

# Grammar - 1



## Contents

- Test Drive
- Parts of Speech
- Articles
- Types of Sentences
- Phrase and Clause
- Prepositions

# VA - 08

CEX-V-0244/18

Number of Questions : **45**

## Test Drive

Time Limit

3 Minutes

**Directions for questions 1 to 5:** Fill in the blank(s) with the most appropriate option.

1. I \_\_\_\_\_ Scorpions. They are diabolic.  
(SNAP, 2013, MB)
- i. hate  
ii. scare  
iii. loathe  
iv. wary  
v. cagey
- (1) i, iv                      (2) v, iii  
(3) i, iii                     (4) ii, iv
2. The discovery and exploration of several new continents, the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Copernican with the Ptolemaic system of astronomy, the decline of the feudal system, and the growth of commerce were all witnessed by the Renaissance.  
(TISSNET 2016, MB)
- (1) removal                (2) substitution  
(3) improvement        (4) alteration

3. He has been looking \_\_\_\_\_ his keys for the past thirty minutes. (TISSNET 2017, MB)
- (1) into                      (2) up  
(3) after                     (4) for
4. It was time to let the \_\_\_\_\_ out of the bag. And Raj did exactly that in the party with his shocking confession. (TISSNET 2016, MB)
- (1) bull                      (2) elephant  
(3) cat                        (4) dog
5. Ashish is always eager to argue about how his business should be run. He seems to have a real \_\_\_\_\_ on his shoulder about it.  
(IIFT, 2016)
- (1) coin                      (2) itch  
(3) chip                      (4) deal

## Parts of Speech

“Parts of speech” are the building blocks of grammar. They are broadly defined categories of words which help in the formation of a sentence. In English there are eight parts of speech:

- **Nouns** are the words used for naming people, place, or things.  
e.g. Josh defeated Jacob in a thrilling match in the court last evening.  
Talking is prohibited in my class.

- **Pronouns** are words used to replace a noun.  
e.g. Your mother gave me this book and it is now mine.
- **Adjectives** are the words that add to / describe / qualify a noun.  
e.g. The little mouse scared the big dog with its clever ploy.  
Slow running is vital for one's good health.
- **Verbs** are words that express an action or a state of being.  
e.g. Rohan is a young man who has an important meeting tomorrow. He doesn't want to be late for it.
- **Adverbs** are words that modify verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs. We can recognize adverbs by their function, form and position in a sentence.  
e.g. He sings melodiously.  
An ill-tempered person is seldom happy.  
Anita is more intelligent than her sister Rita.
- **Prepositions** are words that govern a noun or a pronoun and describe how the objects denoted by a noun or a pronoun are related to one another.  
e.g. The old man sat on the porch and ate his meal with relish.
- **Conjunctions** are used to join clauses, sentences, or words.  
e.g. You can have jam and bread or you can have a pastry.
- Interjections are used to express sudden feelings. However, they have no real grammatical value. We often use them more while speaking than in writing.  
e.g. Alas! The tragedy of life is unfathomable.  
Lo! What a shot!

**Directions for questions 6 to 15:** Fill in the blanks with 'a', 'an' or 'the' as required. Leave the space blank if no article is required.

- I have \_\_\_\_\_ pair of shoes.
- Mary plays \_\_\_\_\_ guitar very well.
- \_\_\_\_\_ love is \_\_\_\_\_ beautiful emotion.
- My sister doesn't eat \_\_\_\_\_ chicken.
- I was in \_\_\_\_\_ Italian restaurant; it serves delicious food.
- He will be \_\_\_\_\_ engineer in \_\_\_\_\_ year's time.
- He works in \_\_\_\_\_ University of repute.
- Varanasi is on \_\_\_\_\_ banks of \_\_\_\_\_ Ganga.
- \_\_\_\_\_ beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder.
- \_\_\_\_\_ beauty of Manali is \_\_\_\_\_ sight for sore eyes.

**Directions for questions 16 to 20:** Identify the part of speech of the underlined word.

- Whenever the door is slammed, the windows rattle.
- I want to extend the credit limit on the card.
- The lace veil is so light that it seems to float.
- One has to believe in oneself.
- The weather has turned very cold.

