

# Sentence Improvement

**Directions:** In each question, a part of sentence is printed in bold. Below each sentence, some phrases are given which can substitute the bold part of the sentence. Find out the phrase which can correctly substitute that part of the sentence. If the sentence is correct as it is, the answer is 'No correction required' or 'No improvement'.

- I told him that I **waited** for him for an hour the previous day.  
a) had waited                      b) was waiting  
c) had been waiting              d) No improvement
- As Suresh spoke about his achievements, his **high** claims amused us.  
a) big                                      b) tall  
c) huge                                    d) No improvement
- We ought to **stand** for what is right.  
a) stand up                              b) stand on  
c) stand at                              d) No improvement
- I walked away as calmly as I could, **or else** they thought I was the thief.  
a) otherwise                            b) failing which  
c) in case                                d) No improvement
- A number of steps have been taken with a view to **improving** the conditions of the backward classes.  
a) to improve                          b) for improving  
c) at improving                        d) No improvement
- By this time next year John **should have completed** his degree course at Bombay University.  
a) will complete                      b) would complete  
c) could have completed            d) No improvement
- He will not risk **going for** business with you.  
a) to go for                              b) going into  
c) going in                                d) No improvement
- It **is raining** heavily all through this week.  
a) has rained                            b) rains  
c) rained                                 d) No improvement
- When Rip Van Winkle awoke from his long sleep, he asked where **I am**.  
a) I was                                    b) am I  
c) he was                                 d) No improvement
- To write regularly **in pleasure** is what she wants to do now.  
a) for pleasure                        b) for the pleasure  
c) with pleasure                        d) No improvement
- The alternative **of** my first suggestion is to resign.  
a) for                                        b) to  
c) with                                        d) No improvement
- The sparrows took no **notice about** the bread.  
a) notice of                              b) notice from  
c) notice to                                d) No improvement
- I had liked her since the first time I **had seen** her.  
a) have seen                              b) saw  
c) did see                                 d) No improvement
- Applications of those **who are graduates** will be considered.  
a) who are only graduates  
b) only who are graduates  
c) who are graduates only  
d) No improvement
- After several years of silent suffering he finally decided to **put** himself against the manipulations of his political rivals.  
a) stand                                    b) fight  
c) set                                        d) No improvement
- He had a good sleep after he **has had a heavy lunch**.  
a) had a heavy lunch  
b) had been taking a heavy lunch  
c) had had a heavy lunch  
d) No improvement
- The names of the defaulters have been **cut off** the register.  
a) cut out                                 b) struck off  
c) struck out                              d) No improvement
- Until you don't finish** the work, you won't be given leave.  
a) until you must finish              b) until finishing  
c) until you finish                      d) No improvement
- She has not written to me or to **some of her** other friends since leaving the country.  
a) one of her                              b) any of her  
c) none of her                            d) No improvement
- No sooner had he entered the room **when the lights went off** and everybody began to scream.  
a) than the lights went off  
b) then the lights went off  
c) as the lights went off  
d) No improvement
- My next-door neighbour always **picks up a quarrel** with his neighbours.  
a) picks out a quarrel                  b) picks a quarrel  
c) picks at a quarrel                    d) No improvement
- This is a matter **I'd rather not talk about**.  
a) of which I'd rather not talk about  
b) I'd rather not talk about it  
c) than I'd rather not talk about it  
d) No improvement



