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5.0 Sentence Correction

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Sentence correction questions appear in the Verbal Reasoning section of the GMAT™ exam. The Verbal Reasoning section uses multiple-choice questions to measure your ability to read and comprehend written material, to reason and evaluate arguments, and to correct written material to conform to standard written English. Because the Verbal Reasoning section includes passages from several different content areas, you may be generally familiar with some of the material; however, neither the passages nor the questions assume detailed knowledge of the topics discussed. Sentence correction questions are intermingled with critical reasoning and reading comprehension questions throughout the Verbal Reasoning section of the test. You will have 65 minutes to complete the Verbal Reasoning section or about 1¾ minutes to answer each question.

Sentence correction questions present a statement in which words are underlined. The questions ask you to select the best expression of the idea or relationship described in the underlined section from the answer options. The first answer choice always repeats the original phrasing, whereas the other four provide alternatives. In some cases, the original phrasing is the best choice. In other cases, the underlined section has obvious or subtle errors that require correction. These questions require you to be familiar with the stylistic conventions and grammatical rules of standard written English and to demonstrate your ability to improve incorrect or ineffective expressions.

You should begin these questions by reading the sentence carefully. Note whether there are any obvious grammatical errors as you read the underlined section. Then read the five answer choices carefully. If there was a subtle error you did not recognize the first time you read the sentence, it may become apparent after you have read the answer choices. If the error is still unclear, see whether you can eliminate some of the answers as being incorrect. Remember that in some cases, the original selection may be the best answer.

5.1 Some Comments About How It Works

Sentence Correction questions require a good understanding of how the conventions of standard written English can be used for effective communication. However, that understanding does not have to come from extensive explicit training in grammar and usage or from knowledge of specialized linguistic terminology. Many people may have the needed insights without being able to explain them in technical terms. Analogously, without knowing the scientific name of baker's yeast or the chemistry of the Maillard reaction, a talented baker or food critic may be able to tell whether a loaf of bread was properly prepared. This is not to say that explicit training in grammar and usage is unhelpful. As an adjunct to critical reading and writing experience, it can be a useful approach to developing insights into good written communication. It is good to be cautious, though; books and websites offering advice about how to write may occasionally stipulate outmoded or idiosyncratic rules that are not generally followed in effective professional writing.

The problems posed in Sentence Correction take a different approach and fall within a different domain from those in the other Verbal Reasoning Section types. But like those other types, they test skills of critical reasoning, problem solving, and reading comprehension. Sentence Correction tasks can be aptly thought of as requiring detective work. A key part of this work consists of understanding the differences among formulations offered in the answer choices and in seeing that some do not make sense when they are plugged into the larger sentence. In this way, the Sentence Correction questions pose some of the most refined and closely targeted reading comprehension tasks in the GMAT exam. To see why certain wordings do not work, you will need to use critical analysis, forming hypotheses about what the writer is trying to express and being ready to revise the hypotheses as you read through the answer choices.

The more difficult questions are not essentially designed to test for knowledge of rules or facts that are harder to learn or that require more technical training. Difficulty often stems from complexity and subtlety among the interconnected parts of the sentence and involves critical application of principles that all astute users of English should understand. Sentence Correction tasks are puzzles of a sort, but they are not merely arbitrarily contrived. Typically, the incorrect answer choices represent flaws that even an experienced writer might introduce by temporarily losing track of the structure of a sentence or by accidentally moving a piece of text to an unintended position.

Sometimes you may be able to think of a wording that works better than any of the options presented, but the task is to find the most effective of the available choices within the parameters of the problem posed. In writing, there are almost always tradeoffs. For example, conciseness is sometimes the enemy of precision and adequate specificity. Certain types of redundancy can be annoying and can make the writer seem inept, but other types of repetition and paraphrasing can improve readability and comprehension. Language serves many purposes, not all of which are cooperative or directly informative. In sincere straightforwardly informative writing—although not in all advertising, entertainment, and poetry—one should minimize ambiguity, yet in the end every sentence is at least somewhat open to multiple interpretations. Because one can never absolutely eliminate the risk of unintended interpretations, Sentence Correction answers should minimize that risk relative to the context, setting, and ordinary assumptions about the intent of the writer. It is safe to assume that any GMAT Sentence Correction sentence you encounter will be intended to sincerely inform, instruct, or inquire, rather than to parody bad writing, confuse the reader, or provoke laughter, outrage, or derision.

You will not be expected to take sides in contentious controversies about grammar, usage, or style or to apply rules that are widely regarded as highly pedantic or outdated. A few of these are mentioned in the discussions of the specific categories that follow.

5.2 The Eight Sentence Correction Categories

The problems to be solved in Sentence Correction questions are classified into eight grammar and usage categories. Each incorrect answer choice contains a flaw in at least one of these categories, and some span two or more categories. Each test contains questions representing a wide range of different types of problems. In the answer explanations in section 5.9, the categories shown in the heading for each question are the most salient, but many of the questions contain problems in other categories as well. Although these eight categories represent the full range of Sentence Correction problems, the discussions within each category below are not exhaustive and are not intended as a comprehensive guide to English grammar and usage. For each category, the discussion aims to provide a general understanding of the kinds of reasoning that may be involved in solving Sentence Correction problems of that type.

Agreement

Effective verbal communication requires clarity about how the elements of a sentence relate to one another. The conventions of agreement help maintain such clarity; constructions that violate these conventions can be confusing or even nonsensical. There are two types of agreement: subject-verb agreement and agreement of terms that have the same referent.

Subject-verb agreement: Singular subjects take singular verbs, whereas plural subjects take plural verbs. Standard contemporary English makes few distinctions in verb form among persons and numbers, but most English verbs do have a distinct present-tense form for third person singular, and *to be* has distinctive forms for first person singular (*am, was*).

Examples:

Correct: “I **walk** to the store.”

Incorrect: “I **walks** to the store.”

Correct: “Each of the circuits **has** its own switch.”

Incorrect: “Each of the circuits **have** its own switch.”

Correct: “The masses **have** spoken.”

Incorrect: “The masses **has** spoken.”

Agreement between terms that have the same referent: A pronoun that stands for another element in the discourse—a noun, a noun phrase, or another pronoun—must agree with its antecedent in person, number, and gender. Where a noun or noun phrase has the same referent as another noun or noun phrase, the two terms should agree in number.

Examples:

Correct: “When **you** dream, **you** are usually asleep.”

Incorrect: “When **one** dreams, **you** are usually asleep.”

The incorrect version is by no means ungrammatical, but it is puzzling and appears not to be intended to mean what it literally says. Thus, it is also a matter of logical predication and rhetorical construction, categories that are discussed under those headings below.

Correct: “I threw away the banana and the mango because **they were** both spoiled.”

Incorrect: “I threw away the banana and the mango because **it was** both spoiled.”

Correct: “The engineers are **friends** of mine.”

Incorrect: “The engineers are **a friend** of mine.”

Almost all educated users of English have internalized the conventions of agreement, yet we all occasionally make mistakes of this sort by accident or because we lose track of the structure of our wording. Keep in mind that as you evaluate different wording choices, context is vitally important. We can see immediately that an entire clause consisting of the words “You is working” would be incorrect. On the other hand, that same sequence of words is correct in the following sentence: “The team member who used to assist you is working on a different project now.” This is easy to see, but doing so depends on recognizing that the subject of *is* is not *you* but rather the entire noun phrase preceding the verb. This recognition may be either intuitive or based on explicit analysis.

Similarly, no one would seriously claim that the plural *they* should stand for the singular noun *proposal*, but one might more easily overlook the failure of agreement in the following sentence: “From among the six submitted proposals, they chose number four, believing that they could be more easily implemented than the other five.” Many readers may see the problem quickly, but in doing so they are noting some complex features of the sentence structure. In principle, *they* could refer to the six proposals or to those who chose from among them, but neither of those tentative interpretations makes sense. Here the reasoning overlaps with that involved in the category of logical predication. The choosers are not the sorts of things that could be implemented, and the comparative phrase *than the other five* rules out the hypothesis that the antecedent of *they* is the plural *six submitted proposals*. Changing *they* to *it* resolves the discrepancy by using a pronoun that clearly has the singular noun phrase *number four* as its antecedent.

Some complicating factors to consider:

When analyzing potential agreement issues in Sentence Correction, keep in mind that not all cases conform obviously and straightforwardly to the most basic rules of agreement. Here are a few special considerations. These are not intended to be exhaustive.

Quantities and quantifying phrases: In some cases, formally plural quantities may take plural verbs, and in other cases they are construed as singular. For example, “Six dollars were withdrawn from the box, one at a time” is correct, but so is “Six dollars is a high price for that.”

Quantifying phrases (such as *a number of* and *a percentage of*) often function as subject modifiers in what could appear to be a subject position. In such cases, they are treated similarly to numbers. “A large proportion of the trees are flowering” is essentially like “Three of the trees are flowering.” In other cases, similar phrases function as subjects. Consider, for example, the following correct phrases: “A small percentage of our profits is reinvested” and “A small percentage of our employees oppose the new plan.”

As a pronoun, *each* is singular, distributing individually to the members of the set or collection referred to, as illustrated in “Each of the circuits has its own switch.” When *each* is used as an adjective before a noun, the noun is singular (“Each machine has been inspected”), but in the predicate position *each* modifies the entire plural collection (“The machines have each been inspected”).

Plurals that appear singular: All English users are aware that for some words the plural is the same as the singular (*sheep* and *deer*, for example), but there are subtle cases, as when a formally singular noun referring to a group or culture is construed as plural. No simple rule governs the use of such terms; one can say, for example, “the British are” or “the Inuit are” but not “the German are” or “the Cuban are.” *Police* is plural, but many similar group words, such as *navy*, are typically construed as singular.

Collective nouns construed as singular or plural: Many nouns referring to groups of people or collections of things have a singular form (team, choir, platoon, crew, assembly, for example). In some editorial styles—and especially in British usage—these can sometimes be construed as plural. This occurs where the writer’s intention is to distribute the predicate to the individual members of the group rather than to refer to the group as a single abstract entity. Thus, one may say “the staff are working in small groups” but also “the staff is larger than it used to be.”

Plurals construed as singular: Some formally plural nouns, such as *news* are construed as singular in normal usage. A title that has a plural form (such as *The Grapes of Wrath*) takes a singular verb if it refers to a single work, and some names of organizations or political entities may be construed as singular, even though they have a plural form. For example, the phrase *the Cayman Islands* may be singular when referring to the country as a political entity and plural when referring to the islands as multiple pieces of land.

Singular verbs that could appear plural: For most English verbs (with the notable exception of *to be*), the infinitive is the same as the present plural, and the present subjunctive for all persons is the same as the infinitive. Furthermore, the singular past subjunctive is the same as the plural. Thus, there is a risk that at first glance a correct verb form used with a singular subject may appear plural. “The researcher suspend further testing” and “I were you” would be incorrect as complete sentences, but in the following sentences they are in the subjunctive mood and are correct: “We considered it imperative that the researcher suspend further testing.” “I wouldn’t do that if I were you.” As a complete sentence, “The mayor attend the hearings” would be incorrect, but in the sentence, “In none of these cases will either the councilor or the mayor attend the hearings,” the verb form is correct; it is an infinitive preceded by the auxiliary verb *will*.

Some issues that are not tested:

The following are a few examples of issues that are outside the scope of the agreement-related Sentence Correction questions.

Especially in informal discourse, the plural pronoun *they* and related forms *them*, *their*, and *theirs* are sometimes used as nonspecific, genderless ways of referring to a singular person. Consider, for example, “Somebody left their notebook on the conference room table.” The reasoning surrounding such usage and the alternatives (*he*, *she*, *she or he*, *she/he*) is complex and evolving. You should not expect to see questions that require you to judge which usage is preferable.

Although you should be able to recognize commonly used irregular plurals or special classes of plurals (such as *phenomena*, *cacti*, *genera*), you will not be asked to correct an improper plural spelling. For example, you will not be asked to correct “the genuses are” to “the genera are.”

You will also not be expected to know whether certain highly technical terms or local organization names take singular or plural verbs and pronouns unless the context makes it clear whether they are singular or plural. For example, those who are very familiar with the Centers for Disease Control (a U.S. government organization) will know that it is normally referred to in the singular, but others would not be able to determine this merely from seeing the name.

Diction

Sentences that are structurally well formed can still be confusing, or can make the writer seem inept, if the words are not chosen appropriately and effectively. Effective diction involves using the right part of speech and observing other conventions regarding which words to use in which contexts. Word choices involving agreement and verb form may also be thought of partly as matters of diction, but they are treated separately under the Agreement and Verb Form headings. The diction issues you may encounter in Sentence Correction are too many and varied to list here, but here are a few salient categories into which risks of ineffective diction may fall:

Parts of speech: Even accomplished writers sometimes accidentally use an inappropriate part of speech, such as an adjective where an adverb is needed or a preposition where a conjunction is needed.

Examples:

Correct: “I could **easily** tell that the cat was friendly.”

Incorrect: “I could **easy** tell that the cat was friendly.”

Correct: “The concerto was **beautiful**.”

Incorrect: “The concerto was **beautifully**.”

Pronoun cases: Pronouns should be in the right case. A writer might compromise clarity by using a subject form of a pronoun as an object or vice versa or a reflexive pronoun in a nonreflexive context.

Examples:

Correct: “**She** and her friend were walking in the park.”

Incorrect: “**Her** and her friend were walking in the park.”

Correct: “We sent an email to **them**.”

Incorrect: “We sent an email to **they**.”

Correct: “I gave **him** a good performance rating.”
 Incorrect: “I gave **himself** a good performance rating.”

Counting and quantifying: Although the conventions for quantification of mass nouns and count nouns have some subtle complexities, keep in mind the general rule that mass nouns are quantified by an amount, whereas count nouns are quantified by numbers or by words (such as *many*) that indicate multiple units. Except in certain technical mathematical contexts, *less* and *least* are typically reserved for comparisons of amount or degree, whereas *fewer* and *fewest* express comparisons of number. However, *more* and *most* are used for both comparisons of number and comparisons of degree. *Both* is appropriate only in referring to two entities or qualities.

Examples:

Correct: “We bought only a **small amount of** rice.” “She wished me **much happiness**.”
 Incorrect: “We bought only **a few** rice.” “She wished me **many happinesses**.”

Correct: “**Fewer** deliveries arrived today than yesterday.”
 Incorrect: “**Less** deliveries arrived today than yesterday.”

Correct: “**All five of the** trees in the garden need pruning.”
 Incorrect: “**Both of the five** trees in the garden need pruning.”

Prepositions: Subtle differences of relationship are often expressed by different prepositions that function similarly to one another. Consider, for example, in/into/within, to/toward, on/onto/above, through/throughout, beside/besides, beside/along/against, and on/over/above.

Examples:

Correct: “We were standing **beside** the river.”
 Incorrect: “We were standing **besides** the river.”

The incorrect version can also be thought of as displaying a problem of logical predication in that it appears to say illogically that the river was also standing.

Correct: “The editor was sitting **in** his office all afternoon.”
 Incorrect: “The editor was sitting **into** his office all afternoon.”

Word choices that are inherently very simple and obvious can become a little more difficult in complex settings, and a Sentence Correction answer choice that appears appropriate on its own may not work when plugged into the larger sentence. In isolation, “distributed throughout” is recognizable as a standard phrase, but in the following sentence it does not make sense: “The computers were distributed throughout the generosity of a group of donors.” Replacing *throughout* with *through* solves the problem. The issue here is a matter not only of diction but also of logical predication: the wording causes the sentence to make an illogical claim about the computers.

“We were confident” is fine as a freestanding sentence, but it is nonsense in the following context: “The lawyer who consulted with we were confident that we could negotiate a settlement.” This displays combined problems of diction (*with we*), agreement (the plural *were* with the singular subject *lawyer*), and grammatical construction. “Us was confident” is strange out of context, but substituting *us was* for the offending part of the sentence solves the problem: “The lawyer who consulted with us was confident that we could negotiate a settlement.”

Some complicating factors to consider:

The following are only a few examples of the types of subtleties and complexities that may be involved in deciding what words are appropriate.

Potentially misleading grammatical constructions: In some contexts, a verb might superficially appear to require an adverb in the predicate position when in fact a predicate adjective is appropriate. For example, it is correct to say “The surface feels rough” rather than “The surface feels roughly.” “The animal does not smell well” means something very different from “The animal does not smell good.” Both can be correct depending on what the writer wants to convey.

