

SENTENCE CORRECTION

Complete Practice Set with Answer Key & Explanations

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40 Questions – Identify the Segment That Needs Correction

Each question shows the underlined segments, the correct answer clearly highlighted, the fully corrected sentence, and a concise explanation.

Section A — Sentence Correction (Q1–10)

Choose the underlined segment which needs to be corrected

- 1 All the accusations [A] for him were found [B] to be [C] baseless. [D]

A. All the accusations

B. for him were found ✓

C. to be

D. baseless

CORRECTED SENTENCE

All the accusations against him were found to be baseless.

EXPLANATION

In place of “for” there should be “against.” All the accusations against him were found to be baseless.

- 2 I would have gladly [A] accompany your sister [B] if you [C] had asked her. [D]

A. I would have gladly

B. accompany your sister ✓

C. if you

D. had asked her

CORRECTED SENTENCE

I would have gladly accompanied your sister if you had asked her.

EXPLANATION

In place of “accompany” there should be “accompanied,” since this is a past conditional (third conditional) sentence.

3 What is need are [A] not large houses [B] but [C] small huts. [D]

A. What is need are ✓

B. not large houses

C. but

D. small huts

CORRECTED SENTENCE

What is needed are not large houses but small huts.

EXPLANATION

In place of “need” there should be “needed.” What is needed are not large houses but small huts.

4 Alina would [A] have been looked [B] well in [C] traditional clothes. [D]

A. Alina would

B. have been looked ✓

C. well in

D. traditional clothes

CORRECTED SENTENCE

Alina would have looked well in traditional clothes.

EXPLANATION

In place of “have been looked” there should be “have looked.” This sentence needs “have” as the helping verb, not “have been.”

5

Hardly had I [A] finished writing the article [B] Anil [C] arrived. [D]

A. Hardly had I

B. finished writing the article

C. Anil

D. arrived ✓

CORRECTED SENTENCE

Hardly had I finished writing the article when Anil arrived.

EXPLANATION

The conjunction “when” is missing before “Anil arrived.” It should read: Hardly had I finished writing the article when Anil arrived.

6

She returned with two [A] burning cups of [B] tea and set them on the dining table. [C]

A. She returned with two

B. burning cups of ✓

C. tea and set them on the dining table

CORRECTED SENTENCE

She returned with two steaming cups of tea and set them on the dining table.

EXPLANATION

In place of “burning” there should be “steaming.” She returned with two steaming cups of tea and set them on the dining table.

7

People get [A] tiring very soon [B] in an activity which they [C] don't do by heart. [D]

A. People get

B. **tiring very soon ✓**

C. in an activity which they

D. don't do by heart

CORRECTED SENTENCE

People get tired very soon in an activity which they don't do by heart.

EXPLANATION

In place of “tiring” there should be “tired.” People get tired very soon in an activity which they don't do by heart.

8

He felt humiliated [A] because he realized [B] that he had [C] cheated. [D]

A. He felt humiliated

B. because he realized

C. that he had

D. **cheated ✓****CORRECTED SENTENCE**

He felt humiliated because he realized that he had been cheated.

EXPLANATION

In place of “cheated” there should be “been cheated.” He felt humiliated because he realized that he had been cheated.

9

The winter has [A] set out and the days [B] are getting [C] colder. [D]

A. The winter has

B. set out and the days ✓

C. are getting

D. colder

CORRECTED SENTENCE

The winter has set in and the days are getting colder.

EXPLANATION

In place of “set out” there should be “set in.” The winter has set in and the days are getting colder.

10

She [A] could not [B] help [C] for laugh. [D]

A. She

B. could not

C. help

D. for laugh ✓

CORRECTED SENTENCE

She could not help laughing.

EXPLANATION

In place of “for laugh” there should be “laughing,” since “help” is followed by a gerund. She could not help laughing.

Section B — Sentence Correction (Q11–20)

Choose the underlined segment which needs to be corrected

- 11 Since 1987, [A] there is no Earthquakes [B] here. [C]

A. Since 1987,

B. there is no Earthquakes ✓

C. here

CORRECTED SENTENCE

Since 1987, there have been no Earthquakes here.

EXPLANATION

In place of “there is” there should be “there have been,” since “since 1987” requires the present perfect tense.

- 12 He plays football [A] and tennis [B] also. [C]

A. He plays football

B. and tennis

C. also ✓

CORRECTED SENTENCE

He plays football and tennis too.

EXPLANATION

In place of “also” there should be “too” at the end of an affirmative statement like this one.

13

Try to give [A] a diplomatic answer when [B] refusing an invitation, [C] so for not to cause bad feeling. [D]

A. Try to give

B. a diplomatic answer when

C. refusing an invitation,

D. **so for not to cause bad feeling ✓****CORRECTED SENTENCE**

Try to give a diplomatic answer when refusing an invitation, so as not to cause bad feeling.