52. Can you tell me **where does your uncle live**?  
 a) where your uncle does live  
 b) where your uncle lives  
 c) where lives your uncle  
 d) No improvement
53. He claimed that he was **senior than** me.  
 a) senior over  
 b) senior by  
 c) senior to  
 d) No improvement
54. This milk has got a funny taste — it **can have gone sour**.  
 a) can go sour  
 b) had soured  
 c) may have gone sour  
 d) No improvement
55. All the newcomers **enjoyed at** the welcome party.  
 a) enjoyed themselves at  
 b) enjoyed in  
 c) enjoyed thoroughly at  
 d) No improvement
56. She can easily afford it, as she has **little money** and hardly any expenses.  
 a) the little money  
 b) less money  
 c) a little money  
 d) No improvement
57. What have you spent all **your money for**?  
 a) your money after  
 b) your money in  
 c) your money on  
 d) No improvement
58. He had hardly gone out **then** it began to rain.  
 a) when  
 b) as  
 c) before  
 d) No improvement
59. I **have received** your letter yesterday.  
 a) had received  
 b) have to receive  
 c) received  
 d) No improvement
60. The boys **are listening** to my lecture since 8 o'clock this morning.  
 a) were listening  
 b) have been listening  
 c) had been listening  
 d) No improvement
61. **When** he left the house, it has not ceased raining.  
 a) ever before  
 b) ever since  
 c) until  
 d) No improvement
62. While campaigning against child-labour the leader said that he **was feeling strongly** about children being made to work when they should be going to school.  
 a) was feeling strong  
 b) has been feeling strongly  
 c) felt strongly  
 d) No improvement
63. You would have succeeded if you **acted** upon my advice.  
 a) had acted  
 b) would have acted  
 c) have acted  
 d) No improvement
64. Don't hold this dirty insect in your hand; **throw it**.  
 a) throw it down  
 b) throw it out  
 c) throw it away  
 d) No improvement
65. The principal asked me **that should not enter** his office without permission.  
 a) don't enter  
 b) not to enter  
 c) not entering  
 d) No improvement
66. All that I wish to tell you is that you **better** revise this essay.  
 a) should better  
 b) could better  
 c) had better  
 d) No improvement
67. If it were possible to get near when one of the volcanic eruptions **took** place, we should see a grand sight.  
 a) takes  
 b) was taking  
 c) is taking  
 d) No improvement
68. Whenever Suresh gets into trouble he **makes** a story to get out of it.  
 a) makes for  
 b) makes out  
 c) makes up  
 d) No improvement
69. We **could not help** admire his inventive genius.  
 a) could not but  
 b) could not help to  
 c) could not help but  
 d) No improvement
70. There is absolutely no reason to call his statement **to question**.  
 a) under question  
 b) out of question  
 c) into question  
 d) No improvement
71. I had given him a lot of money, but he **ran up** it in a couple of weeks.  
 a) ran into  
 b) ran down  
 c) ran through  
 d) No improvement
72. It is time you **start** earning your own living.  
 a) started  
 b) would start  
 c) may start  
 d) No improvement
73. The sun **set** before we reached the village.  
 a) would have set  
 b) would set  
 c) had set  
 d) No improvement
74. He evaded **to pay** income tax.  
 a) from paying  
 b) against paying  
 c) paying  
 d) No improvement
75. The members swore **on** the constitution to uphold the integrity of the country.  
 a) by  
 b) at  
 c) upon  
 d) No improvement
76. **More he gets, more** he wants.  
 a) the more he gets, the more  
 b) the more he gets, more  
 c) more gets, the more  
 d) No improvement
77. We had a grand party and **we enjoyed very much**.  
 a) enjoyed very much  
 b) we enjoyed ourselves very much  
 c) enjoyed much  
 d) No improvement
78. All this has been done with a view **to improve** the living conditions of the poor.  
 a) to improving  
 b) of improving  
 c) for improving  
 d) No improvement
79. Let's go for a picnic, **shouldn't** we?  
 a) won't  
 b) shan't  
 c) shall  
 d) No improvement
80. If I **have** the money, I should have bought this house.  
 a) had  
 b) would have  
 c) should have  
 d) No improvement