Words ending in *ing* that are derived from verbs (such as *going*, *assessing*, and *hurting*) can often be either gerunds or participles. Generally, in carefully crafted formal writing, a pronoun or noun that modifies a gerund will be possessive (“The schedule depends on our receiving the materials on time,” not “Depends on us receiving”). However, in similar constructions the *ing* word is intended as a participle with the noun or pronoun as its subject. This can be seen in the following two examples: (1) “I was concerned about my friend’s lying on the ground.” Here the focus of the concern is on the situation the friend was in. (2) “I was concerned about my friend lying on the ground.” In this case, the writer may intend the focus to be explicitly on the friend who was in that situation.

Words with multiple functions: In English, almost any noun can function as an adjective. Nouns that function also as verbs are well known (as in “she chaired the meeting” or “he tabled the motion”), but words that are not normally used as verbs can also be pressed into special service as verbs on an ad hoc basis. One could say, for example, “She plans to greenhouse her tender plants when the weather turns cold.” Some words regularly function as both adjectives and adverbs. One can say, for example, both “This is a hard job” and “We are working hard.” Likewise, *fast* is used correctly as both adjective and adverb in the following sentence: “This is not usually a fast train, but it is moving fast at this moment.”

Considerations in applying between and among: *Among* is generally not appropriate for relationships that involve only two entities. It is standard to say “the distance between my house and yours,” not “the distance among my house and yours.” *Among* is usually needed instead of *between* for relationships involving more than two entities, but there are exceptions. *Between* is sometimes the more accurate preposition to use where the relationship holds, independently, between each member of the group and some other member. Thus, for example, it would be appropriate to say, “In planning your trip to the five destinations, consider the distances between cities and the driving conditions you may encounter.”

Some issues that are not tested:

The following are a few examples of issues that are outside the scope of the diction-related Sentence Correction questions.

Which/that: Some American publishers have adopted the convention that *which*, used as a relative pronoun, should always be nonrestrictive and should be replaced with *that* in restrictive contexts (as in “Laws which have been repealed are no longer enforced” versus “laws that have been repealed are no longer enforced”). You should not expect to see questions for which the deciding factor is merely whether the writer adheres to this convention.

Object words with “to be”: Some usage advisors prescribe the use of nominative (subject) pronouns in both the subject position and the object position with the verb *to be*. According to this convention, “If I were her, I would be happy to accept the job” is incorrect; it should be “If I were she, I would be happy

to accept the job.” In some contexts, this latter form of expression could seem annoyingly stilted and pedantic and thus could violate other standards of effective expression. You should not expect to see questions for which the deciding factor is merely whether the writer adheres to this convention.

Slang, archaic diction, and words that are distinctively regional or limited to certain subsets of English: You will not be expected, for example, to correct *thou* or *you-all* to *you*, to understand that *skint* could be paraphrased as *lacking resources*, to judge whether *mickle* is a synonym of *muckle* or whether either of these should be paraphrased with *large*, or to understand that *give* (a test) in some usages is synonymous with *take* (a test) in others.

Variant forms and spellings: You will not be asked to choose between variant forms that have the same function and meaning. Some examples of such variant pairs are: *whilst/while*, *toward/towards*, *until/till*, and *outward/outwards*.

Grammatical Construction

Many issues of agreement, verb form, parallelism, diction, and idiom can be described as matters of grammar, but those categories by no means cover the full range of grammar-related tasks in Sentence Correction. The Grammatical Construction category concerns issues of grammar that are not treated elsewhere in this classification scheme. For the most part, these are matters of syntax—the ways in which the elements of a sentence are arranged. Effective communication depends on shared understandings between the writer and reader about how the relative positions of words and phrases help convey meaning. A series of words and punctuation marks that does not follow predictable conventions of syntax can be puzzling, annoying, or even incomprehensible. Here are a few major principles guiding effective grammatical construction:

Complete structure: In English, a well-formed sentence or independent clause needs both a subject and a predicate containing a main verb.

Examples:

Correct: “The shipping **company promised that** the package would be delivered on time.”

Incorrect: “The shipping **company that** the package would be delivered on time.”

Here the main subject, *the shipping company*, has no verb; the only verb phrase, *would be delivered*, has *the package* as its subject and is embedded in the clause beginning with *that*.

Correct: “**In any case, the contract is** acceptable.”

Incorrect: “**In any case is** acceptable.”

In this incorrect example, there is no discernible subject.

Correct: “**Rushing to defend its nest, the swan** pecked at the intruder.”

Incorrect: “**Rushing to defend its nest. The swan** pecked at the intruder.”

The first part of this incorrect example represents a stereotypical variety of incompletely formed sentence known as a sentence fragment. Sentence fragments are punctuated as sentences but are grammatically incomplete and often seem to be left stranded from a preceding or following sentence.

Clear and correct linkages and punctuation: For clarity of meaning, the elements of a sentence need to be linked to, and separated from, one another with standard punctuation and with appropriate links such as conjunctions and relative pronouns.

Examples:

Correct: “The cupboard **contained two boxes of tea, a bag of rice, and a jar of pickles.**”

Incorrect: “The cupboard **contained two boxes of tea a bag of rice, and contained a jar of pickles.**”

In this case, the structure is both ungrammatical and confusingly nonparallel. Issues of the latter type are discussed under the Parallelism heading below.

Correct: “The weather yesterday was **hot, and there were** thunderstorms in the evening.”

Incorrect: “The weather yesterday was **hot there were** thunderstorms in the evening.”

Correct: “We should cancel the **cricket match; the rain will continue** all afternoon.”

Incorrect: “We should cancel the **cricket match the rain will continue,** all afternoon.”

Proper ordering of words and phrases: A sentence whose components do not follow standard conventions for English governing the sequence of parts can be confusing and can make the writer appear unfamiliar with the language.

Examples:

Correct: “The director’s name is Juan.”

Incorrect: “Is Juan, the director’s name.”

Correct: “The geranium has outgrown its pot and will need to be transplanted to a larger container.”

Incorrect: “Outgrown its pot to a larger container and the geranium will need to be transplanted.”

Correct: “Please call me tomorrow to discuss the contract.”

Incorrect: “To discuss me please the contract tomorrow call.”

This is an extreme case of obviously ungrammatical word arrangement. Incoherent word sequences such as this are sometimes described as “word salad.” To the extent that this example makes any sense, it also appears illogically to be asking someone to telephone a contract and thus displays a problem of logical predication (discussed later under that heading).

To see how an answer choice affects a sentence’s grammatical construction, you may need to analyze the relationship between widely separated parts. Consider the sentence, “If you clean the filter before it becomes so clogged that it impedes the flow can prevent costly repairs in the long run.” It is important to see that the main verb phrase is *can prevent*; the intervening verbs are embedded in the clause modifying *clean the filter*. The opening phrase, *if you clean . . .* is not grammatically structured to function as a subject, but if that phrase is replaced with *cleaning*, the sentence becomes well formed and makes sense: “Cleaning the filter before it becomes so clogged that it impedes the flow can prevent costly repairs in the long run.” The problem with *if you clean* involves both grammatical construction and verb form (discussed later under that heading).

Consider also the following ungrammatical sentence: “The headphones provided with the audio player that **although she bought them last year, they never worked.**” The phrase “She bought last year never worked” would be ungrammatical in isolation, but if substituted for the boldface phrase, it makes the sentence grammatically correct: “The headphones provided with the audio player that **she bought last year never worked.**” The crucial relationship here is between the opening words (*the headphones*) and the final phrase of the sentence.

Some complicating factors to consider:

Idiomatic constructions: Some idiomatic wording formats, especially those that use parallel structure to express comparisons, are widely treated as well-formed sentences even though they do not follow the basic conventions of grammatical construction. Some examples are: “The greater the thread count, the higher the price.” “Better a small nutritious meal than a large unwholesome one.” “Here today, gone tomorrow.”

Inverted structures: In contemporary English, standard sentence structure puts subjects ahead of their verbs, but there are many exceptions for special purposes, including some quotations, negative constructions, and questions. Each of the following is readily recognizable as a well-formed sentence: “Tell me about it,” said his uncle.” “Were you at the meeting?” “In neither case could I find the needed information.”

Elliptical constructions: In informal contexts and in many formal contexts where economy of words and smoothness of flow are key considerations, certain sentence elements may be omitted when the writer’s intent is entirely clear without them. For example, *that* is often omitted at the start of a relative clause, as in “The film I saw last night was boring” or “I was afraid they might be angry.” It is also often considered acceptable to omit infinitive verbs in some cases to avoid awkward repetition, with the preposition *to* left dangling, as in “I reviewed the report even though I didn’t want to.”

Some issues that are not tested:

The following are a few examples of issues that are outside the scope of the grammatical-construction-related Sentence Correction questions.

Fragments that function as complete sentences in special contexts: A group of words that has no subject or no verb can sometimes stand as a well-formed sentence. “No” can be a complete sentence in answer to a stated or hypothetical question, as can “The one on the left.” Similarly, a clause beginning with a conjunction and not followed by any other clause can sometimes be an acceptable sentence, as, for example, “Because the delivery was late.” Exclamations such as “Not again!” are also complete and well formed in special contexts. You should not expect to see a Sentence Correction question that appears likely to be drawn from a context in which it is intended to function in any of these ways or as a headline, title, or line of poetry.

Punctuation as editorial style: You will need to judge issues of punctuation only insofar as they involve standard conventions that make a difference for the meaning and coherence of the sentence. Beyond the basic grammatical principles, some punctuation conventions vary by region or academic discipline, are matters of pure style, or are determined by publishers or editors for their own purposes. You will not need to judge, for example, whether a comma should be inside or outside a closing quotation mark, whether emphasis should be indicated by italics, or whether an apostrophe should be inserted before the *s* in a plural non-word such as *IOUs/IOU’s* or *1980s/1980’s*.

Idiom

Idioms are standard forms of expression that consist of ordinary words but whose uses cannot be inferred from the meanings of their component parts or the basic conventions of grammar and usage. There is ultimately no logical reason why English speakers say “on average” rather than “at average” or “depending on” rather than “depending from.” This is simply how we do things. Thus, knowing idiomatic constructions is rather like knowing vocabulary words. Accidentally using the wrong combination of words in an idiomatic construction or structuring a phrase in an unidiomatic way can make it difficult

for readers to discern the writer's intended meaning. Here are a few major categories of idiomatic wording issues that you may encounter in Sentence Correction:

Prepositions with abstract concepts: For abstract concepts there is no top, bottom, inside, or outside, yet with these we often use the same prepositions that denote spatial relationships between concrete objects. There are some patterns, but for the most part knowing which preposition to use with which abstract noun or verb depends on familiarity. The idiomatic pairings of prepositions with abstract concepts are far too many and varied to list here. A few illustrations are: *in* love, different *from* (also different *to* in British usage), *in* a while, *on* guard, *at* work.

Examples:

Correct: “**With regard to** your party invitation, I may not be able to go, because I will be **on call** at the clinic that evening.”

Incorrect: “**On regard with** your party invitation, I may not be able to go, because I will be **in call** at the clinic that evening.”

Correct: “The cost of the repairs will **depend on** what clever solutions the contractors **come up with**.”

Incorrect: “The cost of the repairs will **depend from** what clever solutions the contractors **come out through**.”

Correlatives: Certain standard correlative structures provide economical ways of expressing relationships between concepts. For example, it can be more efficient to say “Neither she nor he is going” than to say “He is not going, and she is also not going.” However, if such structures are not skillfully handled in accordance with standard conventions, they can be puzzling and misleading. Other examples of such idiomatic correlative structures are *as . . . as*, *more/less/greater/smaller/etc. . . than*, and *not only . . . but also*.

Examples:

Correct: “**Neither** the pomegranates **nor** the melons have arrived yet from the vendor.”

Incorrect: “**Neither** the pomegranates have arrived yet **neither** the melons from the vendor.”

Correct: “She was almost **as** sure that if we installed this system it would fail **as** that we would need some such system.”

Incorrect: “She was almost **as** sure that if we installed this system it would fail **than** that we would need some such system.”

Correct: “The prolonged drought is stressing **not only** the rabbits **but also** the wallabies.”

Incorrect: “The prolonged drought is stressing the rabbits, **not** the wallabies **just only**.”

Verb phrases: Many combinations of verbs with adverbs or prepositions, or with both adverbs and prepositions, have conventional meanings that do not follow directly from the meanings of their component parts. These include such phrases as *give up*, *give up on*, *come through with*, *come up*, *come up with*, *come down with*, *do without*, *have at*, *get over*, *get on with*, *go through*, *go through with*, and *get through with*. Similarly, there are many idiomatic combinations of verb and object, such as *have had it*, *make waves*, *make one's mark*, and *put one's finger on*.

Examples:

Correct: “The investigator has **given up on** determining what **happened to** the missing funds.”

Incorrect: “The investigator has **given through over** determining what **happened on** the missing funds.”

Correct: “When they checked the patient's temperature, it **turned out** that he was **running a fever**.”

Incorrect: “When they checked the patient's temperature, it **veered off** that he was **doing a fever**.”

Pronouns with no reference: English requires stated subjects in most sentences with active verb forms. Where there is no real subject, one uses specific referentless placeholder pronouns: *it* and *there*.

Examples:

Correct: “**It was raining** yesterday.”

Incorrect: “**They were raining** yesterday.”

Correct: “**There are** several reasons to prefer this theory over the proposed alternative.”

Incorrect: “**Several reasons are** to prefer this theory over the proposed alternative.”

Compound modifiers: Some adverbs and adjectives are idiomatically built out of multiple words. A few examples are: *all in all*, *by and by*, *by and large*, *on the whole*, *through and through*, *on the up and up*, and *on the other hand* (sometimes, but not always, correlated with *on the one hand*).

Examples:

Correct: “She listened to the radio **off and on** throughout the day.”

Incorrect: “She listened to the radio **off but again on** throughout the day.”

Correct: “You wondered whether anyone would mention you at the meeting; **in fact**, two people **did so**.”

Incorrect: “You wondered whether anyone would mention you at the meeting; **in the fact**, two people **did thus and so**.”

Idiom-related problems do not always involve identifying malformed idioms. Sometimes the crucial insight may involve determining which of multiple idiomatic meanings is intended or whether a phrase should be treated as an idiom or a non-idiom. The meaning of the sentence “She asked for information **on** purpose of the order I had submitted” is unclear. However, a plausible hypothesis is that the writer meant to say “Information on the purpose,” with *on* serving as an informal equivalent of *regarding*. On that reading, the apparent use of the idiom *on purpose* results from an accidental juxtaposition of the two words. Substituting a phrase such as *regarding the* for the boldface word *on* can turn this into a meaningful, well-formed sentence: “She asked for information **regarding the** purpose of the order I had submitted.”

In the following sentence, *as long as* could appear at first glance to refer to a length of time: “We should be able to restart our assembly line tomorrow **as long as receiving** the replacement parts today.” However, on that interpretation the temporal relationship does not make sense. The sentence can be made coherent by replacing *receiving* with *we receive*, but doing so requires reinterpreting the phrase *as long as* so that it functions as an idiom equivalent to *provided that*. The sentence then becomes “We should be able to restart our assembly line tomorrow **as long as we receive** the replacement parts today.”

Some complicating factors to consider:

Here are just a few of the many subtleties that one may encounter in judging whether idiomatic usages are correct and effective:

Similar phrases often have very different idiomatic uses and meanings; consider, for example, *come through with*, *come down with*, and *come up with*. Some idiomatic preposition-plus-noun phrases have alternate forms. For example, it is correct to say either “with regard to” or “in regard to.” Many idiomatic phrases have multiple meanings, which are not always similar. For example, *come out within* some contexts means *express* and in others *publish* or *begin marketing*.

For many idiomatic expressions, there are special exceptions to the standard forms. For example, *not only . . . but* phrases are standardly completed with *also*, but there are special cases in which *also* is unnecessary or misleading. This can be seen in the following sentence: “Surprisingly, the endangered species was found not only at the lowest elevations but throughout the entire valley.” If the lowest elevations referred to are in the valley, *but also* would misleadingly seem to indicate that the entire valley was a separate category rather than a more general category encompassing the lower elevations.

