is followed by a singular noun and singular verb. However, it implies plural number.

75. We discussed the problem (a)/ so thoroughly that (b)/ I found it easy to work it out. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Say 'I found it easy to work out'.

76. Whenever a person lost anything (a)/ the poor folks around (b)/ are suspected. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'loses' in place of 'lost'. The reason is that the latter part of the sentence is in the Present Tense. Moreover, it is a universal truth.

77. Still impressive is that (a)/ we achieve this selective attention (b)/ through our latent ability to lip-read. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) It should be 'with' in place of 'through'. When some work is done using some ability, limits of body, the preposition 'with' is used.

78. As I entered the famous gallery (a)/ my attention was at once drawn (b)/ to the large sculpture in the corner. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

79. Everyday before (a)/ I start work for my livelihood (b)/ I do my prayer. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) It should be 'I say my prayer' as the correct verb to be used with prayers is 'say' and not 'do'.

80. Pooja went to her friend's house at the appointed hour; but (a)/ she was told (b)/ that her friend left half an hour earlier. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Say 'friend had left'. When two actions take place in the past, the action taking place earlier in times is in the Past Perfect Tense.

81. Rekha is (a)/ enough old (b)/ to get married. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) It should be 'old enough' because 'enough' as an adverb comes after the adjective it describes.

82. As far as I am concerned, (a)/ I shall do everything (b)/ possible to help you. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) It should be 'I will do'. The reason is a sort of determination is in the sentence. In such cases, 'will' is used with pronouns in the first person.

83. The person in the seat of justice (a)/ should be absolutely partial (b)/ and not treat his nearest and dearest with favour. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) It should be 'absolutely impartial' in the current context of the sentence.

84. Inflation and shortages (a)/ have made it very difficult for him (b)/ to make his both ends meet. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Remove 'his'.

85. The most studious boy (a)/ in the class (b)/ was made as the captain. (c)/ No error (d).

*Explanation* (c) Remove 'as'. The conjunction 'as' is not used after the verbs 'make', 'call', 'appoint, etc'.

86. I am participating (a)/ in the two-miles race (b)/ tomorrow morning. (c)/ No error (d).

*Explanation* (b) Use 'a two-mile' in place of 'the two-miles'. When a noun along with other words like adjective makes a compound word, its singular number is used. The verb also is good in singular number.

87. The sum and substance (a)/ of his speech (b)/ were essentially anti-establishment. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'was' in place of 'were'. Sometimes two nouns in singular number are used as one and hence, verb in singular number is used.

88. It has been such a wonderful evening, (a)/ I look forward to meet you again (b)/ after the vacations. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'vacation' in place of 'vacations'. 'Vacation' is always used in singular form.



89. When the boy committed a mistake, (a)/ the teacher made him to do (b)/ the sum again. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Remove the infinitive 'to' because 'to' is not used after made/make when used as a causative verb.

90. Unless the government does not revise its policy of liberalization (a)/ the growth of the indigenous technology (b)/ will be adversely affected. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'revises' in place of 'does not revise' because unless/until is negative in itself.

91. Supposing if you get (a)/ a seat in the plane (b)/ you will not take more than two hours to reach Mumbai. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Remove 'supposing'. Supposing is not requires here.

92. He hesitated to accept the post (a)/ as he did not think (b)/ that the salary would not be enough for a man with a family of three. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'thought' in place of 'did not think'. There is no use of double negative.

93. Have you gone through (a)/ either of these three chapters (b)/ that have been included in this volume? (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'any' in place of 'either'. Either is used when objects/subjects are two. In case they are more than two, the pronoun 'any' is used.

94. I am learning English (a)/ for ten years / without much effect. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'have been' in place of 'am'. In sentences, where work has been going on for sometime and 'preposition' 'for/since' is used, Perfect Continuous Tense is used.

95. Ramesh has agreed (a)/ to marry with the girl (b)/ of his parents' choice. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Remove 'with'.

96. The pity is that (a)/ no sooner he had left the place (b)/ than the fire broke out. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'had he' in place of 'he had'. In the sentences beginning with 'No sooner'... 'Hardly', the verb is used before the subject as is used in the interrogative sentences.

97. When he was arriving (a)/ the party was (b)/ in full sing. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'arrived' in place of 'was arriving'. The reason is the action is complete.

98. The Dean wrote that he constituted a committee of experts (a) / comprising five members (b)/ before the next meeting took place. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Add 'had' after 'he'. In the sentences that show two actions committed in the past, the earlier action takes verb in the Past Perfect Tense. Such action is written before the preposition 'before'.

99. I can't help to sneeze (a)/ I got drenched yesterday (b)/ and have a bad cold. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) add 'got' after 'have'.

100. I have lived (a)/ from the hand to the mouth (b)/ for all these fifty years though nobody knows it. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) It should be 'from hand to mouth'.

101. Both he as well as his friend (a)/ worked in close harmony (b)/ on this same project. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'and' in place of 'as well as'.