81. If you are told **of a downright lie** about goods to induce you to buy them, you may have a remedy.  
a) about a downright lie b) a downright lie  
c) downright lie d) No improvement
82. His father forbade him **about** entering politics.  
a) from b) on  
c) to d) No improvement
83. To some extent, every child takes **after** his father.  
a) upon b) for  
c) off d) No improvement
84. The boss said, "I shall look **at** the matter".  
a) about b) in  
c) into d) No improvement
85. I did nothing but **laughed**.  
a) laughing b) laugh  
c) laughed aloud d) No improvement
86. The highest recorded speed **of** shorthand under championship conditions, is 300 words per minute.  
a) in b) for  
c) with d) No improvement
87. There were many petty Rajput Kingdoms in India **prior than** the coming of the Mohammadans.  
a) prior from b) prior up to  
c) prior to d) No improvement
88. **Until** the last twenty-eight years, he has been working in various units of this plant.  
a) for b) since  
c) during d) No improvement
89. I hope you will be able to **steer ahead** of the anti-social elements.  
a) steer out b) steer free  
c) steer clear d) No improvement
90. Had Alizee been well, she **could participate** in the competition.  
a) would participate  
b) would have participated  
c) will have participated  
d) No improvement
91. On July 14, 1789, an armed mob seized the Bastille, a royal prison in Paris that **came to symbolise** the oppressive nature of the Bourbon rulers.  
a) was come to symbolise  
b) has come to symbolise  
c) had come to symbolise  
d) No improvement
92. Please turn **off** the volume of the radio, so that it is not quite so loud.  
a) out b) down  
c) in d) No improvement
93. His **access to** the throne was a turning point in our history.  
a) acquisition of b) acceptance of  
c) accession to d) No improvement
94. They were then asked to write a short account of what they **have seen**.  
a) were seen b) had been seen  
c) had seen d) No improvement
95. The printing press is one of man's **cleverest invention**.  
a) cleverest inventions b) clever invention  
c) clever invention d) No improvement
96. What are you looking **upon** in the dark?  
a) over b) after  
c) for d) No improvement
97. We all have to adjust ourselves **to** the new circumstances.  
a) of b) with  
c) by d) No improvement
98. He was a tiny man, barely five feet tall, with a **spright walk**.  
a) spright walk b) a sprightly walking  
c) a sprightly walk d) No improvement
99. Kamal as well as Vimal **are leaving** for England.  
a) is leaving b) were leaving  
c) have been leaving d) no improvement
100. I **am waiting** for you since 9 o'clock this morning.  
a) was waiting b) waited  
c) have been waiting d) No improvement
101. I'll **clear out** this drawer and you can put your things in it.  
a) clear b) clear up  
c) clear off d) No improvement
102. Even as a young boy, he **has lacked** the inclination to go outdoors and play.  
a) lacks b) was lacking  
c) lacked d) No improvement
103. You don't know the mechanism of computer, **isn't it?**  
a) haven't you b) do you  
c) don't you d) No improvement
104. I **find difficult** to understand why Vikas has remained silent on this matter.  
a) I find very difficult  
b) I find it difficult  
c) I find somewhat difficult  
d) No improvement
105. Sodium chloride dissolves in water and **so is** salt.  
a) so also b) so will  
c) so does d) No improvement
106. The sun was shining **such** brightly that Leela had to put on her sun-glasses.  
a) very b) too  
c) so d) No improvement
107. If **I were** you, I would report the matter at once.  
a) be b) am  
c) was d) No improvement
108. The document **is concerning** your health and that of your family.  
a) concerns with b) is concerned with  
c) concerns d) No improvement
109. The lady **laid out** a special dinner for her husband on his birthday.  
a) laid b) laid up  
c) laid by d) No improvement