Words that form standard pairs, such as *neither* and *nor*, often have other meanings and uses as well. In some contexts, *neither* or *nor* might appear at first glance to need the other term. However, *neither* often occurs as an adjective (as in “Neither book has been opened”), a pronoun (as in “neither of them has been opened”), or a freestanding clause negator (as in “My supervisor is not fond of filing reports, but neither am I”). Similarly, *nor* can occur without *neither* (as in “None of the strata in the escarpment were fractured in the earthquake, nor were any of the exposed formations displaced”).

Some issues that are not tested:

GMAT Sentence Correction questions neither assess nor presuppose knowledge of obsolete forms of idiomatic expression, highly specialized technical jargon, distinctive dialect constructions, or slang idioms that have not become standard forms of expression.

Logical Predication

Correct grammar is by no means the only type of structural relationship that matters for effective communication. Logical relationships among sentence elements are also crucial. A writer may accidentally structure a completely grammatical sentence in a way that has unintended meanings or implications. Issues of logical predication intersect with all the other categories discussed here and are involved in many of the Sentence Correction questions. Here are a few ways in which they may occur:

Position and scope of modifiers: Modifiers should be positioned so it is clear what word or words they are meant to modify. If modifiers are not positioned clearly, they can cause illogical references or comparisons or otherwise distort the meaning of the sentence.

Examples:

Correct: “I put **the cake that I baked** by the door.”

Incorrect: “I put the cake by **the door that I baked.**”

Although the better-worded version contains the potentially ambiguous phrase *I baked by the door*, the meaning is made clear by the fact that *put the cake* requires completion by an indication of where or how the cake was put. Therefore, *by the door* binds to the verb *put*.

Correct: “**Concerned that the snake might be venomous, the workers** left it in the crate untouched.”

Incorrect: “**Concerned that it might be venomous, the snake** was left untouched by **the workers in the crate.**”

Pronoun-antecedent relationships: A misplaced pronoun can bind to the wrong noun, pronoun, or noun phrase and thus create an unintended meaning.

Examples:

Correct: “The baker informed the customers **that the cakes were moldy** and would have to be discarded.”

Incorrect: “The baker informed **the customers that they were moldy** and the cakes would have to be discarded.”

Correct: “**After reviewing** the report from the consultants, **the company** may consider changing the logo.”

Incorrect: “**After it has reviewed** the report from the consultants, **the logo** may be considered for changing by the company.”

Compatibility of concepts: Careless wording can cause a predicate to say something inconsistent with the nature of the subject and vice versa.

Examples:

Correct: “The **three types** of wildlife most often seen in the park are sparrows, mallards, and squirrels, **in that order.**”

Incorrect: “The **single** most often **type** of wildlife seen in the park is the sparrow, the mallard, and the squirrel, **in that order.**”

Correct: “Stock prices **rose** abruptly today **to an all-time high.**”

Incorrect: “Stock prices **dropped** abruptly today **to an all-time high.**”

Ellipses and extraneous elements: Omission of a crucial word or phrase or inclusion of an extraneous element can shift the subject to an unintended element while leaving the sentence grammatically well formed. Accidents of this sort can also make an unintended noun or pronoun the subject or object of a verb.

Examples:

Correct: “Work on the stadium renovations **is temporarily at** a standstill.”

Incorrect: “Work on the stadium renovations **is temporarily** a standstill.”

Here the omission of *at* causes the sentence to make an illogical claim about the work (that it is a standstill).

Correct: “**The car was traveling** slowly along the highway.”

Incorrect: “**The car’s speed was traveling** slowly along the highway.”

The redundant reference to speed causes this sentence to say, absurdly, that the speed was traveling along the highway.

Reversed relationships: An unintended meaning can result from accidentally or misguidedly reversing a relationship between sentence elements.

Examples:

Correct: “Last week’s unusually high sales of electric fans can almost certainly be **blamed on** the unseasonably hot weather.”

Incorrect: “Last week’s unusually high sales of electric fans can almost certainly be **blamed for** the unseasonably hot weather.”

(This also involves an issue of idiomatic usage of prepositions (discussed under the Idiom category above).

Correct: “**Forecasters said the cold front** will move through the region tomorrow.”

Incorrect: “**Forecasters, said the cold front,** will move through the region tomorrow.”

Ambiguous words and phrases: Writers should be cautious in using words or phrases that have multiple standard meanings. Often the context makes it clear which meaning is intended, but sometimes it does not. Paraphrasing to rule out unwanted meanings can sometimes require adding words or increasing the structural complexity of a sentence.

Examples:

Correct: “She has studied Greek and **speaks** that language **in addition to** Gujarati.”

Incorrect: “She has studied Greek and **speaks** it **as well as** Gujarati.”

As well as is an entirely acceptable equivalent of *and also* or *in addition to*, but it can be an unfortunate choice of words for a context in which *well* makes perfect sense as an evaluative judgment. Since there is no firm basis for deciding which way the latter version is intended, an alternate correct version could be “She has studied Greek and speaks it as well as she speaks Gujarati.”

Correct: “Although visitors **are not permitted to** enter the loading docks, they **might** occasionally wander into the area.”

Incorrect: “Although visitors **may not** enter the loading docks, they **may** occasionally wander into the area.”

Here again, there is no firm basis for deciding which way the latter version is intended. In the incorrect version, both occurrences of *may* could mean either *are permitted to* or *might*.

Few incorrect answers in actual Sentence Correction questions will be as easy to dismiss as the most obvious of these illustrative examples. Most logical predication decisions will require careful analysis of the relationships between the answer choice and the nonunderlined portions of the sentence. Be alert for all types of problematic relationships among sentence parts, not just for stereotypical dangling modifiers.

Some complicating factors:

Given that all Sentence Correction questions are presented out of context, there may be no basis for certainty about which of several possible interpretations the writer intended to convey. You will not be given multiple equally good versions of a sentence and asked to guess which one accurately represents the writer’s true intention. In principle, almost any illogically constructed sentence could be intended to convey a bizarre meaning. One could hypothesize that the writer of the first example under *Position and scope of modifiers* really did intend to say that she or he had baked the door. Even on that hypothesis, the most reasonable judgment for Sentence Correction purposes would be that the sentence is poorly constructed. A careful writer who wants to convey a straightforward message should make it clear that the unusual meaning is the intended one instead of leading the reader to believe that she or he is ineptly trying to convey the more plausible meaning.

Some issues that are not tested:

Occasionally, you may find a poorly worded version of a sentence amusing. However, you should not expect to see Sentence Correction sentences that can be most charitably interpreted as jokes. Among the answer choices, there will always be a serious way of resolving ambiguities and illogical meanings.

Parallelism

Words or phrases that have similar roles in a sentence should be treated in ways that make the similarity clear. This often requires ensuring that parallel clauses have parallel structure, that verbs having the same function are in the same form, and that elements within the scope of a modifier all relate to the modifier in the same way. Here are some major categories in which parallelism can be an issue:

Elements of a series: Where the elements of a series all have the same role or function, they should be in parallel form.

Examples:

Correct: “I **ate** supper, **went** for a walk, and then **visited** some friends.”

Incorrect: “I **ate** supper, then **walking**, and then **visitation** of some friends.”

Correct: “She tackled the problem **calmly**, **efficiently**, and **analytically**.”

Incorrect: “She tackled the problem **calmly**, **by being efficient in tackling it**, and **was analytic**.”

In both these examples, the nonparallel version is also awkward and wordy. Problems of these types are further discussed under the category of rhetorical construction.

Correlations and comparisons: The sides of a correlative structure often need parallel treatment to make the relationship clear and accurate.

Examples:

Correct: “We are neither **planning to** hire any new developers nor **trying to** find ways to reduce the workloads of the current staff.”

Incorrect: “We are planning neither **to hire** any new developers nor **attempts at finding ways to** reduce workloads of the current staff.”

Correct: “We were impressed not only **by the** beauty of the inlets and beaches but also **by the** diversity of the plant life.”

Incorrect: “We were impressed not only **by the** beauty of the inlets and beaches but also **the diversity** of the plant life **impressed us**.”

Issues of scope and repetition of elements: To determine what elements of a sentence should be made parallel to each other, it is sometimes necessary to determine how much of the wording should fall within the scope of a verb, preposition, or modifier. The scope may determine which elements need to be in parallel form and whether certain elements need to be repeated. Issues of this type overlap with those illustrated above.

Examples:

Correct: “He mended the torn fabric with **a needle and thread**.”

Incorrect: “He **mended** the torn fabric **with a needle** and **mended** it **with thread**.”

Assuming that the needle and thread were used together as a unit, the repetition of *with* misrepresents the relationship. In the correct version, the parallelism is between the two nouns, which are both within the scope of *mended with*. In the incorrect version, the parallelism is between the two verb phrases *mended with . . .* and *mended with . . .*

Correct: “He **punched holes** in the decoration **with a needle** and **tied** it to the lamp **with thread**.”

Incorrect: “He **punched holes** in and **tied** the decoration to the lamp with **a needle and thread**.”

Correct: “The house that was **on fire** was **on the list** of historically significant buildings.”
 Incorrect: “The house was **on fire and the list** of historically significant buildings.”

On functions so differently in the two phrases that it makes no sense to subsume both the fire and the list under a single occurrence of the preposition. Therefore, we need the repetition of *on*.

Correct: “The mixture contains **dates, raisins, and figs**.”
 Incorrect: “The mixture **contains** dates, **contains** raisins, and **contains** figs.”

The correct version has a parallelism among the three objects of the verb *contains*. In the incorrect version, the verb is awkwardly repeated, creating an unnecessary parallelism among three verb phrases. This also displays a problem of rhetorical construction.

Corresponding series: Where the elements of one series are supposed to correspond to those of another series, the order of elements in each series should parallel the order of elements in the other. This parallelism can help prevent confusion about how the two series relate to each other without using cumbersome repetition.

Example:

Correct: “Last week we had four meetings, of which the **first, second, and third** were on **Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday** and the last on Friday.”

Incorrect: “Last week we had four meetings, of which the last was on Friday, with the **first, second, and third** being on **Thursday, Tuesday, and Wednesday**.”

Grammatical considerations: Some requirements of parallelism, including some of those illustrated above, are also requirements of grammatical construction.

Examples:

Correct: “If **the warranty has expired, we will have to pay** for the repairs.”

Incorrect: “If **the warranty has expired, our paying** for the repairs.” In the correct version, the two sides of the conditional are parallel in that each is a complete clause with a subject and predicate.

Correct: “**The shipping delays** and **the two-day closure** have caused a backlog of orders.”

Incorrect: “**The shipping delays** and **we were closed** for two days have caused a backlog of orders.” To function properly as subjects of *have caused*, both of the stated causes need to be in the form of noun phrases.

Some complicating factors:

Problems of idiomatic structure and of logical predication sometimes involve parallelism as well. The following sentence displays all three: “Not only the CEO, and also the executive vice president’s proposed policies, have been distributed to the relevant people in middle management.” In presenting a faulty parallelism between the *not only* term and the *and also* term, it appears illogically to claim that the CEO has been distributed. It also falls short of the clarity that could be achieved with a more standardly idiomatic *not only . . . but also* structure.

Agreement, as discussed under that heading above, represents a special kind of parallelism. For example, where a singular noun and a pronoun refer to the same thing, the two terms should be parallel in both being singular, and when a verb has a plural subject, the two should be parallel in both being plural. However, in the Sentence Correction classification scheme, agreement is treated as a distinct category. Thus, agreement-related answer explanations in section 5.9 of this book will not automatically carry the parallelism label as well.

Some issues that are not tested:

Sentence Correction questions do not require decisions about purely aesthetic or decorative types of parallelism. For example, you will not be asked to decide whether a rhymed pair such as *highways and byways* would be preferable to another phrase that is equivalent in meaning and function.

Rhetorical Construction

A sentence that is grammatically and idiomatically correct and conforms to good standards of parallelism and logical predication may still be unclear or annoying or may appear ineptly written. Rhetorical construction problems arise in many ways, including the following.

Economy of wording: Superfluous words or unneeded punctuation, pointless redundancies, or convoluted structures that do not enhance precision and adequacy of detail can make a sentence confusing or simply annoying.

Examples:

Correct: “Bananas are almost always harvested green and allowed to ripen in transit or on supermarket shelves.”

Incorrect: “With regard to the ways in which people harvest bananas, people almost always harvest such fruits—fruits of the banana variety—in a green condition, and since the thus-harvested bananas have a low ripeness level, people allow these unripe future-delectable-golden morsels to do their ripening while traveling ensconced in cargo devices after harvest, or even when, after transit, they have landed serenely on supermarket shelves.”

Correct: “We will carefully review your memo and let you know whether we are interested in the solutions you propose.”

Incorrect: “We will “review”—i.e., carefully scrutinize—your memo submitted, letting you know, vis-à-vis the memo’s contained proposal details, whether there is interest, on our part, or not, in those.”

Precision and adequacy of detail: Wording that is too vague, sparse, indeterminate, or incomplete can fail to effectively communicate the intended message. Precision often requires the inclusion of details and qualifying phrases. How much specificity and qualification are required depends on the purpose of the communication. Scientific and legal contexts, for example, often require far more precision than do casual communications between friends.

Examples:

Correct: “In medical diagnosis, influenza can be understood as an acute respiratory infection caused by any of the influenza viruses.”

Incorrect: “In medical diagnosis, influenza can be understood as when a virus affects you.”

Correct: “The contractor shall deliver the completed materials, as defined in Section 5 of this agreement, no later than the thirtieth calendar day after the date on which the signed and ratified contract is distributed to the contracting parties.”

Incorrect: “The contractor shall finish taking the actions for relevant agreement sections in a month of distribution and related events.”

The latter version of this sentence is indisputably badly constructed and very vague. The judgment that the former version is acceptable is based on the adequacy of the wording for the apparently intended purpose, but there is no way to tell, without background information, whether it refers to the right agreement section or delivery deadline.

Active and passive voice: The better-worded version of the “banana” sentence above uses passive verbs (*are harvested and [are] allowed*). Passive voice is a means of bringing the object of a verb into the subject position. It can sometimes be more straightforward and economical than active voice where the cause of an effect is unknown or irrelevant. However, passive-voice constructions are often objectionably vague, awkward, or indirect.

Examples:

Correct: “We **had** lunch in the hotel and then **spent** the afternoon **looking** at paintings and sculptures in the museum.”

Incorrect: “Lunch **was had** in the hotel **by** us before the afternoon **was spent** in the museum where there were paintings and sculptures **being looked at**.”

Correct: “The fruits **are left** to dry for two weeks and then **collected, sorted, and packaged** for shipment.”

Incorrect: “**Relevant people leave** the fruits to dry for two weeks, and then **people, devices, and systems collect** and sort them and package them before **someone or something ships** them.”

Other types of awkwardness and inelegance: Problems of rhetorical construction take many different forms, some of which do not fall neatly into standard categories.

Examples:

Correct: “As expected, she did the job very well.”

Incorrect: “Expectedly, the goodness of her doing the job was considerable.”

Correct: “She hoped that humans would be able to explore some of the planets in other solar systems.”

Incorrect: “Her hope was for other solar systems’ planets’ possible human exploration.”

Some complicating factors:

Because rhetorical construction is one of the points tested in Sentence Correction, some people might be tempted to guess that shorter answer choices are a safer bet than longer ones. Wordiness is a stereotypical feature of some inelegant writing, and teachers and writing coaches often emphasize conciseness as a goal. Conversely, some might guess that a longer version or one with more qualifiers and caveats is more likely correct. No such guessing strategy is justified. Sentence Correction questions are designed to represent a wide range of issues. Highly professional expert question writers and test assemblers would be extremely unlikely to create predictable patterns that could be exploited in guessing. There is simply no substitute for careful analysis and understanding of the content of each question and answer choice.

Some issues that are not tested:

Sentence Correction questions do not require judgments about rhetorical appropriateness that depend on knowledge of highly technical or specialized vocabulary or syntax. Similarly, you should not expect to see questions for which the deciding factor is merely whether the writer uses jargon or buzzwords. For example, you would not be asked to determine whether *contact* might be preferable to *reach out to*—or whether *sunsetting* might be an effective substitute for *phasing out*—in a sentence such as: “I will reach out to various stakeholders to leverage decisions about the timeframe for phasing out the product.”