EXPLANATION

In place of “so for not” there should be “so as not.” Try to give a diplomatic answer when refusing an invitation, so as not to cause bad feeling.

14

Bad habits [A] must be [B] nipped [C] for the bud. [D]

A. Bad habits

B. must be

C. nipped

D. **for the bud ✓****CORRECTED SENTENCE**

Bad habits must be nipped in the bud.

EXPLANATION

In place of “for the bud” there should be “in the bud.” Bad habits must be nipped in the bud.

15 When the army [A] realized that they had been, [B] fooled they [C] rush back. [D]

A. When the army	B. realized that they had been,
C. fooled they	D. rush back ✓

CORRECTED SENTENCE

When the army realized that they had been fooled, they rushed back.

EXPLANATION

The comma and tense are misplaced: it should read "...fooled, they rushed back." The word "rush" must become "rushed," and the comma comes after "fooled."

16 The police officer [A] looked [B] at [C] my complaint. [D]

A. The police officer	B. looked
C. at ✓	D. my complaint

CORRECTED SENTENCE

The police officer looked into my complaint.

EXPLANATION

In place of "at" there should be "into." The police officer looked into my complaint.

17

The actor told [A] that it sometimes takes two hours to [B] put [C] her makeup on. [D]

A. The actor told

B. that it sometimes takes two hours to

C. put

D. her makeup on ✓

CORRECTED SENTENCE

The actor told that it sometimes takes two hours to put on her makeup.

EXPLANATION

The word order is wrong — “on” should immediately follow “put,” not appear at the end. It should read: “...to put on her makeup.”

18

This matter [A] must be considered [B] in every point of [C] view. [D]

A. This matter

B. must be considered

C. in every point of ✓

D. view

CORRECTED SENTENCE

This matter must be considered from every point of view.

EXPLANATION

In place of “in” there should be “from.” This matter must be considered from every point of view.

19 He enjoys [A] to tell stories [B] to children. [C]

A. He enjoys

B. to tell stories ✓

C. to children

CORRECTED SENTENCE

He enjoys telling stories to children.

EXPLANATION

In place of “to tell” there should be “telling,” since the verb “enjoy” is followed by a gerund, not an infinitive.

20 Education is a strong instrument [A] for molding [B] the character of [C] youth. [D]

A. Education is a strong instrument ✓

B. for molding

C. the character of

D. youth

CORRECTED SENTENCE

Education is a powerful instrument for molding the character of youth.

EXPLANATION

In place of “strong” there should be “powerful.” Education is a powerful instrument for molding the character of youth.

Section C — Sentence Correction (Q21–30)

Choose the underlined segment which needs to be corrected

- 21 Ali gave first aid to Sameer [A] who is injured [B] in an accident. [C]

A. Ali gave first aid to Sameer

B. who is injured ✓

C. in an accident

CORRECTED SENTENCE

Ali gave first aid to Sameer who was injured in an accident.

EXPLANATION

In place of “is” there should be “was,” to keep the tense consistent with the rest of the past-tense sentence.

- 22 Mr. James had staying [A] here [B] since [C] 1942. [D]

A. Mr. James had staying ✓

B. here

C. since

D. 1942

CORRECTED SENTENCE

Mr. James had been staying here since 1942.

EXPLANATION

In place of “had staying” there should be “had been staying.” Mr. James had been staying here since 1942.

23 The problems of transcription [A] are still [B] remain. [C]

A. The problems of transcription

B. are still

C. remain ✓

CORRECTED SENTENCE

The problems of transcription will still remain.

EXPLANATION

In place of “are still remain” there should be “will still remain.” The problems of transcription will still remain.

24 They have stopped [A] from abolishing [B] new buildings. [C]

A. They have stopped

B. from abolishing ✓

C. new buildings

CORRECTED SENTENCE

They have stopped abolishing new buildings.

EXPLANATION

The word “from” is unnecessary here; it should simply read “...stopped abolishing new buildings.”

25

The clouds of miseries [A] appear to have [B] blown [C] out. [D]

A. The clouds of miseries

B. appear to have

C. blown

D. out ✓

CORRECTED SENTENCE

The clouds of miseries appear to have blown over.

EXPLANATION

In place of “out” there should be “over.” The clouds of miseries appear to have blown over.

26

A bird in hand [A] is worth [B] two [C] at bush. [D]

A. A bird in hand

B. is worth

C. two

D. at bush ✓

CORRECTED SENTENCE

A bird in hand is worth two in the bush.

EXPLANATION

In place of “at bush” there should be “in the bush.” A bird in hand is worth two in the bush.

27

Six years ago, [A] I am sitting in a small Japanese car [B] driving from Denmark to Sweden. [C]

A. Six years ago,

B. I am sitting in a small Japanese car ✓

C. driving from Denmark to Sweden

CORRECTED SENTENCE

Six years ago, I was sitting in a small Japanese car driving from Denmark to Sweden.