110. Epidemics are likely to **break off** in the areas from where flood-water has receded.  
 a) break out                      b) break up  
 c) break in                        d) No improvement
111. There is no objection **to him** joining the party.  
 a) on him                         b) to his  
 c) upon his                        d) No improvement
112. You are **too big** to go out alone.  
 a) big enough                    b) so big  
 c) very big                        d) No improvement
113. One of my old friends **has invited me for tea** in the evening.  
 a) to take tea                    b) to tea  
 c) on tea                         d) No improvement
114. Hardly had he saddled the horse **then** the mare broke loose and galloped down the hill.  
 a) that                            b) when  
 c) than                            d) No improvement
115. The speaker tried to work **up** the emotions of his audience.  
 a) round                         b) off  
 c) in                                d) No improvement
116. **Until** the sky is overcast, I take my raincoat with me.  
 a) when                         b) even if  
 c) Whenever                    d) No improvement
117. His discourse **about** the meteorologist was very stimulating.  
 a) on                              b) of  
 c) concerning                    d) No improvement
118. Mira **told** her brother that she had made a mistake.  
 a) said to                        b) pleaded to  
 c) admitted to                    d) No improvement
119. You don't want a beggar to look happy, **isn't it?**  
 a) aren't you?                    b) do you?  
 c) don't you?                    d) No improvement
120. The instructor told the student to hold the club lightly to keep his eye on the ball **but should not** use too much force.  
 a) and not                        b) and not to  
 c) still not to                    d) No improvement
121. Unless you stop to **interfere** in the matter, I'll not go away.  
 a) by interfering                b) from interfering  
 c) interfering                    d) No improvement
122. I **have been knocking** at the door five times; I don't think anybody is in.  
 a) am knocking                 b) had been knocking  
 c) have knocked                d) No improvement
123. **Supposing if he fails** again, will he be able to hold his head high?  
 a) suppose he fails  
 b) suppose if he fails  
 c) supposing he will fail  
 d) No improvement
124. The jury could not arrive at any decision **in the strength of scanty** evidence.  
 a) with the strength of  
 b) on the strength of  
 c) on strength with  
 d) No improvement
125. They will come if you **will invite** them.  
 a) would invite                 b) invite  
 c) did invite                    d) No improvement
126. A man's modesty is **in inverse proportion with** his ignorance.  
 a) with inverse proportion to  
 b) in inverse proportion to  
 c) at inverse proportion with  
 d) No improvement
127. The Cheeta can run faster than the Gazelle; it is **the speediest** of the two.  
 a) the most speedier            b) more speedy  
 c) the speedier                 d) No improvement
128. I will **look you up** next time I am in Bombay.  
 a) look you through            b) look you over  
 c) look you around             d) No improvement
129. He congratulated me **for my being** elected as Member of Parliament.  
 a) on my being                 b) in my being  
 c) at my being                 d) No improvement
130. Often one **is hearing** reports of explosions in the provinces.  
 a) was hearing                 b) hears  
 c) has been heard               d) No improvement
131. When **you left** that job?  
 a) did you leave                b) would you left  
 c) you have left                d) No improvement
132. Every man and woman in the village **was** present at the festival.  
 a) are                            b) were  
 c) have                          d) No improvement
133. The criminal as well as the accomplice **was** arrested.  
 a) were                         b) are being  
 c) have been                    d) No improvement
134. The world's population will continue to grow **when** the birth rate exceeds the death rate.  
 a) as long as                    b) unless  
 c) until after                    d) No improvement
135. I can't tackle this problem which, with all its complications, **have** confused me.  
 a) has                            b) had  
 c) will have                    d) No improvement
136. My friend **would have missed** the train if he had not hurried.  
 a) had missed                 b) has missed  
 c) missed                        d) No improvement
137. We have plenty of time, **isn't it?**  
 a) haven't we                    b) have we  
 c) is it                          d) No improvement
138. Until he **does not ask** for an apology, I am not going to reinstate him.  
 a) does ask for                 b) asked for  
 c) asks for                      d) No improvement

139. One day you will repent **over** what you have done.  
a) about                      b) for  
c) of                              d) No improvement
140. The **car's doors are loose**.  
a) car-doors are loose  
b) doors of car are loose  
c) doors of the car are loose  
d) No improvement
141. Dad's illness gave us some **anxious** moments.  
a) troubled                      b) disturbed  
c) worried                      d) No improvement
142. The young architect had **devised** many buildings before coming to Bombay.  
a) designed                      b) conceived  
c) planned                      d) No improvement
143. The village has a temple **besides** the lake.  
a) beside                      b) below  
c) beneath                      d) No improvement
144. After a long lunch-break, business **resurfaces** as usual.  
a) resumes                      b) continues  
c) delays                      d) No improvement
145. They stood gazing a Tajmahal, lost in **estimation**.  
a) admiration                      b) respiration  
c) satisfaction                      d) No improvement
146. The meeting was held under the **auspicious** of the Lions Club.  
a) auspices                      b) audience  
c) auspiciousness                      d) No improvement
147. The officer scolded the peon **in front of** the clerks.  
a) with                      b) before  
c) beside                      d) No improvement
148. Herbal medicines are very **efficient** in the treatment of jaundice.  
a) affective                      b) effective  
c) expensive                      d) No improvement
149. As per the Central Government order **people** having double cylinder connections are not eligible for kerosene.  
a) citizens                      b) consumers  
c) elders                      d) No improvement
150. He **refused** the allegations of his boss.  
a) refuted                      b) rejected  
c) accused                      d) No improvement
151. Can this machine be adopted **in** farm work.  
a) by                      b) into  
c) for                      d) No improvement
152. The driver was **dazzied** by the bright light of approaching car.  
a) twinkled                      b) flashed  
c) glowed                      d) No improvement
153. **What does it matter most** is the quality of the goods that we require.  
a) what it matters more  
b) what does it matter more  
c) what matters most  
d) No improvement
154. You called on me when I was not at home, **don't you?**  
a) did you?                      b) didn't you?  
c) didn't I?                      d) No improvement
155. He paid the caretaker for his **board** and lodging.  
a) room                      b) furniture  
c) boarding                      d) No improvement
156. He was **released** from the hospital yesterday.  
a) let out                      b) discharged  
c) dismissed                      d) No improvement
157. The colours **softened** as the sun went down.  
a) brightened                      b) deepened  
c) mellowed                      d) No improvement
158. The new manager is soft-spoken and is **considerable** to all.  
a) conceited                      b) considerate  
c) constricted                      d) No improvement
159. He **hanged** his portrait in the main hall.  
a) hang                      b) hung  
c) hand hanged                      d) No improvement