Verb Form

Verbs should be in the right tenses and moods and should have the right relationships to other verbs. Uses of infinitives and participles should follow standard conventions so that the intended meanings are clear. Some of the problems posed in Sentence Correction questions involve choices among verb tenses, but many are concerned with other verb-form issues. Here are some categories in which verb-form problems may occur:

Temporal relationships: Because Sentence Correction questions are presented without any context, it is sometimes impossible to tell when they were written or whether the events they refer to were in the past, present, or future from the writer's point of view. Therefore, to the extent that verb tenses are at issue, they are often a matter of internal coherence of the parts of the sentence.

Examples:

Correct: "Chili peppers **belong** to the Solanaceae family of flowering plants."

Incorrect: "Chili peppers **are belonging** to the Solanaceae family of flowering plants."

The present progressive form is used unidiomatically in the incorrect version. That form indicates that the event or condition referred to is ongoing at the time of writing and may not continue. The simple present form *belong* is coherent with the permanence and timelessness of the stated fact.

Correct: "I am looking forward to my stay in Tianjin, a city that I **have never visited** before."

Incorrect: "I am looking forward to my stay in Tianjin, a city that I **will never visited** before."

In the correct version, the present perfect form *have never visited* effectively describes the writer's relationship to unspecified times in the past. In the incorrect version, the future form *will* is incompatible with the past-looking perspective indicated by *before* and *visited*.

Correct: "When the researcher **begins** the next phase of the experiment, she **will have been working** on the experiment for six weeks."

Incorrect: "When the researcher **will begin** the next phase of the experiment, she **had been working** on the experiment for six weeks."

The simple present, as used in the correct version, is the appropriate way in English to express a future event on which another future event is predicated. One could similarly use the present perfect *has begun*, which would have a slightly different nuance of meaning. In the incorrect version, *when . . . will begin* is unidiomatic, and the past perfect *had been working* makes no sense in this future context.

Correct: "When I **arrived** at the office, my colleagues **had** already **left**."

Incorrect: "When I **arrived** at the office, my colleagues **will** already **have been leaving**."

In the correct version, the past perfect form *had left* clearly indicates that the action of leaving was already completed at the past time referred to by the simple past form *arrived*. In the incorrect version, the future perfect progressive form makes no sense in relation to the overall past setting established by the verb *arrived*.

Conditionals and subjunctives: Conditional verb forms referring to conjectural or counterfactual events are typically created with the auxiliary *would*. *Would* constructions often require the antecedent (the "if" clause) to be in subjunctive form, but subjunctives have other purposes as well. Although English uses subjunctives less commonly than do some other languages, such forms are sometimes needed to clarify the meaning of a sentence. They appear in prescriptive and conjectural contexts and make

no commitment to whether an action will occur. Consider the difference between the following two sentences: “It is important that he eats high-calorie meals.” “It is important that he eat high-calorie meals.” The former presupposes that the person actually does eat such meals, and it says that the fact that he does so is important. Using the subjunctive form, the latter prescribes his eating high-calorie meals but makes no commitment to whether he actually does so. For some persons and tenses, the subjunctive is indistinguishable from the past or some other indicative forms.

Examples:

Correct: “If the piano **needed** tuning, I would pay to have that done, but I don’t believe it needs tuning.”
 Incorrect: “When the piano **will need** tuning, I would pay to have that done, but I don’t believe it needs tuning.”

Correct: “**Were the piano** out of tune, **I would pay** to have it tuned.”

Incorrect: “**The piano be** out of tune, **I pay** to have it tuned.”

Correct: “If the piano **is** out of tune, I **will pay** to have it tuned.”

Incorrect: “If the piano **were** out of tune, I **am going to pay** to have it tuned.”

Auxiliary verbs: English uses auxiliary verbs for many purposes, some of which are mentioned in the discussions of temporal relationships and conditionals above. For effective communication, the use of auxiliary verbs should conform to standard conventions.

Examples:

Correct: “**Does the professor teach** that course often?”

Incorrect: “**Teaches** the professor that course often?”

In contemporary English, interrogative forms of most verbs are created using appropriate forms of the auxiliary verb *to do*. The simple inversion of subject and verb seen in the incorrect version is an obsolete form.

Correct: “We **cannot** find the website you recommended.”

Incorrect: “We **do not can** find the website you recommended.”

Can is a modal verb whose negative and interrogative forms are not created with *do*. Furthermore, *can* is one of a few verbs that have no infinitive form; its infinitive is expressed by a phrase such as *to be able*.

Correct: “The new book **might** turn out **to be** a best seller.”

Incorrect: “The new book **might will** turn out **being** a best seller.”

Treatment of participles, gerunds, and infinitives: Present participles (such as *finding* and *taking*) are used with the verb *to be* to express progressive verb forms (*is finding*, *had been taking*). They also function as modifiers in phrases such as “He bought the book, hoping he would like it” and as nouns in phrases such as “his buying the book was unexpected.” When used as nouns, they are known as gerunds. Past participles (such as *found* and *taken*) are used with the verb *to have* to express perfect verb forms (*has found*, *will have taken*). They also function as adjectives in phrases such as “The book published last year” and “The plant is withered.” The infinitive form is used for verbs that are modified by other verbs. With some modifying verbs, the infinitive must be preceded by *to*. With other verbs (certain modal and auxiliary verbs) it must not. With yet others (such as *help*, *go*, and *need*) it can be used either with or without *to*. Infinitives can be treated as nouns, serving as subjects or objects of verbs, as in “to laugh at one’s own mistakes can be therapeutic.”

Examples:

Correct: “**Having** nowhere else to go, **I wandered** through the airport all day.”

Incorrect: “**My having** nowhere else to go **wandered** through the airport all day.”

In that the incorrect version makes *having* the subject of *wandered*, it also exemplifies a problem of logical predication (discussed under that heading above).

Correct: “**Widely disliked**, the software went unused.”

Incorrect: “**To have widely disliked it**, the software went unused.”

Like the one above, this example contains a problem of both verb form and logical predication.

Correct: “You **must make** the reservation at least two days in advance.”

Incorrect: “You **must to make** the reservation at least two days in advance.”

Correct: “My colleague **went to find** another microphone.”

Incorrect: “My colleague **went find** another microphone.”

Although such expressions as *go find* and *go get* are standard, they are unidiomatic in affirmative past tenses, which require the preposition *to* with the infinitive (“went to find”).

Some complicating factors to consider:

English verb forms and surrounding idiomatic wording conventions have many peculiarities and nuances. The following are reminders of just a few such complications.

It is important to keep in mind that the subtleties of how English tenses are used cannot always be inferred from the names of the tenses. For example, in some other European languages, actions that are currently occurring are indicated by the simple present tense. English typically uses the present progressive form for that purpose, as in “The dog is barking” or “The car is running.” The simple present tense in English is typically reserved instead for events and conditions that occur at indefinite or unspecified times or that recur, as in “Dogs bark for various reasons” or “The car runs on unleaded fuel.”

“Going to (do or happen)” is a standard way of expressing the future tense, but unlike in French, there is no parallel form “coming from (doing or happening).” To indicate that an action was recently completed, English uses the idiom *has/have/had just*, as in “I had just finished composing the email.”

The preposition *to* has many different uses in combination with verbs. These differences can sometimes lead to ambiguous constructions and potential confusion. Stereotypically, *to* before a verb is thought of as an infinitive marker, but it can also indicate purpose or intention. Thus, for example, “I need your truck to haul the boxes” is indeterminate between two meanings. More precise expressions of these could be “I need your truck so that I can haul the boxes” and “It is essential for me that your truck haul the boxes.” The latter may seem very formal but could be appropriate where precision is needed. *To* with a verb can also be prescriptive, as in “The borrower is to pay a fine if the materials are not returned by the due date,” or simply predictive, as in “The visitors are to arrive soon.” It can even express a past tense in a construction such as “but I was never to see him again” or “she was the last one to leave the building.”

Shall also has multiple meanings. As a simple future-tense indicator, it is an alternative to *will* for first person verbs (“I shall tell you about it tomorrow”). However, it can also be used prescriptively, similarly to *must*, as in “The borrower shall pay a fine if the materials are not returned by the due date.”

Some issues that are not tested:

You may hear that some usage advisors object to placing anything between *to* and an infinitive verb, as in “To finally reach the destination.” You should not expect to see Sentence Correction questions for which the deciding factor is merely whether the writer follows this advice. However, you might encounter a sentence that is awkward and unclear because too many words—or words that would go better elsewhere—are crammed in between the preposition and the verb. This occurs in the following sentence: “I try to remember to scrupulously every day before I leave work log off my computer.” This is an issue of general unclarity and inelegance falling under the heading of rhetorical construction, and not a mere case of “split infinitive.”

5.3 Study Suggestions

There are two basic ways you can study for sentence correction questions:

- **Read material that reflects standard usage.**

One way to gain familiarity with the basic conventions of standard written English is simply to read. Suitable material will usually be found in good magazines and nonfiction books, editorials in outstanding newspapers, and the collections of essays used by many college and university writing courses.

- **Review basic rules of grammar and practice with writing exercises.**

Begin by reviewing the grammar rules laid out in this chapter. Then, if you have school assignments (such as essays and research papers) that have been carefully evaluated for grammatical errors, it may be helpful to review the comments and corrections.

5.4 What Is Measured

Sentence correction questions test three broad aspects of language proficiency:

- **Correct expression**

A correct sentence is grammatically and structurally sound. It conforms to all the rules of standard written English, including noun-verb agreement, noun-pronoun agreement, pronoun consistency, pronoun case, and verb tense sequence. A correct sentence will not have dangling, misplaced, or improperly formed modifiers; unidiomatic or inconsistent expressions; or faults in parallel construction.

- **Effective expression**

An effective sentence expresses an idea or relationship clearly and concisely as well as grammatically. This does not mean that the choice with the fewest and simplest words is necessarily the best answer. It means that there are no superfluous words or needlessly complicated expressions in the best choice.

- **Proper diction**

An effective sentence also uses proper diction. (Diction refers to the standard dictionary meanings of words and the appropriateness of words in context.) In evaluating the diction of a sentence, you must be able to recognize whether the words are well chosen, accurate, and suitable for the context.

5.5 Test-Taking Strategies

1. Read the entire sentence carefully.

Try to understand the specific idea or relationship that the sentence should express.

2. Evaluate the underlined passage for errors and possible corrections before reading the answer choices.

This strategy will help you discriminate among the answer choices. Remember, in some cases the underlined passage is correct.

3. Read each answer choice carefully

The first answer choice always repeats the underlined portion of the original sentence. Choose this answer if you think that the sentence is best as originally written, but do so only after examining all the other choices.

4. Try to determine how to correct what you consider to be wrong with the original sentence.

Some of the answer choices may change things that are not wrong, whereas others may not change everything that is wrong.

5. Make sure that you evaluate the sentence and the choices thoroughly.

Pay attention to general clarity, grammatical and idiomatic usage, economy and precision of language, and appropriateness of diction.

6. Read the whole sentence, substituting the choice that you prefer for the underlined passage.

A choice may be wrong because it does not fit grammatically or structurally with the rest of the sentence. Remember that some sentences will require no correction. When the given sentence requires no correction, choose the first answer.

5.6 Section Instructions

Go to www.mba.com/tutorial to view instructions for the section and get a feel for what the test center screens will look at on the actual GMAT exam.

To register for the GMAT exam go to www.mba.com

5.7 Sample Questions

Each of the sentence correction questions presents a sentence, part of or all of which is underlined. Beneath the sentence you will find five ways of phrasing the underlined part. The first of these repeats the original; the other four are different. Follow the requirements of standard written English to choose your answer, paying attention to grammar, word choice, and sentence construction. Select the answer that produces the most effective sentence; your answer should make the sentence clear, exact, and free of grammatical error. It should also minimize awkwardness, ambiguity, and redundancy.

*SC01545

200. With respect to most species of animals, they are evenly divided in right- or left-handedness, unlike humans.
- (A) With respect to most species of animals, they are evenly divided in right- or left-handedness, unlike humans.
- (B) With respect to right- or left-handedness, most species of animals are evenly divided, unlike in humans.
- (C) Unlike humans, most species of animals are evenly divided with respect to right- or left-handedness.
- (D) Unlike in humans, most species of animals with respect to right- or left-handedness are evenly divided.
- (E) Unlike humans, with respect to right- or left-handedness, in most species of animals it is evenly divided.

SC07435

201. Using digital enhancements of skull fragments from five prehistoric hominids dating to more than 350,000 years ago, anthropologists argue that these human ancestors probably had hearing similar to that of people today.
- (A) anthropologists argue that these human ancestors
- (B) anthropologists argue, so these human ancestors
- (C) anthropologists argue, these human ancestors
- (D) these human ancestors, anthropologists argue,
- (E) these human ancestors are argued by anthropologists to have

SC14890

202. The interior minister explained that one of the village planning proposal's best characteristics was their not detracting from the project's overall benefit by being a burden on the development budget.
- (A) one of the village planning proposal's best characteristics was their not detracting
- (B) one of the village's planning proposal's best characteristics were its not taking
- (C) one of the best characteristics of the village's planning proposal was that it did not detract
- (D) a best characteristic of the village planning proposal was, it did not take
- (E) among the village planning proposal's best characteristics, one was, it did not detract

SC02940

203. Like ants, termites have an elaborate social structure in which a few individuals reproduce and the rest are serving the colony by tending juveniles, gathering food, building the nest, or they battle intruders.
- (A) are serving the colony by tending juveniles, gathering food, building the nest, or they battle
- (B) are serving the colony in that they tend juveniles, gather food, build the nest, or battle
- (C) serve the colony, tending juveniles, gathering food, building the nest, or by battling
- (D) serve the colony by tending juveniles, gathering food, by building the nest, or by battling
- (E) serve the colony by tending juveniles, gathering food, building the nest, or battling

*These numbers correlate with the online test bank question number. See the GMAT Verbal Review Online Index in the back of this book.

SC01519

204. Global warming is said to be responsible for extreme weather changes, which, like the heavy rains that caused more than \$2 billion in damages and led to flooding throughout the state of California, and the heat wave in the northeastern and midwestern United States, which was also the cause of a great amount of damage and destruction.
- (A) which, like the heavy rains that caused more than \$2 billion in damages and led to flooding throughout the state of California,
- (B) which, like the heavy rains that throughout the state of California caused more than \$2 billion in damages and led to flooding,
- (C) like the heavy flooding that, because of rains throughout the state of California, caused more than \$2 billion in damages,
- (D) such as the heavy flooding that led to rains throughout the state of California causing more than \$2 billion in damages,
- (E) such as the heavy rains that led to flooding throughout the state of California, causing more than \$2 billion in damages,

SC02548

205. Hundreds of species of fish generate and discharge electric currents, in bursts or as steady electric fields around their bodies, using their power either to find and attack prey, to defend themselves, or also for communicating and navigating.
- (A) either to find and attack prey, to defend themselves, or also for communicating and navigating
- (B) either for finding and attacking prey, defend themselves, or for communication and navigation
- (C) to find and attack prey, for defense, or communication and navigation
- (D) for finding and attacking prey, to defend themselves, or also for communication and navigation
- (E) to find and attack prey, to defend themselves, or to communicate and navigate

SC05367

206. Native to South America, when peanuts were introduced to Africa by Portuguese explorers early in the sixteenth century they were quickly adopted into Africa's agriculture, probably because of being so similar to the Bambarra groundnut, a popular indigenous plant.
- (A) when peanuts were introduced to Africa by Portuguese explorers early in the sixteenth century they were quickly adopted into Africa's agriculture, probably because of being
- (B) peanuts having been introduced to Africa by Portuguese explorers early in the sixteenth century and quickly adopted into Africa's agriculture, probably because of being
- (C) peanuts were introduced to Africa by Portuguese explorers early in the sixteenth century and were quickly adopted into Africa's agriculture, probably because they were
- (D) peanuts, introduced to Africa by Portuguese explorers early in the sixteenth century and quickly adopted into Africa's agriculture, probably because they were
- (E) peanuts, introduced to Africa by Portuguese explorers early in the sixteenth century and having been quickly adopted into Africa's agriculture, probably because they were

SC03552

207. It stood twelve feet tall, weighed nine thousand pounds, and wielded seven-inch claws, and *Megatherium americanum*, a giant ground sloth, may have been the largest hunting mammal ever to walk the Earth.
- (A) It stood twelve feet tall, weighed nine thousand pounds, and wielded seven-inch claws, and *Megatherium americanum*, a giant ground sloth,
- (B) It stood twelve feet tall, weighing nine thousand pounds, and wielding seven-inch claws, *Megatherium americanum* was a giant ground sloth and
- (C) The giant ground sloth *Megatherium americanum*, having stood twelve feet tall, weighing nine thousand pounds, and wielding seven-inch claws, it
- (D) Standing twelve feet tall, weighing nine thousand pounds, and wielding seven-inch claws, *Megatherium americanum*, a giant ground sloth,
- (E) Standing twelve feet tall, weighing nine thousand pounds, it wielded seven-inch claws, and the giant ground sloth *Megatherium americanum*

SC04083

208. Studying skeletons unearthed near Rome, DNA evidence was recovered by scientists, who were able to deduce from this that an epidemic of malaria struck in the empire's waning days.