**Directions for questions 21 to 25:** Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions:

21. I am scared of flying, so I travelled to Delhi \_\_\_\_\_ bus.
22. His birthday is \_\_\_\_\_ the 15<sup>th</sup> of August.
23. I stay \_\_\_\_\_ my friends whenever I go to Chennai.
24. Let's go out \_\_\_\_\_ the afternoon, not \_\_\_\_\_ night.
25. The post office is \_\_\_\_\_ the right.

**Directions for questions 26 to 30:** Select the best option based on the rules of grammar and usage.

26. (1) I'll see you on Monday morning.  
(2) I'll be seeing you on Monday morning.  
(3) I'll see you Monday morning.  
(4) I'll see you at Monday morning.
27. (1) Students can gain better understanding of sentence structure by understanding these components.  
(2) Students could gain a better understanding of sentence structure by understanding these components.  
(3) Student can gain better understanding of sentence structuring by understanding these components.  
(4) Students can gain a better understanding of the sentence structure by understanding these components.

28. (1) We got back home late at night but didn't go to sleep immediately.  
(2) We got back home late night and didn't go to sleep immediately.  
(3) We came home late at night however didn't go to sleep immediately.  
(4) We arrived home late at night, didn't go to sleep immediately.
29. (1) Science has made enormous contribution to relief of human suffering.  
(2) Science has made an enormous contribution to the relief of human suffering.  
(3) Science had made an enormous contributing to the relieving of human suffering.  
(4) Science has made enormity of contribution to the relief of human suffering.
30. (1) The men of today are most fortunate than their brethren of two generations past.  
(2) The man of today is more fortunate than their brethren of two generations last.  
(3) The men of today are more fortunate than their brethren of two generations past.  
(4) The men of today are fortunate than his brethren of two generations past.

**Directions for questions 31 to 35:** In the questions given below, choose the most appropriate option based on grammar and usage.

31. Khatamband is a art of making ceilings by fitting small pieces of wood in each other in geometrical patterns.

- (1) Khatamband is a art of making ceilings by fitting small pieces of wood in each other in geometrical patterns.
- (2) Khatamband is art of making ceilings by fitting small pieces of wood to each other in geometrical patterns.
- (3) Khatamband is the art of making a ceiling with fitting small pieces of wood into each other through geometrical patterns.
- (4) Khatamband is the art of making ceilings by fitting small pieces of wood into each other in geometrical patterns.

32. Above, the stars were shining brightly, and below, the lights of the shipping yard glimmered in the bay.

- (1) Above, the stars were shining brightly, and below
- (2) Above, the stars were shining bright, but below
- (3) Above, the stars shone brightly, and below
- (4) Above, the stars shone brightly, although below

33. The sun had long set, but one blood-red gash like an open wound laid low in the distant west.

- (1) long set, but one blood-red gash like an open wound laid low in the distant west.
- (2) at length set, but one blood-red gash as an open wound lay low in the distant west.
- (3) long set, but one blood-red gash like an open wound lay low in the distant west.
- (4) long set, and one blood-red gash like an open wound lying low in the distant west.

34. The tension between the families has eased away at last.

- (1) has eased away at last
- (2) has eased in at last
- (3) has eased up at last
- (4) has eased at last

35. All my friends railed around when I needed them most.

- (1) railed around when I needed them most
- (2) rallied around when I needed them most
- (3) railed at when I needed them most
- (4) rallied over when I needed them most

**Directions for questions 36 to 45:** In each question given below, five sentences or parts of sentences that form a paragraph are given. Identify the sentence(s) or part(s) of sentence(s) that is/are incorrect in terms of grammar and usage. Then choose the most appropriate option.

36. A. For too many, for long,  
B. cure for cancer has felt like wishing on  
C. a lucky star. If we are to believe  
D. published reports, however,  
E. cure is eminent.

- (1) A, B & E
- (2) A & B
- (3) B, C, D & E
- (4) Only A

37. A. The Trump disruption is now full flow and  
B. the tectonic plates are shifting under our feet.  
C. The fault lines run the issues of trade,  
D. immigration, relations with China and Iran.  
E. In Trumps America, there are no friends or enemies.