## Answers and explanations

1. a: The given sentence is written in *Indirect Speech*. The verb of the reporting speech (told) is in *Past Indefinite Tense*. Therefore, the verb of the *reported speech* should be in *Past Perfect Tense*. Hence, 'waited' should be replaced with '**had waited**'.
2. b: When someone boast of something, the correct phrase for this is '**tall claims**'.
3. a: The given sentence suggests that we should have a firm stand for a right thing. For firm and strong stand the correct phrasal verb is '**stand up**'.
4. a: We use '*otherwise*' after stating a situation or fact, in order to say what the result or consequence would be, if this situation or fact was not the case.  
We use '*or else*' to introduce a statement that indicate the unpleasant results that will occur if someone does or does not do something.  
Here '*otherwise*' is the synonym of '*or else*'. Hence we can improve the sentence by using '**otherwise**' in place of '*or else*'.
5. d: '*With a view to*' is a phrase. Here we must not confuse that '*to*' is an infinitive and therefore after '*to*' V<sub>1</sub> should follow. In such cases gerund is used. Therefore, the use of V<sub>4</sub> (v+ing) after the phrase '*with a view to*' is correct. Hence the given sentence does not require any improvement.
6. a: The given sentence intends to mention an event to be completed in future. Therefore, the sentence should be written in *Future Indefinite Tense*. Hence, the bold part should be replaced with '**will complete**'.