EXPLANATION

In place of “am sitting” there should be “was sitting,” to agree with the past time marker “six years ago.”

28

If you had told [A] about the problem yesterday, [B] we might had helped [C] you. [D]

A. If you had told

B. about the problem yesterday,

C. we might had helped ✓

D. you

CORRECTED SENTENCE

If you had told about the problem yesterday, we might have helped you.

EXPLANATION

In place of “might had helped” there should be “might have helped.” If you had told about the problem yesterday, we might have helped you.

29

When I heard [A] the rhetorical speech of [B] the leader, I was carried out [C] by his enthusiasm. [D]

A. When I heard

B. the rhetorical speech of

C. the leader, I was carried out ✓

D. by his enthusiasm

CORRECTED SENTENCE

When I heard the rhetorical speech of the leader, I was carried away by his enthusiasm.

EXPLANATION

In place of “carried out” there should be “carried away.” When I heard the rhetorical speech of the leader, I was carried away by his enthusiasm.

30

His class fellows [A] are coming [B] on this [C] train. [D]

A. His class fellows

B. are coming

C. on this

D. train ✓

CORRECTED SENTENCE

His class fellows are coming by this train.

EXPLANATION

In place of “on” there should be “by.” His class fellows are coming by this train.

Section D — Sentence Correction (Q31–40)

Choose the underlined segment which needs to be corrected

31 If he have [A] time, he will [B] contact [C] you. [D]

A. If he have ✓

B. time, he will

C. contact

D. you

CORRECTED SENTENCE

If he has time, he will contact you.

EXPLANATION

In place of “have” there should be “has,” agreeing with the third-person singular subject “he.”

32 The audience [A] stood quietly for [B] few moments. [C]

A. The audience

B. stood quietly for

C. few moments ✓

CORRECTED SENTENCE

The audience stood quietly for a few moments.

EXPLANATION

The article “a” is missing — it should read “for a few moments.”

33 A lot of one's character [A] depends on [B] his early [C] brought up in the family. [D]

A. A lot of one's character

B. depends on

C. his early

D. brought up in the family ✓

CORRECTED SENTENCE

A lot of one's character depends on his early upbringing in the family.

EXPLANATION

In place of "brought up" there should be "upbringing." A lot of one's character depends on his early upbringing in the family.

34 I have not attended [A] many parties [B] since my father [C] had died. [D]

A. I have not attended

B. many parties

C. since my father

D. had died ✓

CORRECTED SENTENCE

I have not attended many parties since my father died.

EXPLANATION

In place of "had died" there should be simply "died." I have not attended many parties since my father died.

35

The manager was [A] unhappy at [B] Ali because he didn't [C] complete his work in time. [D]

A. The manager was

B. **unhappy at ✓**

C. Ali because he didn't

D. complete his work in time

CORRECTED SENTENCE

The manager was unhappy with Ali because he didn't complete his work in time.

EXPLANATION

In place of "at" there should be "with." The manager was unhappy with Ali because he didn't complete his work in time.

36

In this modern world [A] it is difficult to live through [B] one's ideals. [C]

A. In this modern world

B. **it is difficult to live through ✓**

C. one's ideals

CORRECTED SENTENCE

In this modern world it is difficult to live up to one's ideals.

EXPLANATION

In place of "through" there should be "up to." In this modern world it is difficult to live up to one's ideals.

37 When I was fourteen, [A] I sat [B] the entrance exam of [C] secondary school. [D]

A. When I was fourteen,

B. I sat

C. the entrance exam of ✓

D. secondary school

CORRECTED SENTENCE

When I was fourteen, I sat in the entrance exam of secondary school.

EXPLANATION

The preposition “in” is missing — it should read “I sat in the entrance exam of secondary school.”

38 He has been writing [A] off and on for [B] several years to [C] compete his book. [D]

A. He has been writing

B. off and on for ✓

C. several years to

D. compete his book

CORRECTED SENTENCE

He has been writing on and off for several years to complete his book.

EXPLANATION

The correct idiom is “on and off,” not “off and on.” Note also that “compete” in the final segment should read “complete.” Full correction: He has been writing on and off for several years to complete his book.

39 Ali unnecessarily [A] picked up a quarrel [B] with Aarij and [C] left the party. [D]

A. Ali unnecessarily	B. picked up a quarrel ✓
C. with Aarij and	D. left the party

CORRECTED SENTENCE

Ali unnecessarily picked a quarrel with Aarij and left the party.

EXPLANATION

In place of “picked up a quarrel” there should be “picked a quarrel.” Ali unnecessarily picked a quarrel with Aarij and left the party.

40 It will [A] take five hours [B] to walk across [C] the forest. [D]

A. It will	B. take five hours
C. to walk across	D. the forest ✓

CORRECTED SENTENCE

It will take five hours to walk through the forest.

EXPLANATION

In place of “across” there should be “through.” It will take five hours to walk through the forest.