- (1) Only A
- (2) A, B, D & E
- (3) B & C
- (4) A, C, D & E

38. A. Finance Minister Arun Jaitley's fourth union budget  
B. was an underwhelmed one in the context  
C. of economic slowdown.  
D. It held line; fiscal discipline was not thrown  
E. In the winds. But it is unlikely to meaningful boost economic momentum.
- (1) B & E (2) A & E  
(3) B, C, D & E (4) A, C & D
39. A. The US has experienced an increase of survival rates  
B. for these cancers largely because of prevention and early detect.  
C. When you consider in India, the majority of our cancers are preventable  
D. and can be detected early, sure this is where our efforts must  
E. be focused if we are to save life.
- (1) A, B, C & D (2) A, C, D & E  
(3) All the sentences (4) None of these
40. A. In June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2005, a group of high-ranking government officials  
B. were convened in a ballroom of the Four Seasons Hotel in  
C. Washington D.C., to respond a simulated crisis in the global oil  
D. supply. The event was called 'Oil Shock Wave' and it was  
E. organized by public-interest groups concerned with energy policy and National security.
- (1) A & C (2) Only E  
(3) Only A (4) A, B & E
41. A. Accept, belief, rejection can all lead us astray.  
B. Perhaps surest road to understanding is the  
C. way of experience, that begins by seeing each story  
D. like an event that has actually happened.  
E. This does not mean we accept it without question.
- (1) B & C (2) A, C & D  
(3) C, D & E (4) A, B, C & D
42. A. One of the startling rediscoveries of the past decade  
B. is the value, both on store shelves as well as  
C. company balance sheets, of brands.  
D. Booze to lipstick, consumer brands were the prizes which  
E. sparked some of the biggest takeover battles and grand break-up schemes of the 1980s.
- (1) A, B, D & E (2) A, B, C & D  
(3) B, C D & E (4) C, D & E
43. A. There have, however, been some positive development.  
B. State-level organizations and governments are setting in international  
C. film festivals, and two new film schools have opened in recent years  
D. at Tamil Nadu and Kolkata. Moreover, the line  
E. between commercial to art cinema is getting blurred.
- (1) Only B (2) A & C  
(3) A, B, D & E (4) C, D & E

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| <p>44. A. A diet, high in junk food is widely considered</p> <p>B. by the medical community to substantially increase</p> <p>C. risks of health problems such as obesity, osteoporosis and</p> <p>D. heart disease. A diet composed entirely junk food may lead to</p> <p>E. malnutrition, vitamin deficiencies and other serious health problems.</p> <p>(1) A, C &amp; D                      (2) B, D &amp; E</p> <p>(3) C &amp; D                        (4) Only E</p> | <p>45. A. It is commonly urged that a point of view,</p> <p>B. such that I have been advocating,</p> <p>C. is incompatible to vigour in action.</p> <p>D. I do not think history bears in this view.</p> <p>E. Abraham Lincoln conducted a great war without ever departing from what I have called wisdom.</p> <p>(1) Only B                      (2) B, C &amp; D</p> <p>(3) D &amp; E                      (4) Only A</p> |
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# VA - 08 : Grammar - 1

## Answers and Explanations

CEX-V-0244/18

1	3	2	2	3	4	4	3	5	3	26	1	27	2	28	1	29	2	30	3
31	4	32	3	33	3	34	4	35	2	36	1	37	4	38	3	39	3	40	1
41	4	42	3	43	3	44	3	45	2										