7. b; To start a business with somebody else, the correct preposition after the verb 'going' is 'into'. Therefore the bold part should be replaced with option (b), ie 'going into'.
8. a; The given sentence mentions an event that started in past and is still continuing. For such type of sentence we should use *Present Perfect Tense*. Hence replace the bold part with option (a), ie 'has rained'.
9. c; The given sentence is an example of *Indirect Speech*. We know that in *Indirect Speech*, 'I' should be changed to 'he' and and the *Present Indefinite Tense* should be changed to *Past Indefinite Tense*. Hence 'am' should be changed to 'was'. Therefore, the bold part should be replaced with option (c), ie 'he was'.
10. a; The sentence has been written to express the reason for her writing regularly. The reason for her regular writing is 'pleasure'. Therefore, the bold part should be replaced with 'for pleasure'.
11. b; The word 'alternative' is followed by 'to' not 'of'. Therefore the correct option is (b).
12. a; 'Notice' is followed by 'of' not 'about'. Hence the correct option is (a) ie 'notice of'.
13. b; I started liking since I saw him. The process of seeing got completed in past. Therefore, V<sub>2</sub> of the verb 'see' should be used in place of 'had seen'. Hence the bold part should be replaced with 'saw'.
14. b; The implied meaning of the sentence is that there are many applicants but the applications of only those will be considered who are graduates. So, in order to lay emphasis on such type of candidates, 'only' should be used before 'who are graduate'. Therefore, the correct option is (b).
15. c; The most appropriate word, according to the meaning of the sentence is 'set' which can replace 'put'. Hence the correct option is (c).
16. c; To mention an event which got completed in past, and if the person mentioning that event wants to write it in *Past Tense*, in such a situation 'had' is used twice. Therefore, the bold part should be replaced with option (c) that is 'had had a heavy lunch'.  
Or  
To express an event of past in *Past Perfect Tense* 'had had' is used.
17. b; For deleting/removing someone's names the appropriate phrase is 'strike off'. Therefore, replace 'cut off' with 'struck off'.
18. c; The use of double negatives makes the sentence affirmative. But the writer's intention is not to write an affirmative sentence. Therefore it is proper to delete 'don't' so that the sentence can still convey the intended meaning.
19. b; 'some of her' conveys the meaning of some friends out of many. But the writer wants to convey that "she has written to no one". Therefore, the correct substitute for 'some of her' is 'any of her'.
20. a; The correct conjunction is "No sooner.....than". Therefore replace the bold part with option (a), ie 'than the lights went off'.
21. b; To express entering into quarrel the phrase is simply 'pick a quarrel'. Hence replace the bold part with option (b).
22. d; No improvement.
23. a; To express two events that is to be completed in future, the first event is written in *Present Indefinite Tense*. Here the first event is 'to explain difficulties'. Therefore, the bold part should be replaced with (a), ie 'explain'.
24. c; To decide the correct option first of all, we must understand the meaning of all the phrases given under different options as well as the phrase used in bold.  
**Wash away** = to carry away something; or to destroy and carry away something by rain or floods.  
**Wash off** = to remove something from the surface of something or from clothes by washing.  
**Wash out** = (of a dirty mark) to be removed from clothes by washing.  
**Wash up** = to wash dishes after a meal.  
Now, it is clear that the bold part should be replaced with 'wash up', ie option (c).
25. a; The apparent meaning of 'arrange the car' is to arrange so many cars in a particular order. But here the main intention of the writer is to 'get a car'. Therefore the bold part should be replaced with option (a), ie 'arrange for the car'.
26. c; For going abroad, the saving of money should be done first. To give such a meaning to the sentence, the bold part should be written in *Present Perfect Tense*. Therefore, it should be option (c), ie 'have saved' in place of 'saved'.
27. d; No improvement.
28. d; The auxiliary do/does/did is used to make the sentence either emphatic or interrogative. In interrogative sentences these auxiliaries are used in the beginning of the sentence. In the emphatic sentences these auxiliaries are used just after the subject. The given sentence is emphatic one.
29. d; No improvement.
30. b; Replace the bold part with option (b), ie 'buy'. (Explanation similar to that of Q. No. 23).
31. b; The verb 'stand' is followed by 'on'. Therefore, the bold part should be replaced with option (b), ie 'on my own.'
32. d; No improvement.
33. b; The given sentence is an example of a conditional sentence. The conditional sentences are used to express that the action in the main clause (without *if*) can only take place if a certain condition (in the clause with *if*) is fulfilled. Here, in the given sentence, in place of 'if', 'although' has been used which is incorrect. Therefore, replace 'although' with 'if'.
34. c; 'Where' is used to indicate a 'place' whereas, 'whereas' is used to compare two things, people, situation etc and to show that there is an important difference between them. Here in the given sentence two different situations have been compared. Therefore, use 'whereas' in place of 'where'.
35. b; The use of 'since 1980 and is now living' suggests the given sentence to be in *Present Perfect Continuous Tense*. Therefore, 'was' should be replaced with 'has been'.
36. c; Before deciding the correct option, it is better to understand the meaning of all the phrases given as options and also the one used in bold.

**Look for** = to hope for something.  
**Look into** = to examine something  
**Look around** = To visit a place or building, walking around it to see what is there.

Thus, it is clear that 'out' should be replaced with '**around**', ie option (c).

37. d; No improvement.  
 38. b; The correct idiom is '*to eat humble pie*' that means '*to say and show that you are sorry for a mistake that you made*'.  
 39. d; No improvement ('prefer' is followed by 'to').  
 40. b; '*passion*' is followed by 'for'. Therefore it should be 'for' in place of 'of'.  
 41. d; No improvement  
 42. b; '*Put in*' has different meanings in different contexts. As for example,  
 1. To make a formal offer or declaration, eg **put in a plea of guilty**.  
 2. To fix equipment or furniture into position so that it can be used. eg, *we are having a new shower put in*.  
 3. To interrupt another speaker in order to say something eg, *Could I put in a word?*  
 4. To officially make a claim, request etc. eg *the company has put in a claim for damages*.