- (A) Studying skeletons unearthed near Rome, DNA evidence was recovered by scientists, who were able to deduce from this
- (B) In studying skeletons unearthed near Rome, DNA evidence was recovered by scientists, who were able to deduce from this
- (C) Scientists recovered DNA evidence from studying skeletons unearthed near Rome, being able to deduce from this
- (D) Skeletons unearthed near Rome allowed scientists to recover DNA evidence, and they were able to deduce from it
- (E) Scientists studying skeletons unearthed near Rome recovered DNA evidence from which they were able to deduce

SC01594

209. Butterflies come in more than 17,000 species, displaying a wing pattern unique to each one.

- (A) displaying a wing pattern unique to each one
- (B) displaying a unique wing pattern in each
- (C) each uniquely displaying a wing pattern
- (D) each of which displays a unique wing pattern
- (E) each of which uniquely displays a wing pattern

SC04652

210. A March 2000 Census Bureau survey showed that Mexico accounted for more than a quarter of all foreign-born residents of the United States, the largest share for any country to contribute since 1890, when about 30 percent of the country's foreign-born population was from Germany.

- (A) the largest share for any country to contribute
- (B) the largest share that any country has contributed
- (C) which makes it the largest share for any country to contribute
- (D) having the largest share to be contributed by any country
- (E) having the largest share to have been contributed by any country

SC01579

211. Recently declassified information from military satellites in orbit thousands of miles above the Earth show the planet continually bombarded by large meteoroids that explode with the power of atomic bomb blasts.

- (A) show the planet continually bombarded by
- (B) show continual bombarding of the planet by
- (C) show a continual bombardment of the planet from
- (D) shows continually that the planet is bombarded from
- (E) shows that the planet is continually bombarded by

SC04026

212. Child development specialists believe that, in confining babies much of the time to strollers, high chairs, playpens, and walkers, muscle development can be inhibited.

- (A) that, in confining babies much of the time to strollers, high chairs, playpens, and walkers, muscle development can be inhibited
- (B) that, in their confinement much of the time to strollers, high chairs, playpens, and walkers, muscle development can be inhibited in babies
- (C) that confining babies much of the time to strollers, high chairs, playpens, and walkers can inhibit muscle development
- (D) that babies, if confined much of the time to strollers, high chairs, playpens, and walkers can inhibit muscle development
- (E) that strollers, high chairs, playpens, and walkers can, if babies are confined to them much of the time, result in muscle development being inhibited

SC01482

213. Together with Key Largo National Marine Sanctuary, the John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park, the first underwater park in the United States, provide 165 square nautical miles of marine life for underwater explorers, which includes more than 500 species of fish and 55 varieties of coral.

- (A) provide 165 square nautical miles of marine life for underwater explorers, which includes
- (B) provide for underwater explorers 165 square nautical miles of marine life, which include
- (C) provide 165 square nautical miles of marine life for underwater explorers and includes
- (D) provides 165 square nautical miles of marine life for underwater explorers and including
- (E) provides underwater explorers with 165 square nautical miles of marine life, including

SC01481

214. While Hollywood makes films primarily for entertainment, the motion picture was not first developed to entertain, but it was to allow detailed analysis of animal motion.
- (A) was not first developed to entertain, but it was
 (B) was developed not first to entertain, but it was
 (C) was first developed not to entertain, but
 (D) did not first develop for entertainment, but
 (E) did not first develop for entertainment, but it was

SC01069

215. The personal income tax did not become permanent in the United States until the First World War; before that time the federal government was dependent on tariffs to be their main source of revenue.
- (A) the federal government was dependent on tariffs to be their main source of revenue
 (B) the federal government had depended on tariffs as its main source of revenue
 (C) tariffs were what the federal government was dependent on to be its main source of revenue
 (D) the main source of revenue for the federal government was dependent on tariffs
 (E) for their main source of revenue, tariffs were depended on by the federal government

SC02628

216. In 1776 Adam Smith wrote that it is young people who have “the contempt of risk and the presumptuous hope of success” needed to found new businesses.
- (A) who have
 (B) with
 (C) having
 (D) who are those with
 (E) who are the ones to have

SC04198

217. Palladium prices have soared, with Russia restricting exports and because automakers have started using it to make the huge engines in sport utility vehicles and other light trucks.
- (A) Palladium prices have soared, with Russia restricting exports and because automakers have started using
 (B) Palladium prices have soared, with Russia restricting exports, in addition to automakers that have started to use
 (C) Prices for palladium have soared as Russia has restricted exports and automakers have started using
 (D) Prices for palladium have soared as Russia has been restricting exports, in addition to automakers starting to use
 (E) Prices for palladium have soared because Russia is restricting exports, as well as automakers that have started using

SC01543

218. Variability in individual physical traits both are determined through genetic factors, environmental factors, and interaction between these factors.
- (A) both are determined through genetic factors, environmental factors, and interaction between
 (B) are both determined by genetic factors, environmental factors, as well as interaction among
 (C) both is determined by genetic factors, environmental factors, and interaction between
 (D) is determined through genetic factors, environmental factors, as well as interaction among
 (E) is determined by genetic factors, environmental factors, and interaction between

SC06613

219. In his *Uses of Enchantment* (1976), it was psychologist Bruno Bettelheim's assertion that the apparently cruel and arbitrary nature of many fairy tales actually are an instructive reflection of a child's natural and necessary "killing off" of successive phases in his or her own development.
- (A) it was psychologist Bruno Bettelheim's assertion that the apparently cruel and arbitrary nature of many fairy tales actually are
 - (B) it was the assertion of psychologist Bruno Bettelheim that what is apparently the cruel and arbitrary nature of many fairy tales actually is
 - (C) psychologist Bruno Bettelheim's assertion that what is apparently the cruel and arbitrary nature of many fairy tales actually is
 - (D) psychologist Bruno Bettelheim asserted that the apparently cruel and arbitrary nature of many fairy tales actually are
 - (E) psychologist Bruno Bettelheim asserted that the apparently cruel and arbitrary nature of many fairy tales is actually

SC06012

220. After weeks of uncertainty about the course the country would pursue to stabilize its troubled economy, officials reached a revised agreement with the International Monetary Fund, pledging the enforcement of substantially greater budget discipline as that which was originally promised and to keep inflation below ten percent.
- (A) the enforcement of substantially greater budget discipline as that which was originally promised and to keep inflation below ten percent
 - (B) the enforcement of substantially greater budget discipline than originally promised and keeping inflation below the ten percent figure
 - (C) to enforce substantially greater budget discipline than originally promised and to keep inflation below ten percent
 - (D) to enforce substantially greater budget discipline than that which was originally promised and keeping inflation less than the ten percent figure
 - (E) to enforce substantially greater budget discipline as that which was originally promised and to keep inflation less than ten percent

SC01596

221. A new satellite sweeping over the poles at altitudes of up to 32,000 miles is called POLAR, giving scientists their best look yet at the magnetosphere, the region of space under the invisible influence of Earth's magnetic field.
- (A) A new satellite sweeping over the poles at altitudes of up to 32,000 miles is called POLAR, giving scientists their best look yet at the magnetosphere, the region of space under the invisible influence of Earth's magnetic field.
 - (B) A new satellite called POLAR that is giving scientists their best look yet at the magnetosphere, the region of space under the invisible influence of Earth's magnetic field, sweeping over the poles at altitudes of up to 32,000 miles.
 - (C) Scientists are getting their best look yet at the magnetosphere, the region of space under the invisible influence of Earth's magnetic field, from a new satellite sweeping over the poles at altitudes of up to 32,000 miles called POLAR.
 - (D) Sweeping over the poles at altitudes of up to 32,000 miles, a new satellite called POLAR is giving scientists their best look yet at the magnetosphere, the region of space under the invisible influence of Earth's magnetic field.
 - (E) Sweeping over the poles at altitudes of up to 32,000 miles, scientists' best look yet at the magnetosphere, the region of space under the invisible influence of Earth's magnetic field, is coming from a new satellite called POLAR.

SC05787

222. The treasury market dropped in response to a decrease in the value of the dollar and to continued concern that the economy might be growing as fast as to accelerate inflation and drive interest rates higher.
- (A) that the economy might be growing as fast as
 - (B) that the economy might be growing fast enough
 - (C) with the economy's possibly growing so fast as
 - (D) with the possibility of the economy growing fast enough so as
 - (E) with the possibility of the economy possibly growing fast enough

SC03724

223. Despite a growing population, in 1998 the United States used 38 billion fewer gallons of water a day when comparing it to the period of all-time highest consumption almost 20 years earlier.
- (A) day when comparing it to the period of all-time highest consumption almost 20 years earlier
 (B) day than it did during the period of all-time highest consumption almost 20 years earlier
 (C) day than were used almost 20 years earlier, which had been the all-time high consumption
 (D) day, compared to almost 20 years earlier, that having been the all-time high consumption
 (E) day, which is in comparison to the period of all-time highest consumption almost 20 years earlier

SC01600

224. A federal advisory panel proposes expanding a national computerized file to permit law-enforcement agencies to track people under criminal investigation but have not yet been charged.
- (A) under criminal investigation but
 (B) under criminal investigation, but who
 (C) under criminal investigation, but they
 (D) who are under criminal investigation, but they
 (E) who are under criminal investigation but

SC03779

225. Analysts believe that whereas bad decisions by elected leaders can certainly hurt the economy, no administration can really be said to control or manage all of the complex and interrelated forces that determine the nation's economic strength.
- (A) no administration can really be said to control
 (B) no administration can be said that it really controls
 (C) that no administration can really be said to control
 (D) that no administration can really be said that it controls
 (E) that it cannot be said that any administration really controls

SC03146

226. Nearly unrivaled in their biological diversity, coral reefs provide a host of benefits that includes the supply of protein for people, protecting shorelines, and they contain biochemical sources for new life-saving medicines.
- (A) coral reefs provide a host of benefits that includes the supply of protein for people, protecting shorelines,
 (B) coral reefs provide a host of benefits: they supply people with protein, they protect the shorelines,
 (C) coral reefs provide a host of benefits that include supplying protein for people, as well as shoreline protection,
 (D) a coral reef provides a host of benefits; they supply protein for people, the protecting of shorelines,
 (E) a coral reef provides a host of benefits, including protein for people, protecting shorelines,

SC12367

227. Literacy opened up entire realms of verifiable knowledge to ordinary men and women having been previously considered incapable of discerning truth for themselves.
- (A) having been previously considered incapable of discerning truth for themselves
 (B) who had previously been considered incapable of discerning truth for themselves
 (C) previously considered incapable of discerning truth for himself or herself
 (D) of whom it had previously been considered they were incapable of discerning truth for themselves
 (E) who had previously been considered incapable of discerning truth for himself or herself

SC01915

228. In early Mesopotamian civilization, castor oil served not only as a laxative, but also a skin-softening lotion and it was a construction lubricant for sliding giant stone blocks over wooden rollers.
- (A) not only as a laxative, but also a skin-softening lotion and it was a construction
 (B) as not only a laxative, but also a skin-softening lotion, and it was a construction
 (C) not only as a laxative but also as a skin-softening lotion and as a construction
 (D) as not only a laxative but as a skin-softening lotion and in construction, as a
 (E) not only as a laxative, but a skin-softening lotion and in construction, a

SC06935

229. An analysis of tree bark all over the globe shows that chemical insecticides have often spread thousands of miles from where they were originally used.
- (A) that chemical insecticides have often spread thousands of miles from where they were originally used
 - (B) that chemical insecticides have spread, often thousands of miles from their original use
 - (C) chemical insecticides, having often spread thousands of miles from where they were used originally
 - (D) chemical insecticides, often spreading thousands of miles from where their original use
 - (E) chemical insecticides, often spreading thousands of miles from where they were originally used

SC02241

230. According to the Economic Development Corporation of Los Angeles County, if one were to count the Los Angeles metropolitan area as a separate nation, it would have the world's eleventh largest gross national product, that is bigger than that of Australia, Mexico, or the Netherlands.
- (A) if one were to count the Los Angeles metropolitan area as a separate nation, it would have the world's eleventh largest gross national product, that is
 - (B) if the Los Angeles metropolitan area is counted as a separate nation, it has the world's eleventh largest gross national product, that being
 - (C) if the Los Angeles metropolitan area were a separate nation, it would have the world's eleventh largest gross national product,
 - (D) were the Los Angeles metropolitan area a separate nation, it will have the world's eleventh largest gross national product, which is
 - (E) when the Los Angeles metropolitan area is counted as a separate nation, it has the world's eleventh largest gross national product, thus

SC51661.01

231. Some sociologists claim to have found a direct link from the appearance of news stories about violence to the rate of homicide.
- (A) from the appearance of news stories about violence to
 - (B) between the appearance of news stories about violence to
 - (C) between the appearance of news stories about violence and
 - (D) with the appearance of news stories about violence to
 - (E) with the appearance of news stories about violence and

SC61661.01

232. Government statistics on the size of foreign investment in real estate are inconclusive because neither federal nor state laws require disclosure of foreign ownership, and the Commerce Department, in its public tallies, does not categorize the owners.
- (A) are inconclusive because neither federal nor state laws require
 - (B) are inconclusive because neither the federal nor state laws requires
 - (C) are inconclusive because neither federal laws or state laws require
 - (D) is inconclusive because neither the federal or state laws requires
 - (E) is inconclusive because neither federal laws nor state laws require

SC81661.01

233. In the United States one of the earliest challengers of the economic principle of free trade was Alexander Hamilton, who in 1791 advocated government policies that would encourage indigenous manufacturing and to protect it from competition from British exports.
- (A) and to protect it
 - (B) but protecting it
 - (C) while protecting it
 - (D) for protecting them
 - (E) to protect them

SC71661.01

234. Desertification, a process in which the biological productivity of the land is sharply degraded by human abuse and natural phenomena, helped cause the famines that have killed hundreds of thousands in recent years.
- (A) a process in which the biological productivity of the land is sharply degraded by human abuse and natural phenomena
- (B) a process of the biological productivity of the land being sharply degraded by human abuse and natural phenomena
- (C) a process of human abuse and natural phenomena that sharply degrade the biological productivity of the land
- (D) which is the process of human abuse and natural phenomena sharply degrading the land's biological productivity
- (E) which is the process of human abuse and natural phenomena that sharply degrade the land's biological productivity

SC42661.01

235. Open to the public and operated like conventional hotels, condominium hotels permit buyers to acquire a specific room or suite, as well as a proportionate interest in the rest of the establishment.
- (A) condominium hotels permit buyers to acquire a specific room or suite, as well as
- (B) buyers are permitted to acquire a specific room or suite in a condominium hotel, as well as
- (C) a specific room or suite in condominium hotels may be acquired by buyers, as well as acquiring
- (D) condominium hotels permit buyers to acquire a specific room or suite, as well as acquiring
- (E) it is permitted for buyers to acquire a specific room or suite in a condominium hotel, as well as the acquisition of

SC52661.01

236. The methods proposed for reducing the amount of interest to be paid are not able to be used successfully without creating a problem of insufficient cash flow in the future.
- (A) are not able to be used successfully without creating a problem of insufficient cash flow in the future
- (B) are not able successfully to be used without creating a problem in the future of insufficient cash flow
- (C) cannot successfully be used without creating a future problem of insufficient cash flow
- (D) cannot be used without succeeding in creating a problem in the future of insufficient cash flow
- (E) cannot be used without succeeding in creating a future problem of insufficient cash flow

SC62661.01

237. Despite the Puritan sumptuary laws prohibiting the wearing of bright or elaborate clothing, if you had either a liberal education or an annual income of two hundred pounds one was permitted to display their material prosperity in public.
- (A) if you had either a liberal education or an annual income of two hundred pounds one was permitted to display their material prosperity in public
- (B) if one had either a liberal education or annual income of two hundred pounds one was permitted the public display of their material prosperity
- (C) having either a liberal education or annual income of two hundred pounds would allow one to publicly display their material prosperity
- (D) those with either a liberal education or an annual income of two hundred pounds were allowed to display their material prosperity in public
- (E) those having either a liberal education or annual income of two hundred pounds were permitted their public display of material prosperity

SC72661.01

238. Like Darwin and his fruitful voyage on the *Beagle*, Banks's trip with Captain Cook on the *Endeavour* inspired and shaped his remarkable career in natural science.