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| <p>1. 3 Both hate and loathe (both verbs) will grammatically fit the blank.</p> <p>2. 2 The old Ptolemaic system of astronomy was replaced, that is substituted, by the Copernican system. Though words like removal and alteration can be used, they do not grammatically fit in the given context. Therefore 2 fits logically.</p> <p>3. 4 The correct phrasal verb is "looking for" which means to search.</p> <p>4. 3 The correct idiom is "to let the cat out of the bag" which means to reveal a secret.</p> <p>5. 3 The correct idiom is "to have a chip on one's shoulder" which means to be aggressive in nature due to a grudge or grievance.</p> <p>6. "a" – the indefinite article is required. A countable noun needs an article.</p> <p>7. "the" – the definite article is required. Musical instruments take this article.</p> <p>8. No article, "a" – the second blank requires an article.</p> <p>9. No article required</p> <p>10. "an" is required to refer to a countable noun "restaurant".</p> <p>11. an, a</p> <p>12. a</p> <p>13. the, the</p> | <p>14. no article</p> <p>15. The, a</p> <p>16. verb</p> <p>17. noun</p> <p>18. adjective</p> <p>19. pronoun</p> <p>20. adverb</p> <p>21. by</p> <p>22. on</p> <p>23. with</p> <p>24. in, at</p> <p>25. on</p> <p>26. 1 Sentence 2 uses the continuous tense unnecessarily. Sentence 3 leaves out the proposition 'on'. Sentence 4 uses the incorrect preposition.</p> <p>27. 2 Sentences 1 and 3 leave out the indefinite article 'a' before the adjective 'better'. Sentence 3 also has the gerund 'structuring'. The sentence lacks grace because of the two gerunds and the participle ('ing' words) used one after the other. Sentence 4 incorrectly uses the definite article 'the' before 'sentence structure'. Since it is not a specific sentence structure that is being discussed, there is no need for an article before it.</p> |
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28. 1 Sentence 2 leaves out the preposition *at*. Sentence 3 uses the adverb *'however'* as a conjunction, but leaves the subject out in the second part of the sentence. Sentence 4 also leaves out the subject and lacks a conjunction.
29. 2 Sentence 1 leaves out the indefinite article *'an'* before the adjective *'enormous'*. The noun *'contribution'* is a singular countable noun used in general in this sentence, so, it requires the indefinite article. Sentence 3 contains the gerund *'contributing'* *'instead'* of the noun *'contribution'*. Sentence 4 changes the meaning by changing *'enormous'* to *'enormity'*.
30. 3 Sentence 1 has the superlative *'most'* while the sentence requires the comparative *'more'* because *'the men of today'* are being compared with *'their brethren'*. Sentence 2 has an incorrect comparison and an incorrect pronoun reference. The plural pronoun *'their'* cannot refer to *'the man'* and *'man'* cannot be compared to *'brethren'* because the former is singular and the latter is plural. Sentence 4 is incorrect because it leaves out the adverb *'more'* and also uses an incorrect possessive pronoun.
31. 4 Choice 1 has the indefinite article *'a'* before the word *'art'*. Since *'art'* begins with a vowel, the indefinite article should be *'an'*. But, the sentence speaks of a specific art and must have the definite article before the word *'art'*. Sentence B leaves out the article before the word *'art'*. Since it is a singular, countable noun used specifically, there must be an article before it. Choice 3 also uses the definite article, but incorrectly uses the indefinite article before *'ceiling'*, which changes the meaning of the sentence. Also, Choices 1 and 2 use wrong prepositions. The correct preposition is *'into'* but 1 uses *'in'* and 2 uses *'to'*.
32. 3 Choices 1 and 3 use the past continuous tense, which causes a lack of parallelism in the clauses, since the second part of the sentence has the simple past tense (glimmered). Choice 4 uses the incorrect conjunction. There is no contradiction implied in the sentence, so the conjunction *'although'* is incorrect.
33. 3 Choices 1 and 4 use the wrong form of the verb *'laid'* and *'lying'*. Choice 2 uses the incorrect propositional phrase *'at length'*.
34. 4 Choices 1, 2 and 3 use the incorrect phrasal verb. *'Eased in'* is used with physical objects that have to be fitted into a space carefully. *'Eased up'* is used in the context of a reduction in the intensity of rain or a storm.
35. 2 Sentences 1 and 3 use the wrong verb *'railed'*. *Rail* means *'shouted'* or *'ranted'*, and so, does not suit the context of the sentence. Sentence 4 is also incorrect because *'rallied over'* is an erroneous expression.
36. 1 (A, B & E) Part A is incorrect because the preposition *'too'* has to be left out of the phrase. Part B is incorrect because the word *cure* is a single countable noun used in general and should be preceded by the indefinite article *'a'*. Part E has two errors. The article *'a'* should be present before the word *cure*. The word *'eminent'* is incorrect here as it means *'renowned'*. The correct word would be *'imminent'*.
37. 4 (A, C, D & E) Part A is incorrect because of an error in the prepositional phrase. The correct version is *'in full flow'*. Part C is incorrect because of an error in the use of a preposition. The correct usage is *'the fault lines run along the issues....'*, because it implies that there are various issues. Part D is incorrect because there should be the conjunction *'and'* before *'relations with....'* Sentence E is incorrect because there is an apostrophe missing in the word *'Trumps'*.
38. 3 (B, C, D & E) Part B is incorrect because past participle *'underwhelmed'* is used instead of present participle *'underwhelming'*. The sentence should convey the idea that the budget was not a very impactful one. Part C is incorrect because the article is missing before the word *'economic'*. The correct version is *'an economic slowdown'*. Part D is incorrect because the correct phrase is *'held the line'*, which means *'to maintain the status quo'*. Part E is incorrect because the correct phrase is *'thrown to the winds'* and not *'in the winds'*. There is also an error of the adverb. The adverb *'meaningfully'* is to be used and not the adjective *'meaningful'*.
39. 3 (All the sentences) Part A is incorrect because of an error in the preposition. The correct phrase is *'an increase in survival rates'*. Part B is incorrect because the verb *'detect'* is used instead of the noun *'detection'*. Part C is incorrect because the relative pronoun *'that'* is left out; the relative pronoun must introduce the modifier *'the majority.....early'*. Part D is incorrect because the adverb *'surely'* is to be used instead of the adjective *'sure'*. Part E is incorrect as the noun *'life'* must be in the plural.