**Put on** = to dress yourself in something. eg *Hurry up! Put your shirt on*.

= to give Somebody the telephone so that they can talk to the person at the other end. eg *Hi, Dad can you put shashi on?*  
 = to apply something to your skin, etc.

**Put up** = to show a particular level of skill, determination

**Put off** = to cancel/ to make somebody dislike somebody/something; to disturb somebody.

Thus, it is clear that the bold part should be replaced with option (b).

43. a; Gandhiji is now no more. Therefore, the sentence should carry the meaning of a *Past Tense*. The use of '*would appreciate*' means Gandhiji will appreciate in future, that is not the case. Therefore, it should be '**would have appreciated**' in place of '*would appreciate*'.  
 44. b; The correct phrase is '*fed up with*'. Therefore replace 'by' with '**with**'.  
 45. b; As per rule, no article is used before names of subjects of study. Again, the correct phrase is '*at home in*'. Hence the bold part should be replaced with '**at home in Physics**'.  
 46. a; In American English the usual meaning of '*presently*' is '*at the present time*' or '*now*'. This use is becoming more acceptable in British English, but '*at present*' or '*currently*' is usually used. Thus, it is clear that the given sentence is correct, however it can be improved by option (a) also.  
 47. b; Replace '*slow on*' with '**slow in**'.  
 48. b; '*Interview of the Principal*' means calling the principal for interview but the implied meaning of the given sentence is to fix a time to meet the principal. For that, the correct expression is '*an interview with the Principal*'.  
 49. c; The correct phrase is '*to make both ends meet*'. Therefore the use of '*the*' is superfluous. Hence replace bold part with '**both ends**', ie option (c).

50. b; Usually comparison is done between two similar things. Here comparison of population of Tokyo is being done with the population of any town of India. It is better to write '*that of*' for population, rather than writing '*population of*' twice. Therefore replace bold part with '**that of any town**'.

51. a; '*so that*' is used to get a positive result '*so as not*' is used to give the meaning of '*not*'. Therefore, in order to get desired meaning of the sentence it should be '**so as**' in place of '*so that*'.

52. b; The given sentence is the combination of two clauses—(1) *Can you tell me?* and (2) *Where does your uncle live?* Both the clauses are interrogative in nature. There is no need to use two interrogative sentences where one can do. Therefore change the bold part into affirmative one. Hence, replace the bold part with option (b).

53. c; '*senior*' is followed by 'to' not '*than*'. Therefore go with option (c).

54. c; '*Can*' gives a sense of more certainty than '*may*'. The milk may or may not have gone sour. There is a doubt. We can not say with certainty that milk has gone sour. So it is better to use '**may have gone sour**' than '*can have gone sour*'.

55. a; Certain words take reflexive pronouns with them. For example, *address, enjoy, resign* etc. Reflexive pronouns (*pronoun + self/selves*) must be used with above mentioned words. The reflexive pronoun for '*new comers*' is '*themselves*'. Therefore '*themselves*' must be used after '*enjoyed*'. Hence go with option (a).

56. c; '*Little*' means almost negligible. But the given sentence has been written to express at least some money. Therefore we must use '**a little**' in place of '*little*'.

57. c; '*Money*' is spent on something if it is a case of purchase. The correct preposition is '*on*' which is used after '*spend/spent*'. Therefore we must go with option (c).

58. a; '*Hardly, scarcely, rarely, barely*' agrees with '*when*' not '*then*', therefore, it should be '**when**' in place of '*then*'.

59. c; The process of receiving the letter is already complete. I am not yet to receive that one. Therefore *Past Simple* should be used. The *Past Simple* of '*receive*' is '*received*'. Hence replace '*have received*' with '**received**'.

60. b; The use of '*since 8 o'clock*' suggests the sentence to be in *Present Perfect Continuous Tense*. Therefore, use '**have been listening**' in place of '*are listening*'.