102. The Monk loved riding and hunting (a)/ and refused to conform by rules and regulations (b)/ of the ancient monastic order. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Use 'to' or 'with' in place of 'by'.

103. I informed the principal (a)/ that I was running temperature (b)/ and therefore could not attend the meeting. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Insert 'a' after 'running'.

104. The lady was broken with grief (a)/ when she heard the sad news of the train disaster (b)/ in which her brother was killed. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'had been' in place of 'was'. The verb should be in the Past Perfect Tense because the action 'killed' had taken place before she heard the news.

105. The farmer is irrigating (a)/ his fields (b)/ since morning. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Use 'has been' in place of 'is'. When some action has been going on for some time and preposition 'since/for' is used, Perfect Continuous Tense is used

106. I could not (a)/ Answer to (b)/ The question. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Remove 'to'. Infinitive 'to' is not used after the verb 'answer'.

107. Two years passed (a)/ since (b)/ my cousin died. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Add 'have' before 'passed'. In such sentences, verb in Present perfect Tense is used for 'since'.

108. Some women admit that (a)/ their principle goal in life (b)/ is to marry a wealthy man. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Replace 'principle' with 'principal'. The sense is chief/main.

109. Take two spoonsful (a)/ of this medicine (b)/ every three hours. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Replace 'spoonsful' with 'spoonfuls'. When 'ful' is suffixed to a noun, the noun is in the singular number.

110. The film was so disjointed (a)/ that I could not tell you (b)/ what the story was about. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Replace 'could' with 'can'. The reason is the action of telling is taking place in the Present Tense.

111. He had been (a)/ saved of death as if (b)/ by divine intervention. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Replace 'of' with 'from'.

112. A cogent remark (a)/ compels acceptance because (b)/ of their sense and logic. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Replace 'their' with 'its' because the subject 'remark' is singular in number.

113. Credit cards have (a)/ brought about a revolution (b)/ in people's spending habits. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct. The verb 'brought about' implies to cause something to happen.

114. In financial matters (a)/ it is important to (b)/ get disinterested advice. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

115. The music was so loud (b)/ that we had to bellow over each (b)/ other to be heard. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Replace 'over' with 'at'. The phrasal verb 'bellow at' means to shout loudly to someone.

116. When this beautiful girl arrived (a)/ all the men in the room (b)/ gravitated over her. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Replace 'over' with 'to' or 'towards'.

117. The children are (a)/ really in their element (b)/ playing on the beach. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct. In one's element means a situation where one feels comfortable.

118. The refugees are (a)/ badly off for blankets, (b)/ and even worse for food. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Add 'off' after 'worse'.

119. From their vantage-point on the cliff, (a)/ the children could watch (b)/ the ships coming and going.  
(c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (a) Replace 'vintage' with 'vantage'. 'Vantage-point' means a particular position.

120. It's stupid to go (a)/ to the expense of taking (b)/ music lessons if you never practice. (c)/ No error  
(d)

*Explanation* (c) Use 'practise' instead of 'practice'. Practise is verb which is needed here.

121. You will find it difficult (a)/ to explain of your use (b)/ of such offensive language. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Replace 'of' with 'away'. 'To explain away' means to give an excuse for a wrong action.

122. Because of the (a)/ extenuating circumstances, (b)/ the court acquitted him out of the crime. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Remove 'out'. Acquit of means to free from a charge.

123. The carpet was badly stained, (a)/ to such an extent that (b)/ you couldn't tell its original colour. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

124. It is greatly to Amit's credit (a)/ that he gave back the money he found; (b)/ his honesty does for him credit. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (c) Rewrite the part as 'his honesty does credit for him'.

125. A terrific hue and cry (a)/ was raised (b)/ at the new tax proposal. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (d) The sentence is correct.

126. The Former General was (a)/ exiled of his country because of (b)/ his part in the plot against the government. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Replace 'of' with 'from'. 'Exile from' means to expel out of country.

127. The company has (a)/ set off itself some stiff production (b)/ goals for this year. (c)/ No error (d)

*Explanation* (b) Remove 'off'. The reason is 'set off' means to 'leave on a journey' which is not consistent in this context.

## Sentence Completion

**Direction:** (Q. Nos. 1-28) Each of the following items is followed by four words or group of words. Fill in the blanks with

1. Universities in Germany and Denmark will have an input ..... The project.  
(a) for (b) into (c) about (d) at

*Explanation* (c) 'Here 'input' means in general. So, about will be used.

2. He gave me a leg ..... When I was completely new to the business.  
(a) up (b) down (c) off (d) for

*Explanation* (a) 'Give somebody a leg' means to help someone to be more successful.

3. You should have nothing to do with those criminals, they all have violent attitudes and long records. They are men ..... the same kidney.  
(a) with (b) in (c) of (d) on

*Explanation* (a) 'of the same kidney' means alike, identical equivalent.

4. He didn't have the guts to stand ..... his friend when he was in trouble.

- (a) with (b) for (c) by (d) beside

*Explanation* (c) Here 'to stand by' means to support'

5. He broke out of the prison ..... dressing as a woman.

- (a) in (b) as (c) by (d) with

*Explanation* (c) (by) here implies through action, agency or means of.