- (A) Like Darwin and his fruitful voyage on the *Beagle*, Banks's trip with Captain Cook on the *Endeavour* inspired and shaped his remarkable career in natural science.
- (B) Just as Darwin had a fruitful voyage on the *Beagle*, Banks's trip with Captain Cook on the *Endeavour* inspired and shaped a remarkable career as a natural scientist.
- (C) Like Darwin's fruitful voyage on the *Beagle*, Banks's trip with Captain Cook on the *Endeavour* inspired and shaped a remarkable career in natural science.
- (D) Just as Darwin's fruitful voyage on the *Beagle*, Banks sailed with Captain Cook on the *Endeavour*, inspiring and shaping his remarkable career as a natural scientist.
- (E) Like Darwin's fruitful voyage on the *Beagle*, Banks sailed with Captain Cook on the *Endeavour*, which inspired and shaped a remarkable career in natural science.

SC82661.01

239. When more and more factories move out of the cities each year, manufacturing jobs, historically the first step into the job market for the urban poor, have become fewer and fewer.

- (A) When more and more factories move out of the cities each year, manufacturing jobs, historically the first step into the job market for the urban poor, have become fewer and fewer.
- (B) At the time that more and more factories move out of the cities each year, manufacturing jobs, historically the first step into the job market for the urban poor, become less and less.
- (C) When more and more factories move out of the cities each year, then manufacturing jobs, historically the first step into the urban poor's job market, become less and less.
- (D) Since more and more factories have moved out of the cities each year, manufacturing jobs, historically the first step into the urban poor's job market, have become less and less.
- (E) As more and more factories move out of the cities each year, manufacturing jobs, historically the first step into the job market for the urban poor, become fewer and fewer.

SC92661.01

240. The thousands of volcanic islands and coral atolls of the South Seas have a total population of about four million, but the paucity of natural resources does not permit such economic development that would be needed by them to support more population.

- (A) does not permit such economic development that would be needed by them to support more population
- (B) does not permit economic development such as is needed for supporting a larger number
- (C) does not permit the economic development needed to support a larger population
- (D) do not permit the economic development needed to support a larger population
- (E) do not permit needed economic development for supporting a larger number of people

SC03661.01

241. In contrast with a dark surface and its tendency toward heat absorption, a large expanse of snow and ice reflects incoming radiation into space.

- (A) In contrast with a dark surface and its tendency toward heat absorption
- (B) Contrasted with a dark surface's tendency to absorb heat
- (C) Since it is in contrast to a dark surface and its tendency to absorb heat
- (D) Contrasted to the tendency of a dark surface to absorb heat
- (E) In contrast to a dark surface, which tends to absorb heat

SC37620.01

242. The greatest road system built in the Americas prior to the arrival of Christopher Columbus was the Incan highway, which, over 2,500 miles long and extending from northern Ecuador through Peru to southern Chile.

- (A) Columbus was the Incan highway, which, over 2,500 miles long and extending
- (B) Columbus was the Incan highway, over 2,500 miles in length, which had extended
- (C) Columbus, the Incan highway, which was over 2,500 miles in length and extended
- (D) Columbus, the Incan highway, being over 2,500 miles in length, was extended
- (E) Columbus, the Incan highway was over 2,500 miles long, extending

SC99250.01

243. Due to poaching and increased cultivation in their native habitats, researchers have determined that there are fewer than 100 Arabian leopards left in the wild, and thus the leopards are many times as rare as China's giant pandas.
- (A) Due to poaching and increased cultivation in their native habitats, researchers have determined that there are fewer than 100 Arabian leopards left in the wild, and thus the leopards are many times as rare as
- (B) Due to poaching and increased cultivation in their native habitats, there are fewer than 100 Arabian leopards left in the wild, researchers have determined, making them many times more rare than
- (C) There are fewer than 100 Arabian leopards left in the wild due to poaching and increased cultivation in their native habitats, researchers have determined, which makes the leopards many times more rare compared to
- (D) Researchers have determined that, because of poaching and increased cultivation in their native habitats, there are fewer than 100 Arabian leopards left in the wild, thus making them many more times as rare as
- (E) Researchers have determined that, because of poaching and increased cultivation in their native habitats, there are fewer than 100 Arabian leopards left in the wild, and thus the leopards are many times more rare than

SC04215

244. Developed by Pennsylvania's Palatine Germans about 1750, Conestoga wagons, with high wheels capable of crossing rutted roads, muddy flats, and the nonroads of the prairie and they had a floor curved upward on either end so as to prevent cargo from shifting on steep grades.
- (A) wagons, with high wheels capable of crossing rutted roads, muddy flats, and the nonroads of the prairie and they had a floor curved upward on either end so as to prevent
- (B) wagons, with high wheels capable of crossing rutted roads, muddy flats, and the nonroads of the prairie, and with a floor that was curved upward at both ends to prevent
- (C) wagons, which had high wheels capable of crossing rutted roads, muddy flats, and the nonroads of the prairie, and floors curved upward on their ends so that they prevented
- (D) wagons had high wheels capable of crossing rutted roads, muddy flats, and the nonroads of the prairie, and a floor that was curved upward at both ends to prevent
- (E) wagons had high wheels capable of crossing rutted roads, muddy flats, and the nonroads of the prairie and floors curving upward at their ends so that it prevented

SC60440.01

245. The current economic downturn has significantly reduced advertising income both for business journals as well as general consumer magazines, especially if focusing on technology.
- (A) has significantly reduced advertising income both for business journals as well as general consumer magazines, especially if focusing
- (B) has significantly reduced advertising income both for business journals and for general consumer magazines, especially those focusing
- (C) significantly reduced advertising income for both business journals and for general consumer magazines, especially when focused
- (D) reduced both business journals' and general consumer magazines' advertising income significantly, especially if focused
- (E) reduced advertising income significantly for both business journals, as well as for general consumer magazines, especially those focusing

SC01002

246. The reason many people consider the Mediterranean island to be ungovernable is because that the inhabitants long ago learned to distrust and neutralize all written laws.
- (A) is because that the inhabitants long ago learned to distrust and neutralize
- (B) is the inhabitants long ago learned distrusting and neutralizing
- (C) was because of the inhabitants long ago learning to distrust and to be neutralizing
- (D) is that the inhabitants long ago learned to distrust and to neutralize
- (E) was on account of the inhabitants long ago learning to distrust and neutralize

SC28801.01

247. Though there is some overlap with the two concepts *market economy* and *laissez faire*, several important differences between them must be borne in mind.
- (A) with the two concepts *market economy* and *laissez faire*, several important differences between them must be borne in mind
- (B) between the two concepts *market economy* and *laissez faire*, several important differences must be borne in mind
- (C) spanning the two concepts *market economy* and *laissez faire*, one must bear several important differences between them in mind
- (D) among the two concepts of *market economy* and *laissez faire*, there are several important differences among them that must be borne in mind
- (E) with the two concepts of *market economy* and *laissez faire*, one must bear in mind several important differences

SC71061.01

248. Because of the erratic pattern of sales increases this year, retailers and analysts hesitate to predict five-year trends in retail sales during the months that have historically been the most profitable.
- (A) Because of the erratic pattern of sales increases this year, retailers and analysts hesitate to predict
- (B) With the erratic pattern of this year's sales increases, retailers and analysts are hesitant in predicting
- (C) This year, due to the erratic pattern of increasing sales, there is some hesitation among retailers and analysts in predicting
- (D) The erratic pattern of sales increases have made retailers and analysts hesitate this year to predict
- (E) This year's erratic pattern of increasing sales have made retailers and analysts hesitate to predict

SC89941.01

249. Proceeding without a definite plan for upcoming labor negotiations, like the firm had agreed to last year, it would surely have proven to be a disaster in the face of the skilled and resolute opposition involved this time.
- (A) Proceeding without a definite plan for upcoming labor negotiations, like the firm had agreed to last year, it would surely have proven to be a disaster
- (B) Proceeding without a definite plan for upcoming labor negotiations, as the firm agreed last year to do, would surely have proven to be a disaster
- (C) Going ahead without the presence of a definite plan for upcoming labor negotiations, like the firm had agreed last year to do, would surely have proven disastrous
- (D) To proceed without the presence of a definite plan for upcoming labor negotiations, as the firm had agreed to last year, would surely have proven disastrous
- (E) Going ahead without their having a definite plan for upcoming labor negotiations, as they agreed to last year, it would surely have proven to be a disaster for the firm

SC03916

250. Because the collagen fibers in skin line up in the direction of tension, surgical cuts made along these so-called Langer's lines sever fewer fibers and is less likely to leave an unsightly scar.
- (A) Because the collagen fibers in skin line up in the direction of tension, surgical cuts made along these so-called Langer's lines sever fewer
- (B) Because the collagen fibers in skin line up in the direction of tension, a surgical cut having been made along these so-called Langer's lines severs less
- (C) Because the collagen fibers in skin line up in the direction of tension, a surgical cut made along these so-called Langer's lines severs fewer
- (D) With the collagen fibers in skin lining up in the direction of tension, surgical cuts made along these so-called Langer's lines sever less
- (E) With the collagen fibers in skin lining up in the direction of tension, a surgical cut made along these so-called Langer's lines sever fewer

SC01639

251. The completion in 1925 of the Holland Tunnel, linking Manhattan with New Jersey's highways, which permitted 2,000 cars to pass through each tube every hour and was hailed as the decade's \$48 million engineering masterpiece.
- (A) Tunnel, linking Manhattan with New Jersey's highways, which permitted 2,000 cars to pass through each tube every hour and
- (B) Tunnel, linking Manhattan with New Jersey's highways and permitting 2,000 cars to pass through each tube every hour, it
- (C) Tunnel, linking Manhattan with New Jersey's highways and permitting 2,000 cars to pass through each tube every hour,
- (D) Tunnel linked Manhattan with New Jersey's highways, which permitted 2,000 cars to pass through each tube every hour and
- (E) Tunnel linked Manhattan with New Jersey's highways, permitting 2,000 cars to pass through each tube every hour,

SC03315

252. The World Wildlife Fund has declared that global warming, a phenomenon that most scientists agree is caused by human beings' burning of fossil fuels, will create havoc among migratory birds by harming their habitats as a result of altering the environment.
- (A) by harming their habitats as a result of altering the environment
- (B) by altering the environment to the extent of it harming their habitats
- (C) by altering the environment in ways harmful to their habitats
- (D) from the fact that their habitats will be harmed by the environment being altered
- (E) from the fact that the environment will be altered and this will harm their habitats

SC05244

253. Tropical bats play an important role in the rain forest ecosystem, aiding in the dispersal of cashew, date, and fig seeds; pollinating banana, breadfruit, and mango trees; and indirectly help the producing of tequila by pollinating agave plants.
- (A) pollinating banana, breadfruit, and mango trees; and indirectly help the producing of
- (B) pollinating banana, breadfruit, and mango trees; and indirectly helping to produce
- (C) pollinating banana, breadfruit, and mango trees; and they indirectly help to produce
- (D) they pollinate banana, breadfruit, and mango trees; and indirectly help producing
- (E) they pollinate banana, breadfruit, and mango trees; indirectly helping the producing of

SC04346

254. A recent court decision has qualified a 1998 ruling that workers cannot be laid off if they have been given reason to believe that their jobs will be safe, provided that their performance remains satisfactory.
- (A) if they have been given reason to believe that their jobs will
- (B) if they are given reason for believing that their jobs would still
- (C) having been given reason for believing that their jobs would
- (D) having been given reason to believe their jobs to
- (E) given reason to believe that their jobs will still

SC04874

255. Of all the record companies involved in early jazz, the three most prominent were Columbia, Victor, and Okeh.
- (A) Of all the record companies involved in early jazz, the three most prominent were Columbia, Victor, and Okeh.
- (B) Three most prominent record companies of all the ones that were involved in early jazz were Columbia, Victor, and Okeh.
- (C) Columbia, Victor, and Okeh were, of all the record companies involved in early jazz, the three of them that were most prominent.
- (D) Columbia, Victor, and Okeh were three most prominent of all the record companies involved in early jazz.
- (E) Out of all the record companies that were involved in early jazz, three of them that were the most prominent were Columbia, Victor, and Okeh.

SC01451

256. Since 1992, in an attempt to build up the Atlantic salmon population in each of the seven rivers in which salmon still spawn, state officials in Maine have stocked them with fry raised in hatcheries from eggs produced by wild fish found in that particular river.
- (A) them
- (B) the river
- (C) the rivers
- (D) each river
- (E) that river

SC02382

257. On the tournament roster are listed several tennis students, most all of which play as good as their instructors.
- (A) most all of which play as good
- (B) most all of whom play as good
- (C) almost all of which play as well
- (D) almost all of whom play as good
- (E) almost all of whom play as well

SC07143

258. In 1974 a large area of the surface of Mercury was photographed from varying distances, which revealed a degree of cratering similar to that of the Moon's.
- (A) which revealed a degree of cratering similar to that of the Moon's
- (B) to reveal a degree of cratering similar to the Moon
- (C) revealing a degree of cratering similar to that of the Moon
- (D) and revealed cratering similar in degree to the Moon
- (E) that revealed cratering similar in degree to that of the Moon

SC05894

259. The computer company reported strong second-quarter earnings that surpassed Wall Street's estimates and announced the first in a series of price cuts intended to increase sales further.
- (A) The computer company reported strong second-quarter earnings that surpassed Wall Street's estimates and announced the first in a series of price cuts intended to increase sales further.
- (B) The report of the computer company showed strong second-quarter earnings, surpassing Wall Street's estimates, and they announced the first in a series of price cuts that they intend to increase sales further.
- (C) Surpassing Wall Street's estimates, the report of the computer company showed strong second-quarter earnings, and, for the purpose of increasing sales further, they announced the first in a series of price cuts.
- (D) The computer company reported strong second-quarter earnings, surpassing Wall Street's estimates, and announcing the first in a series of price cuts for the purpose of further increasing sales.
- (E) The computer company, surpassing Wall Street's estimates, reported strong second-quarter earnings, while announcing that to increase sales further there would be the first in a series of price cuts.

SC01562

260. Long overshadowed by the Maya and Aztec civilizations, historians are now exploring the more ancient Olmec culture for the legacy it had for succeeding Mesoamerican societies.
- (A) historians are now exploring the more ancient Olmec culture for the legacy it had for succeeding Mesoamerican societies
- (B) historians' exploration is now of the more ancient Olmec culture's legacy to the Mesoamerican societies succeeding them
- (C) the legacy of the more ancient Olmec culture to the Mesoamerican societies that succeeded them is what historians are now exploring
- (D) the more ancient Olmec culture is now being explored by historians for its legacy to succeeding Mesoamerican societies
- (E) the Olmec culture is more ancient and had a legacy to succeeding Mesoamerican societies that historians are now exploring

SC02370

261. The bank holds \$3 billion in loans that are seriously delinquent or in such trouble that they do not expect payments when due.
- (A) they do not expect payments when
- (B) it does not expect payments when it is
- (C) it does not expect payments to be made when they are
- (D) payments are not to be expected to be paid when
- (E) payments are not expected to be paid when they will be

SC01435

262. A researcher claims that a tornado of a given size and strength is likely to cause more deaths, both proportionately and in absolute numbers, in the southeastern region of the United States than in the northeastern.
- (A) A researcher claims that a tornado of a given size and strength is likely to cause more deaths, both proportionately and in absolute numbers, in the southeastern region of the United States than in the northeastern.
- (B) A researcher claims that a tornado, if of a given size and strength, is likely both proportionately and in absolute numbers to cause more deaths in the southeastern region of the United States than in the northeastern.
- (C) A researcher claims that, with a tornado of a given size and strength, it is likely to cause more death, both proportionately and in absolute numbers, in the southeastern rather than in the northeastern region of the United States.
- (D) If a tornado is of a given size and strength, a researcher claims, it is more likely, both proportionately and in absolute numbers, to cause death if it is in the southeastern region of the United States rather than in the northeastern region.
- (E) Both proportionately and in absolute numbers, a researcher claims that a tornado of a given size and strength is likely to cause more deaths in the southeastern region of the United States rather than in the northeastern.

