

Aptitude Advanced

Introduction to Grammar

eBook 01

Table of Contents

Chapter No.	Topic	Pg. No.
1	Introduction to Grammar 1.1 Introduction 1.2 Relevance in entrance tests 1.3 What is measured & skills required 1.4 Format of questions asked	1-4
2	Parts of Speech 2.1 Parts of Speech 2.2 Practise Exercise	5-10

Chapter 1: Introduction to Grammar

1.1 Introduction

To be able to speak and write effectively, it is essential to be aware of the structure of words and how words come together to form meaningful sentences which makes effective communication possible. Grammar includes the rules and principles which determine the structure of sentences. Though, it is possible to communicate even without knowing the intricate rules of grammar, knowledge of grammar is absolutely essential for mastering the language. As a manager you are expected to frame right sentence structures for all forms of communication.

As Grammar is vast, this module on grammar is restricted to certain topics that can help the MBA aspirants improve on language skills and avoid committing errors on questions asked in the verbal ability section.

1.2 Relevance in entrance tests

In the verbal ability section of various tests, questions on grammar are frequently asked. The questions are based on spotting the errors in the given sentence. The questions are generally based on errors in using parts of speech.

1.3 What is measured & skills required?

- Your ability to understand the usage of correct English language
- Ability to spot and correct grammatical errors

Skills required

- Being familiar with basic grammar rules
- Practising Grammar questions from tests
- Being aware of prepositions, phrasal verbs while reading

1.4 Format of questions asked

- Grammar questions can be asked in any format. Few examples have been given below:

A. Do As Directed:

Directions for questions: Each sentence below has been divided into three parts. Mark the part that carries an error

1. The elder brother (1) / is different (2)/ than the younger one (3).
2. He was either (1)/unaware or indifferent to (2)/ her accomplishments (3)
3. This is (1) /the man whom (2)/met me yesterday (3)
4. He went (1)/ to attend a conference (2)/ at London (3).
5. I have not (1)/ seen him (2) /from a long time (3).

B. Fill up the following blanks with appropriate**Prepositions:-**

6. I have been herea long time.
7. I left Mumbai three weeks.....and have lived in Delhithen.
8. last month the weather has improved,
9. It has been raining.....yesterday.
10. He was killed.....a highwayman.....a dagger.

C. Cloze Test on Prepositions:

I'm Peter and I live ____ (11) ____ Germany. ____ (12) ____ summer I like to travel ____ (13) ____ Italy, because ____ (14) ____ the weather and the people there. Last summer I took a plane ____ (15) ____ Munich to Rome. ____ (16) ____ the airport we went to our hotel ____ (17) ____ bus. We stopped ____ (18) ____ a small restaurant for a quick meal. The driver parked the bus ____ (19) ____ the restaurant. Nobody could find the bus and the driver, so we waited ____ (20) ____ the restaurant.

Answer Key

1.	3	11.	In
2.	2	12.	In
3.	2	13.	To
4.	3	14.	Of
5.	3	15.	From
6.	Since	16.	From
7.	Ago, since	17.	By
8.	Since	18.	At
9.	Since	19.	Behind
10.	By, with	20.	Outside

Chapter 2: Parts of Speech

Here, we will acquaint you with basic terms of Grammar. This chapter is important as most of the questions that appear in the tests are based on basic concepts.

After going through the terms, solve the exercise given in the chapter.

2.1 Parts of Speech

In grammar, a part of speech (also called lexical categories, grammatical categories or word classes) is a linguistic category of words. In English there are eight parts of speech.

1. Noun

A noun is a word used to refer to people, animals, objects, substances, states, events, ideas and feelings. A noun functions as a subject or object of a verb and can be modified by an adjective.

John, lion, table, freedom, love ...

2. Adjective

Adjectives are used to describe or specify a noun or pronoun.

Example: The slow, meandering creek sang a gentle song.

good, beautiful, nice, my ...

3. Pronoun

A pronoun is used in the place of a noun or phrase.
(known as the antecedent).

Example: The pronoun is a lonely word; it must always be paired with an antecedent.

I, you, he, she, it ..

4. **Verb**

A verb is used to show an action or a state of being

Example: He is writing an essay

go, write, exist, be

5. **Adverb**

An adverb is used to modify a verb, adjective and other adverbs

Example: He sat quietly under the tree.

completely, never, there ...

6. **Preposition**

Prepositions are used before nouns to form a phrase that shows where, when, how and why

Eg-in, above, to, for, at ...

7. **Conjunction**

Conjunctions join clauses or sentences or words

Eg-and, but, however, so, although

8. **Interjection**

Interjections are used to show surprise or emotion.

oh!, Good Lord

2.2 Practice Exercise

Directions: Identify the part of speech of the underlined words

1. She was running a high temperature.
1. adjective 2. adverb 3. noun
2. I am the happiest woman in the world.
1. adverb 2. adjective 3. verb
3. He has many influential friends.
1. noun 2. verb 3. adjective
4. Choose the lesser of the two evils.
1. adverb 2. noun 3. verb
5. Hari is the most intelligent boy in the class.
1. conjunction 2. preposition 3. Adverb
6. A fast car goes fast.
1. verb 2. adjective 3. adverb
7. She was angry but she said nothing.
1. preposition 2. pronoun 3. conjunction

8. There is something under the bed.
1. preposition 2. conjunction 3. noun
9. They live in a small cottage above the lake.
1. verb 2. noun 3. preposition
10. He cut himself while shaving.
1. adverb 2. adjective 3. verb

Answer Key

-
1. Adjective (modifies the noun temperature)
-
2. Adjective
-
3. Noun
-
4. Verb
-
5. Preposition
-
6. Adverb (modifies the verb goes)
-
7. Conjunction
-
8. Preposition
-
9. Preposition
-
10. Verb
-