6. When electricity failed, emergency generators

- (a) cut out (b) cut off (c) cut on (d) cut in

*Explanation* (b) Here 'cut off' means an electricity cut off'.

7. We need two more hands to ..... the heavy rush of work.

- (a) cope up (b) cope with (c) cope to (d) cope in

*Explanation* (b) 'cope with' means 'deal effectively or manage'.

8. Twenty-five candidates ..... each other for the first prize.

- (a) compete for (b) compete with (c) compete to (d) compete on

*Explanation* (b) participants/ candidates 'compete with' each other

9. We must eliminate the ..... rich and poor.

- (a) disparity between (b) disparity for (c) disparity in (d) disparity from

*Explanation* (a) Disparity in between rich and poor and so 'disparity between' is the correct usage.

10. As an innovator, he ..... The beaten track and explored religions.

- (a) deviated from (b) deviated to (c) deviated in (d) deviated for

*Explanation* (a) one deviate from a track. Thus after word deviate preposition from is used.

11. Your present statement does not ..... what you said last week.

- (a) accord to (b) accord in (c) accord with (d) accord for

*Explanation* (c) 'Accord with' means 'to agree with' or 'match something'.

12. I had a vague ..... that the lady originally belonged to Scotland.

- (a) notion (b) expression (c) imagination (d) theory

*Explanation* (a) 'Notion' is the appropriate choice in the current context. 'Notion' means 'idea'.

13. The prisoner showed no ..... For his crimes.

- (a) hatred (b) obstinacy (c) remorse (d) anger

*Explanation* (c) 'Remorse' is the word that fits the context.

14. It is inconceivable that in many schools children are subjected to physical ..... in the name of discipline.

- (a) violation (b) exercise (c) violence (d) security

*Explanation* (c) 'Violence', it implies physical punishment given to students.

15. We have not yet fully realized the ..... consequences of the war.

- (a) happy (b) pleasing (c) grim (d) exciting

*Explanation* (c) 'Grim' means 'unpleasant and depressing' because the consequences are neither happy nor pleasing nor exciting.

16. Happiness consists in being ..... What we have.

- (a) contented to (b) contented with (c) contented for (d) contented in

*Explanation* (b) 'Contented with' means 'happy and satisfied with'.

17. His rude behaviour is a ..... his organization.



- (a) disgrace for                      (b) disgrace on                      (c) disgrace upon                      (d) disgrace to

*Explanation* (d) Disgrace to' somebody/something is used.

18. No child is ..... Understanding. One has to wait and provide proper guidance.

- (a) dull to                      (b) dull in                      (c) dull of                      (d) dull for

*Explanation* (b) 'Dull in' fits the current context.

19. I am fully ..... The problems facing the industry.

- (a) alive with                      (b) alive to                      (c) alive for                      (d) alive on

*Explanation* (b) 'Alive to something' means 'aware of something'.

20. The Romans were ..... science.

- (a) bad in                      (b) bad to                      (c) bad for                      (d) bad at

*Explanation* (d) Good/bad 'at' something is used.

21. Although, I was ..... of his plans, I encouraged him, because there was no one else who was willing to help.

- (a) skeptical                      (b) remorseful                      (c) fearful                      (d) excited

*Explanation* (a) 'Sceptical' means 'doubtful' and it fits the context.

22. You have no business to ..... pain on a weak and poor person.

- (a) inflict                      (b) put                      (c) direct                      (d) force

*Explanation* (a) 'Inflict' means 'to impose' and it fits the context.

23. Her uncle died in a car accident. He was quite rich. She suddenly ..... all her uncle's money.

- (a) succeeded                      (b) caught                      (c) gave                      (d) inherited

*Explanation* (d) 'Inherited' is the answer as one inherits property.

24. There was a major accident. The plane crashed. The pilot ..... did not see the tower.

- (a) likely                      (b) probably                      (c) scarcely                      (d) hurriedly

*Explanation* (b) 'Probably' is the word that fits the context.

25. The car we were travelling in ..... a mile from home.

- (a) broke off                      (b) broke down                      (c) broke into                      (d) broke up

*Explanation* (b) 'Break down' means 'to stop working'.

26. What are you ..... in the kitchen cupboard ?

- (a) looking in                      (b) looking on                      (c) looking to                      (d) looking for

*Explanation* (d) 'Looking for' means 'to try and find something'.

27. I did not see the point of ..... waiting for them, so I went home.

- (a) hanging around                      (b) hang on                      (c) hang together                      (d) hanging up

*Explanation* (a) 'Hang around' means 'to wait or stay near a place', not doing much.

28. He lost confidence and ..... Of the deal at the last minute.

- (a) backed out                      (b) backed on                      (c) backed down                      (d) backed onto

*Explanation* (a) 'Back out' means 'to step back or opt out of a competition'.



# PANACEA IES/GATE INSTITUTE

(Delhi Based Institute, headed by IES Rank-03 & GATE -Topper)