SC04603

263. Heirloom tomatoes, grown from seeds saved from the previous year, only look less appetizing than their round and red supermarket cousins, often green and striped, or have plenty of bumps and bruises, but are more flavorful.
- (A) cousins, often green and striped, or have plenty of bumps and bruises, but are
- (B) cousins, often green and striped, or with plenty of bumps and bruises, although
- (C) cousins, often green and striped, or they have plenty of bumps and bruises, although they are
- (D) cousins; they are often green and striped, or with plenty of bumps and bruises, although
- (E) cousins; they are often green and striped, or have plenty of bumps and bruises, but they are

SC05381

264. In the textbook publishing business, the second quarter is historically weak, because revenues are low and marketing expenses are high as companies prepare for the coming school year.
- (A) low and marketing expenses are high as companies prepare
 - (B) low and their marketing expenses are high as they prepare
 - (C) low with higher marketing expenses in preparation
 - (D) low, while marketing expenses are higher to prepare
 - (E) low, while their marketing expenses are higher in preparation

SC01485

265. Because of the sharp increases in the price of gold and silver, the value of Monica Taylor's portfolio rose as her daughter-in-law's dropped.
- (A) as her daughter-in-law's dropped
 - (B) while her daughter-in-law's has dropped
 - (C) as there was a drop in her daughter-in-law's
 - (D) while that of her daughter-in-law's dropped
 - (E) as it dropped for her daughter-in-law's

SC02791

266. Ms. Chambers is among the forecasters who predict that the rate of addition to arable lands will drop while those of loss rise.
- (A) those of loss rise
 - (B) it rises for loss
 - (C) those of losses rise
 - (D) the rate of loss rises
 - (E) there are rises for the rate of loss

SC00987

267. In keeping with her commitment to her Christian faith, Sojourner Truth demonstrated as a public speaker a dedication both to the nonviolent abolition of slavery as well as for women to be emancipated.
- (A) a dedication both to the nonviolent abolition of slavery as well as for women to be emancipated
 - (B) her being dedicated to both the nonviolent abolishing of slavery as well as for women's emancipation
 - (C) a dedication to both the nonviolent abolition of slavery and the emancipation of women
 - (D) that she was dedicated both to abolishing slavery nonviolently and to emancipate women
 - (E) her dedication both to the nonviolent abolition of slavery and emancipation of women

SC01972

268. Less than 400 Sumatran rhinos survive on the Malay peninsula and on the islands of Sumatra and Borneo, and they occupy a small fraction of the species' former range.
- (A) Less than 400 Sumatran rhinos survive on the Malay peninsula and on the islands of Sumatra and Borneo, and they occupy a small fraction of the species' former range.
 - (B) Less than 400 Sumatran rhinos, surviving on the Malay peninsula and on the islands of Sumatra and Borneo, occupy a small fraction of the species' former range.
 - (C) Occupying a small fraction of the species' former range, the Malay peninsula and the islands of Sumatra and Borneo are where fewer than 400 Sumatran rhinos survive.
 - (D) Occupying a small fraction of the species' former range, fewer than 400 Sumatran rhinos survive on the Malay peninsula and on the islands of Sumatra and Borneo.
 - (E) Surviving on the Malay peninsula and on the islands of Sumatra and Borneo, less than 400 Sumatran rhinos occupy a small fraction of the species' former range.

SC11061

269. Certain pesticides can become ineffective if used repeatedly in the same place; one reason is suggested by the finding that there are much larger populations of pesticide-degrading microbes in soils with a relatively long history of pesticide use than in soils that are free of such chemicals.

- (A) Certain pesticides can become ineffective if used repeatedly in the same place; one reason is suggested by the finding that there are much larger populations of pesticide-degrading microbes in soils with a relatively long history of pesticide use than in soils that are free of such chemicals.
- (B) If used repeatedly in the same place, one reason that certain pesticides can become ineffective is suggested by the finding that there are much larger populations of pesticide-degrading microbes in soils with a relatively long history of pesticide use than in soils that are free of such chemicals.
- (C) If used repeatedly in the same place, one reason certain pesticides can become ineffective is suggested by the finding that much larger populations of pesticide-degrading microbes are found in soils with a relatively long history of pesticide use than those that are free of such chemicals.
- (D) The finding that there are much larger populations of pesticide-degrading microbes in soils with a relatively long history of pesticide use than in soils that are free of such chemicals is suggestive of one reason, if used repeatedly in the same place, certain pesticides can become ineffective.
- (E) The finding of much larger populations of pesticide-degrading microbes in soils with a relatively long history of pesticide use than in those that are free of such chemicals suggests one reason certain pesticides can become ineffective if used repeatedly in the same place.

SC11854

270. While some academicians believe that business ethics should be integrated into every business course, others say that students will take ethics seriously only if it would be taught as a separately required course.

- (A) only if it would be taught as a separately required course
- (B) only if it is taught as a separate, required course
- (C) if it is taught only as a course required separately
- (D) if it was taught only as a separate and required course
- (E) if it would only be taught as a required course, separately

SC08272

271. Whether they will scale back their orders to pre-2003 levels or stop doing business with us altogether depends on whether the changes that their management has proposed will be fully implemented.

- (A) Whether they will scale back their orders to pre-2003 levels or stop doing business with us altogether depends on whether the changes that their management has proposed will be fully implemented.
- (B) Whether they scale back their orders to pre-2003 levels or whether they discontinue their business with us altogether depends on the changes their management has proposed, if fully implemented or not.
- (C) Their either scaling back their orders in the future to pre-2003 levels, or their outright termination of business with us, depends on their management's proposed changes being fully implemented or not.
- (D) Whether they will scale back their orders to pre-2003 levels or stop doing business with us altogether depends if the changes that their management has proposed become fully implemented.
- (E) They will either scale back their orders to pre-2003 levels, or they will stop doing business with us altogether dependent on whether the changes their management has proposed will be fully implemented, or not.

SC00975

272. Until 1868 and Disraeli, Great Britain had no prime ministers not coming from a landed family.
- (A) Until 1868 and Disraeli, Great Britain had no prime ministers not coming
 - (B) Until 1868 and Disraeli, Great Britain had had no prime ministers who have not come
 - (C) Until Disraeli in 1868, there were no prime ministers in Great Britain who have not come
 - (D) It was not until 1868 that Great Britain had a prime minister—Disraeli—who did not come
 - (E) It was only in 1868 and Disraeli that Great Britain had one of its prime ministers not coming

SC02011

273. Around 1900, fishermen in the Chesapeake Bay area landed more than seventeen million pounds of shad in a single year, but by 1920, overfishing and the proliferation of milldams and culverts that have blocked shad migrations up their spawning streams had reduced landings to less than four million pounds.
- (A) that have blocked shad migrations up their spawning streams had reduced landings to less
 - (B) that blocked shad from migrating up their spawning streams had reduced landings to less
 - (C) that blocked shad from migrating up their spawning streams reduced landings to a lower amount
 - (D) having blocked shad from migrating up their spawning streams reduced landings to less
 - (E) having blocked shad migrations up their spawning streams had reduced landings to an amount lower

SC06684

274. By offering lower prices and a menu of personal communications options, such as caller identification and voice mail, the new telecommunications company has not only captured customers from other phone companies but also forced them to offer competitive prices.
- (A) has not only captured customers from other phone companies but also forced them
 - (B) has not only captured customers from other phone companies, but it also forced them
 - (C) has not only captured customers from other phone companies but also forced these companies
 - (D) not only has captured customers from other phone companies but also these companies have been forced
 - (E) not only captured customers from other phone companies, but it also has forced them

SC06132

275. After suffering \$2 billion in losses and 25,000 layoffs, the nation's semiconductor industry, which makes chips that run everything from computers and spy satellites to dishwashers, appears to have made a long-awaited recovery.
- (A) computers and spy satellites to dishwashers, appears to have
 - (B) computers, spy satellites, and dishwashers, appears having
 - (C) computers, spy satellites, and dishwashers, appears that it has
 - (D) computers and spy satellites to dishwashers, appears that it has
 - (E) computers and spy satellites as well as dishwashers, appears to have

SC04588

276. Over a range of frequencies from 100 to 5,000 hertz, monkeys and marmosets have a hearing sensitivity remarkably similar to humans, above which the sensitivity begins to differ.
- (A) Over a range of frequencies from 100 to 5,000 hertz, monkeys and marmosets have a hearing sensitivity remarkably similar to humans
 - (B) Compared to humans, the hearing sensitivity of monkeys and marmosets are remarkably similar over a range of frequencies from 100 to 5,000 hertz
 - (C) Compared to humans over a range of frequencies from 100 to 5,000 hertz, the hearing sensitivity of monkeys and marmosets is remarkably similar
 - (D) The hearing sensitivity of monkeys and marmosets, when compared to humans over a range of frequencies from 100 to 5,000 hertz, is remarkably similar
 - (E) The hearing sensitivity of monkeys, marmosets, and humans is remarkably similar over a range of frequencies from 100 to 5,000 hertz

- SC03998
277. The computer company has announced that it will purchase the color-printing division of a rival company for \$950 million, which is part of a deal that will make it the largest manufacturer in the office color-printing market.
- (A) million, which is part of a deal that will make
 (B) million, a part of a deal that makes
 (C) million, a part of a deal making
 (D) million as a part of a deal to make
 (E) million as part of a deal that will make
- SC03289
278. Kudzu, an Asian vine that has grown rampantly in the southern United States since introducing it in the 1920s to thwart soil erosion, has overrun many houses and countless acres of roadside.
- (A) that has grown rampantly in the southern United States since introducing it in the 1920s to thwart
 (B) that has grown rampantly in the southern United States, since it was introduced in the 1920s for thwarting
 (C) that has grown rampant in the southern United States since it was introduced in the 1920s to thwart
 (D) growing rampant in the southern United States since introducing it in the 1920s for thwarting
 (E) growing rampantly in the southern United States, since it was introduced in the 1920s to thwart
- SC01712
279. Unable to build nests or care for their young, a female cowbird lays up to 40 eggs a year in the nests of other birds, including warblers, vireos, flycatchers, and thrushes.
- (A) a female cowbird lays up to 40 eggs a year in the nests of other birds, including
 (B) a female cowbird will use the nests of other birds to lay up to 40 eggs a year, including those of
 (C) female cowbirds use the nests of other birds to lay up to 40 eggs a year, including those of
 (D) female cowbirds lay up to 40 eggs a year in the nests of other birds, including
 (E) up to 40 eggs a year are laid by female cowbirds in the nests of other birds, including

- SC01954
280. Bluegrass musician Bill Monroe, whose repertory, views on musical collaboration, and vocal style were influential on generations of bluegrass artists, was also an inspiration to many musicians, that included Elvis Presley and Jerry Garcia, whose music differed significantly from his own.
- (A) were influential on generations of bluegrass artists, was also an inspiration to many musicians, that included Elvis Presley and Jerry Garcia, whose music differed significantly from
 (B) influenced generations of bluegrass artists, also inspired many musicians, including Elvis Presley and Jerry Garcia, whose music differed significantly from
 (C) was influential to generations of bluegrass artists, was also inspirational to many musicians, that included Elvis Presley and Jerry Garcia, whose music was different significantly in comparison to
 (D) was influential to generations of bluegrass artists, also inspired many musicians, who included Elvis Presley and Jerry Garcia, the music of whom differed significantly when compared to
 (E) were an influence on generations of bluegrass artists, was also an inspiration to many musicians, including Elvis Presley and Jerry Garcia, whose music was significantly different from that of

SC12645

281. In many of the world's regions, increasing pressure on water resources has resulted both from expanding development, changes in climate, and from pollution, so that the future supply in some of the more arid areas is a concern going forward.
- (A) both from expanding development, changes in climate, and from pollution, so that the future supply in some of the more arid areas is a concern going forward
- (B) both from expanding development or changes in climate, and pollution, so that future supplies in some of the more arid areas are a concern
- (C) from expanding development, changes in climate, and also from pollution, so that the future supply in some of the more arid areas is a matter of concern going forward
- (D) from expanding development, changes in climate, and pollution, so that future supplies in some of the more arid areas are a concern
- (E) from expansion of development, changes in climate, and from pollution, so that supplies in some of the more arid areas are a future concern

SC01747

282. The computer company's present troubles are a result of technological stagnation, marketing missteps, and managerial blunders so that several attempts to revise corporate strategies have failed to correct it.
- (A) so that several attempts to revise corporate strategies have failed to correct it
- (B) so that several attempts at revising corporate strategies have failed to correct
- (C) in that several attempts at revising corporate strategies have failed to correct them
- (D) that several attempts to revise corporate strategies have failed to correct
- (E) that several attempts at revising corporate strategies have failed to correct them

SC11880

283. The root systems of most flowering perennials either become too crowded, which results in loss in vigor, and spread too far outward, producing a bare center.
- (A) which results in loss in vigor, and spread
- (B) resulting in loss in vigor, or spreading
- (C) with the result of loss of vigor, or spreading
- (D) resulting in loss of vigor, or spread
- (E) with a resulting loss of vigor, and spread

SC11910

284. In theory, international civil servants at the United Nations are prohibited from continuing to draw salaries from their own governments; in practice, however, some governments merely substitute living allowances for their employees' paychecks, assigned by them to the United Nations.
- (A) for their employees' paychecks, assigned by them
- (B) for the paychecks of their employees who have been assigned
- (C) for the paychecks of their employees, having been assigned
- (D) in place of their employees' paychecks, for those of them assigned
- (E) in place of the paychecks of their employees to have been assigned by them

SC05216

285. Industry analysts said that the recent rise in fuel prices may be an early signal of the possibility of gasoline and heating oil prices staying higher than usually through the end of the year.
- (A) of the possibility of gasoline and heating oil prices staying higher than usually through
- (B) of the possibility that gasoline and heating oil prices could stay higher than usual throughout
- (C) of prices of gasoline and heating oil possibly staying higher than usually through
- (D) that prices of gasoline and heating oil could stay higher than they usually are throughout
- (E) that prices of gasoline and heating oil will stay higher than usual through

SC07141

286. The Anasazi settlements at Chaco Canyon were built on a spectacular scale, with more than 75 carefully engineered structures, of up to 600 rooms each, were connected by a complex regional system of roads.

- (A) scale, with more than 75 carefully engineered structures, of up to 600 rooms each, were
- (B) scale, with more than 75 carefully engineered structures, of up to 600 rooms each,
- (C) scale of more than 75 carefully engineered structures of up to 600 rooms, each that had been
- (D) scale of more than 75 carefully engineered structures of up to 600 rooms and with each
- (E) scale of more than 75 carefully engineered structures of up to 600 rooms, each had been

SC07066

287. Even though the overall consumer price index did not change in April, indicating the absence of any general inflation or deflation, prices in several categories of merchandise have fallen over the last several months.

- (A) April, indicating the absence of any general inflation or deflation, prices in several categories of merchandise have fallen
- (B) April, indicating that any general inflation or deflation were absent, prices in several categories of merchandise fell
- (C) April and indicated that absence of any general inflation or deflation, prices in several categories of merchandise fell
- (D) April, having indicated the absence of any general inflation or deflation, prices in several categories of merchandise fell
- (E) April, which indicated that any general inflation or deflation were absent, prices in several categories of merchandise have fallen

SC12460

288. Despite Japan's relative isolation from world trade at the time, the prolonged peace during the Tokugawa shogunate produced an almost explosive expansion of commerce.

- (A) Japan's relative isolation from world trade at the time, the prolonged peace during the Tokugawa shogunate
- (B) the relative isolation of Japan from world trade at the time and the Tokugawa shogunate's prolonged peace, it
- (C) being relatively isolated from world trade at the time, the prolonged peace during Japan's Tokugawa shogunate
- (D) Japan's relative isolation from world trade at the time during the Tokugawa shogunate, prolonged peace
- (E) its relative isolation from world trade then, prolonged peace in Japan during the Tokugawa shogunate

SC02333

289. Government officials announced that restrictions on the use of water would continue because no appreciative increase in the level of the river resulted from the intermittent showers that had fallen throughout the area the day before.