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| <p>40. 1 (A &amp; C) Part A is incorrect because the preposition 'in' has been used with the date. The correct preposition is 'on'. Part C is incorrect because the preposition 'to' is missing after the verb 'respond'</p> <p>41. 4 (A, B, C &amp; D) Part A is incorrect because the verb 'accept' has been used instead of the noun 'acceptance'. Part B is incorrect because the definite article 'the' is missing before the superlative 'surest'. The definite article must always be used before a superlative. Part C is incorrect because the relative pronoun 'that' has been used to begin the non-restrictive clause. The information given in the clause is extra in the sentence and so, must begin with 'which' and not 'that'. Part D is incorrect because the preposition 'like' has been used instead of the adverb 'as' to give an example.</p> <p>42. 3 (B, C D &amp; E) Part B is incorrect because the correct pair of co-relative conjunctions is 'both...and'. Part C is incorrect because the preposition 'in' is missing before the word 'company'. The prepositions are different for the words 'store shelves' and 'company balance sheets'. Part D is incorrect because the preposition 'from' is missing before the word 'booze'. Since 'to' is mentioned in the sentence, the correct pair of co-relative conjunctions is 'from....to'. Part E is incorrect because the superlative 'grandest' must be used instead of 'grand' to maintain parallelism.</p> | <p>43. 3 (A, B, D &amp; E) Part A is incorrect because the noun 'developments' must be used after the verb 'have'. Part B is incorrect because the correct phrasal verb in this context is 'setting up', which means to inaugurate or establish. 'Set in' means to arrive or begin to prevail. Part D is incorrect because the correct preposition to use is 'in' and not 'at'. The preposition 'in' is used with the names of cities, states and countries. Part E is incorrect because the correct pair of co-relative conjunctions is 'between....and'. The preposition 'to' is used incorrectly.</p> <p>44. 3 (C &amp; D) Part C is incorrect because the definite article 'the' is missing. The risks mentioned in the sentence are specific, because they are the risks of health problems of which examples are given in the sentence. So, it must be preceded by the definite article. Part D is incorrect because the preposition 'of' is missing after the word 'composed'.</p> <p>45. 2 (B, C &amp; D) Part B is incorrect because the conjunction 'as' should be used after 'such' instead of the relative pronoun 'that' because the sentence gives an example and 'such as' is the correct expression to reflect an example. Part C is incorrect because the correct preposition to be used after the word 'incompatible' is 'with' and not 'to'. Part D is incorrect because the appropriate phrasal verb is 'bear out'. 'To bear out' is substantiate or confirm.</p> |
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