- (A) restrictions on the use of water would continue because no appreciative increase in the level of the river
- (B) restricting the use of water would continue because there had not been any appreciative increase in the river's level that
- (C) the use of water would continue to be restricted because not any appreciable increase in the river's level had
- (D) restrictions on the use of water would continue because no appreciable increase in the level of the river had
- (E) using water would continue being restricted because not any appreciable increase in the level of the river

SC04732

290. According to United States census data, while there was about one-third of mothers with young children working outside the home in 1975, in 2000, almost two-thirds of those mothers were employed outside the home.

- (A) while there was about one-third of mothers with young children working outside the home in 1975, in 2000, almost two-thirds of those mothers were employed outside the home
- (B) there were about one-third of mothers with young children who worked outside the home in 1975; in 2000, almost two-thirds of those mothers were employed outside the home
- (C) in 1975 about one-third of mothers with young children worked outside the home; in 2000, almost two-thirds of such mothers were employed outside the home
- (D) even though in 1975 there were about one-third of mothers with young children who worked outside the home, almost two-thirds of such mothers were employed outside the home in 2000
- (E) with about one-third of mothers with young children working outside the home in 1975, almost two-thirds of such mothers were employed outside the home in 2000

SC04672

291. Clouds are formed from the evaporation of the oceans' water that is warmed by the sun and rises high into the atmosphere, condensing in tiny droplets on minute particles of dust.

- (A) Clouds are formed from the evaporation of the oceans' water that is warmed by the sun and rises high into the atmosphere, condensing in tiny droplets on minute particles of dust.
- (B) Clouds form by the sun's warmth evaporating the water in the oceans, which rises high into the atmosphere, condensing in tiny droplets on minute particles of dust.
- (C) Warmed by the sun, ocean water evaporates, rises high into the atmosphere, and condenses in tiny droplets on minute particles of dust to form clouds.
- (D) The water in the oceans evaporates, warmed by the sun, rises high into the atmosphere, and condenses in tiny droplets on minute particles of dust, which forms clouds.
- (E) Ocean water, warmed by the sun, evaporates and rises high into the atmosphere, which then condenses in tiny droplets on minute particles of dust to form as clouds.

SC02664

292. Schistosomiasis, a disease caused by a parasitic worm, is prevalent in hot, humid climates, and it has become more widespread as irrigation projects have enlarged the habitat of the freshwater snails that are the parasite's hosts for part of its life cycle.

- (A) the freshwater snails that are the parasite's hosts for part of its life cycle
- (B) the freshwater snails that are the parasite's hosts in part of their life cycle
- (C) freshwater snails which become the parasite's hosts for part of its life cycles
- (D) freshwater snails which become the hosts of the parasite during the parasite's life cycles
- (E) parasite's hosts, freshwater snails which become their hosts during their life cycles

SC07754

293. Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz was making the case for women's equality long before the cause had a name: Born in the mid-seventeenth century in San Miguel Nepantla, Mexico, the convent was the perfect environment for Sor Juana to pursue intellectual pursuits, achieving renown as a mathematician, poet, philosopher, and playwright.

- (A) the convent was the perfect environment for Sor Juana to pursue intellectual pursuits, achieving
- (B) Sor Juana found the convent provided the perfect environment for intellectual pursuits, and she went on to achieve
- (C) the convent provided the perfect environment for intellectual pursuits for Sor Juana; going on to achieve
- (D) Sor Juana found the convent provided the perfect environment for intellectual pursuits; achieving
- (E) the convent was, Sor Juana found, the perfect environment for intellectual pursuits, and she went on to achieve

SC14406

294. By devising an instrument made from a rod, wire, and lead balls, and employing uncommonly precise measurements, in 1797–1798 Henry Cavendish's apparatus enabled him to arrive at an astonishingly accurate figure for the weight of the earth.
- (A) By devising an instrument made from a rod, wire, and lead balls, and employing uncommonly precise measurements, in 1797–1798 Henry Cavendish's apparatus enabled him
- (B) In 1797–1798, by devising an instrument made from a rod, wire, and lead balls, and employing uncommonly precise measurements, Henry Cavendish's apparatus enabled him
- (C) Henry Cavendish devised an instrument made from a rod, wire, and lead balls, and employed uncommonly precise measurements, and in 1797–1798 was able
- (D) Having devised an instrument from a rod, wire, and lead balls, and employment of uncommonly precise measurements, Henry Cavendish in 1797–1798 was able
- (E) By devising an instrument made from a rod, wire, and lead balls, and employing uncommonly precise measurements, Henry Cavendish was able in 1797–1798

SC08285

295. The growth projected for these storms in different computerized weather models varies widely.
- (A) projected for these storms in different computerized weather models varies widely
- (B) for these storms is projected in different computerized models of weather to vary widely
- (C) of these storms, projected in different computerized weather models, vary widely
- (D) projected for these storms, which vary widely in different computerized weather models
- (E) that varies widely for these storms are projected in different computerized weather models

SC02131

296. By using a process called echolocation to analyze the echoes of the high-pitched sounds they produce, bats can determine not only the distance to an object, but they also can determine its shape and size and the direction in which it is moving.
- (A) can determine not only the distance to an object, but they also can determine
- (B) not only can determine the distance to an object but also
- (C) can determine not only the distance to an object but also
- (D) not only can determine its distance from an object but also
- (E) can determine not only their distance from an object, but they can also determine

SC06205

297. Carbon dioxide, which traps heat in the atmosphere and helps regulate the planet's surface temperature, is constantly being exchanged between the atmosphere on the one hand and the oceans and terrestrial plants on the other.
- (A) exchanged between the atmosphere on the one hand and the oceans and terrestrial plants on the other
- (B) exchanged, on the one hand, between the atmosphere and the oceans and terrestrial plants, on the other
- (C) exchanged between, on the one hand, the atmosphere, with the oceans and terrestrial plants, on the other
- (D) exchanged, on the one hand, among the oceans and terrestrial plants, and the atmosphere, on the other
- (E) exchanged among the oceans and terrestrial plants on the one hand and the atmosphere on the other

SC01990

298. Floating in the waters of the equatorial Pacific, an array of buoys collects and transmits data on long-term interactions between the ocean and the atmosphere, interactions that affect global climate.
- (A) atmosphere, interactions that affect
- (B) atmosphere, with interactions affecting
- (C) atmosphere that affects
- (D) atmosphere that is affecting
- (E) atmosphere as affects

SC04344

299. Sixty-five million years ago, according to some scientists, an asteroid bigger than Mount Everest slammed into North America, which, causing plant and animal extinctions, marks the end of the geologic era known as the Cretaceous Period.

- (A) which, causing plant and animal extinctions, marks
- (B) which caused the plant and animal extinctions and marks
- (C) and causing plant and animal extinctions that mark
- (D) an event that caused plant and animal extinctions, which marks
- (E) an event that caused the plant and animal extinctions that mark

SC02338

300. Although the first pulsar, or rapidly spinning collapsed star, to be sighted was in the summer of 1967 by graduate student Jocelyn Bell, it had not been announced until February 1968.

- (A) Although the first pulsar, or rapidly spinning collapsed star, to be sighted was in the summer of 1967 by graduate student Jocelyn Bell, it had not been announced until February 1968.
- (B) Although not announced until February 1968, in the summer of 1967 graduate student Jocelyn Bell observed the first pulsar, or rapidly spinning collapsed star, to be sighted.
- (C) Although observed by graduate student Jocelyn Bell in the summer of 1967, the discovery of the first sighted pulsar, or rapidly spinning collapsed star, had not been announced before February 1968.
- (D) The first pulsar, or rapidly spinning collapsed star, to be sighted was observed in the summer of 1967 by graduate student Jocelyn Bell, but the discovery was not announced until February 1968.
- (E) The first sighted pulsar, or rapidly spinning collapsed star, was not announced until February 1968, while it was observed in the summer of 1967 by graduate student Jocelyn Bell.

SC02766

301. Sound can travel through water for enormous distances, prevented from dissipating its acoustic energy as a result of boundaries in the ocean created by water layers of different temperatures and densities.

- (A) prevented from dissipating its acoustic energy as a result of
- (B) prevented from having its acoustic energy dissipated by
- (C) its acoustic energy prevented from dissipating by
- (D) its acoustic energy prevented from being dissipated as a result of
- (E) preventing its acoustic energy from dissipating by

SC10996

302. Last year, land values in most parts of the pinelands rose almost so fast, and in some parts even faster than what they did outside the pinelands.

- (A) so fast, and in some parts even faster than what they did
- (B) so fast, and in some parts even faster than, those
- (C) as fast, and in some parts even faster than, those
- (D) as fast as, and in some parts even faster than, those
- (E) as fast as, and in some parts even faster than what they did

SC03010

303. The North American moose's long legs enable it to move quickly through the woods, stepping easily over downed trees, but predators pursuing it must leap or go around them.

- (A) moose's long legs enable it to move quickly through the woods, stepping easily over downed trees, but predators pursuing it must leap or go around them
- (B) moose's long legs enable it to move quickly through the woods, stepping easily over downed trees while predators pursuing them must leap or go around
- (C) moose's long legs enable it to move quickly through the woods and to step easily over downed trees, but predators pursuing them must leap over or go around them
- (D) moose has long legs, enabling it to move quickly through the woods and to step easily over downed trees while predators pursuing them must leap or go around
- (E) moose has long legs that enable it to move quickly through the woods, stepping easily over downed trees while predators pursuing it must leap over or go around them

SC07885

304. Early administrative decisions in China's Ming Dynasty eventually caused a drastic fall in tax revenues, a reduction in military preparedness, the collapse of the currency system, and failed to make sufficient investment in vital transportation infrastructure.

- (A) the collapse of the currency system, and failed
- (B) the collapse of the currency system, and failing
- (C) and the collapse of the currency system, also failed
- (D) the collapse of the currency system, as well as failing
- (E) and the collapse of the currency system, as well as a failure

SC11017

305. Seismologists studying the earthquake that struck northern California in October 1989 are still investigating some of its mysteries: the unexpected power of the seismic waves, the upward thrust that threw one man straight into the air, and the strange electromagnetic signals detected hours before the temblor.

- (A) the upward thrust that threw one man straight into the air, and the strange electromagnetic signals detected hours before the temblor
- (B) the upward thrust that threw one man straight into the air, and strange electromagnetic signals were detected hours before the temblor
- (C) the upward thrust threw one man straight into the air, and hours before the temblor strange electromagnetic signals were detected
- (D) one man was thrown straight into the air by the upward thrust, and hours before the temblor strange electromagnetic signals were detected
- (E) one man who was thrown straight into the air by the upward thrust, and strange electromagnetic signals that were detected hours before the temblor

SC10878

306. The type of behavior exhibited when an animal recognizes itself in a mirror comes within the domain of "theory of mind," thus is best studied as part of the field of animal cognition.

- (A) of "theory of mind," thus is best
- (B) "theory of mind," and so is best to be
- (C) of a "theory of mind," thus it is best
- (D) of "theory of mind" and thus is best
- (E) of the "theory of mind," and so it is best to be

SC11054

307. Unlike the United States, where farmers can usually depend on rain or snow all year long, the rains in most parts of Sri Lanka are concentrated in the monsoon months, June to September, and the skies are generally clear for the rest of the year.

- (A) Unlike the United States, where farmers can usually depend on rain or snow all year long, the rains in most parts of Sri Lanka
- (B) Unlike the United States farmers who can usually depend on rain or snow all year long, the rains in most parts of Sri Lanka
- (C) Unlike those of the United States, where farmers can usually depend on rain or snow all year long, most parts of Sri Lanka's rains
- (D) In comparison with the United States, whose farmers can usually depend on rain or snow all year long, the rains in most parts of Sri Lanka
- (E) In the United States, farmers can usually depend on rain or snow all year long, but in most parts of Sri Lanka, the rains

SC01564

308. In preparation for the prediction of a major earthquake that will hit the state, a satellite-based computer network is being built by the California Office of Emergency Services for identifying earthquake damage and to pinpoint the most affected areas within two hours of the event.

- (A) In preparation for the prediction of a major earthquake that will hit the state, a satellite-based computer network is being built by the California Office of Emergency Services for identifying
- (B) In preparing for the prediction that a major earthquake will hit the state, the California Office of Emergency Services is building a satellite-based computer network that will identify
- (C) In preparing for a major earthquake that is predicted to hit the state, the California Office of Emergency Services is building a satellite-based computer network to identify
- (D) To prepare for the prediction of a major earthquake hitting the state, a satellite-based computer network is being built by the California Office of Emergency Services to identify
- (E) To prepare for a major earthquake that is predicted to hit the state, the California Office of Emergency Services is building a satellite-based computer network that will identify

SC06727

309. Once numbering in the millions worldwide, it is estimated that the wolf has declined to 200,000 in 57 countries, some 11,000 of them to be found in the lower 48 United States and Alaska.

- (A) it is estimated that the wolf has declined to 200,000 in 57 countries, some
- (B) the wolf is estimated to have declined to 200,000 in 57 countries, with approximately
- (C) the wolf has declined to an estimate of 200,000 in 57 countries, some
- (D) wolves have declined to an estimate of 200,000 in 57 countries, with approximately
- (E) wolves have declined to an estimated 200,000 in 57 countries, some

SC11926

310. As business grows more complex, students majoring in specialized areas like those of finance and marketing have been becoming increasingly successful in the job market.

- (A) majoring in specialized areas like those of finance and marketing have been becoming increasingly
- (B) who major in such specialized areas as finance and marketing are becoming more and more
- (C) who majored in specialized areas such as those of finance and marketing are being increasingly
- (D) who major in specialized areas like those of finance and marketing have been becoming more and more
- (E) having majored in such specialized areas as finance and marketing are being increasingly

SC04682

311. Created in 1945 to reduce poverty and stabilize foreign currency markets, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund have, according to some critics, continually struggled to meet the expectations of their major shareholders—a group comprising many of the world's rich nations—but neglected their intended beneficiaries in the developing world.
- (A) continually struggled to meet the expectations of their major shareholders—a group comprising many of the world's rich nations—but neglected
- (B) continually struggled as they try to meet the expectations of their major shareholders—a group comprising many of the world's rich nations—while neglecting that of
- (C) continually struggled to meet their major shareholders' expectations—a group comprising many of the world's rich nations—but neglected that of
- (D) had to struggle continually in trying to meet the expectations of their major shareholders—a group comprising many of the world's rich nations—while neglecting that of
- (E) struggled continually in trying to meet their major shareholders' expectations—a group comprising many of the world's rich nations—and neglecting

SC11934

312. Unlike auto insurance, the frequency of claims does not affect the premiums for personal property coverage, but if the insurance company is able to prove excessive loss due to owner negligence, it may decline to renew the policy.
- (A) Unlike auto insurance, the frequency of claims does not affect the premiums for personal property coverage,
- (B) Unlike with auto insurance, the frequency of claims do not affect the premiums for personal property coverage,
- (C) Unlike the frequency of claims for auto insurance, the premiums for personal property coverage are not affected by the frequency of claims,
- (D) Unlike the premiums for auto insurance, the premiums for personal property coverage are not affected by the frequency of claims,
- (E) Unlike with the premiums for auto insurance, the premiums for personal property coverage is not affected by the frequency of claims,

5.8 Answer Key

200. C	229. A	258. C	287. A
201. A	230. C	259. A	288. A
202. C	231. C	260. D	289. D
203. E	232. A	261. C	290. C
204. E	233. C	262. A	291. C
205. E	234. A	263. E	292. A
206. C	235. A	264. A	293. B
207. D	236. C	265. D	294. E
208. E	237. D	266. D	295. A
209. D	238. C	267. C	296. C
210. B	239. E	268. D	297. A
211. E	240. C	269. A	298. A
212. C	241. E	270. B	299. E
213. E	242. E	271. A	300. D
214. C	243. E	272. D	301. C
215. B	244. D	273. B	302. D
216. A	245. B	274. C	303. E
217. C	246. D	275. A	304. E
218. E	247. B	276. E	305. A
219. E	248. A	277. E	306. D
220. C	249. B	278. C	307. E
221. D	250. C	279. D	308. C
222. B	251. C	280. B	309. E
223. B	252. C	281. D	310. B
224. E	253. B	282. D	311. A
225. A	254. A	283. D	312. D
226. B	255. A	284. B	
227. B	256. D	285. E	
228. C	257. E	286. B	