61. b; The '*when*' specifies a particular point of time whereas '*ever since*' specifies a duration starting from any point of time in past and continuing thereafter till present moment. Hence, in order to give correct meaning to the sentence replace '*when*' with '**ever since**'.

62. c; The given sentence is written in *Past Indefinite Tense*. Therefore the bold part also should be written in *Simple Past Tense*. Therefore, '*was feeling strongly*' should be replaced with '**felt strongly**'.

63. a; The correct combination of conjunction is "*had... would have*". Here, in the given sentence '*would have*' has been used in the beginning of the sentence, therefore it should be '**had**' before '*acted*'.



- Therefore the correct option is **'had acted'**.
64. c; To give a complete sense to the sentence there must be something after 'throw'. To consider the correct option let us consider all the options one by one.  
 a) 'Throw down' means 'throw on the ground'.  
 b) 'Throw out' means 'throw something outside something'.  
 c) 'Throw away' means 'throw something very quickly'.  
 Here, in the light of the meaning of the sentence, the dirty insect is thrown away very quickly. Therefore, it should be **'throw it away'** in place of 'throw it'.
65. b; The given sentence is a negative sentence as also it is giving a prohibitive command. As the given sentence is written in *Indirect Speech*, option (a) cannot be correct. Option (b) fits in place of bold part correctly. Therefore, we should go with it. Option (c) is apparently absurd.
66. d; No improvement
67. a; The writer is mentioning a hypothetical situation where he wishes to be present to observe the happenings. Therefore "volcanic eruptions took place" should be written as "volcanic eruptions takes place", ie 'took' should be replaced with **'takes'**.
68. c; To write or think of a story the correct phrase is 'make up'. Therefore 'makes' should be replaced with **'makes up'**.
69. c; The correct idiom is 'cannot help but'. Therefore the bold part should be replaced with **'could not help but'**.
70. c; The correct idiom is to 'call into question' if we want to mention 'a matter of doubt and discussion'. Therefore, it should be **'into question'** in place of 'to question'.
71. c; It is better to know the meanings of different phrases mentioned in options for the phrase given in bold before deciding the correct option.
- Run up** = to allow a bill, debt etc to reach a large total.
- Run into** = to crash into somebody/ something or to experience difficulties.
- Run down** = to make something lose power or stop working; to make something gradually stop functioning or become smaller in size or number.
- Run through** = to use up or spend money carelessly.
- Thus it is clear that the bold part should be replaced with **'ran through'**.
72. a; After 'It is time' the verb takes its  $V_2$  form. Therefore, it should be **'started'** in place of 'start'.
73. c; The word 'reached' used in the given sentence suggests that the sentence to be in *Past Tense*. Therefore, appropriate substitute for 'set' should be **'had set'**.
74. c; The correct phrasal verb is 'evade from'. And, after the use of a preposition the verb takes  $V_4$  (v+ing form). Therefore, 'to pay' should be replaced with **'from paying'**.
75. d; No improvement.
76. a; In the sentence expressing simultaneous increase

or decrease 'the' is used twice. Therefore, replace the bold part with 'the more he gets, the more', ie option (a).

77. b; There are a few words which takes reflexive pronoun after them. Some of these words are *enjoy, address, resign* etc. Therefore, we must use the reflexive pronoun **'ourselves'** (*we-ourselves*) after 'enjoyed'.
78. a; 'With a view to' is a phrase. We must not confuse that after 'to' it should be V. Here 'to' has not been used as *infinitive*, rather it is a part of phrase 'with a view to'. Therefore, after 'with a view to', the verb will take its  $V_4$  form. Hence replace 'to improve' with **'to improving'**.
79. c; 'Shall we' is always used in question tags after 'Let's'. Hence in place of 'shouldn't', it should be 'shall'.
80. a; The latter part of the sentence suggests that the given sentence is in *Past Tense*. Therefore, the 'have' used in former part also should be in *Past Tense*. Hence 'have' should be replaced with **'had'**.
81. b; The 'down-right' is adverb/adjective (only before noun) used to emphasize something negative or unpleasant. Here, the use of 'of' in bold part is superfluous. Therefore replace the bold part with option (b).
82. a; The 'forbid' agrees with 'from'. Therefore replace the bold part with 'from'.
83. d; No improvement
84. c; First of all let us know the meaning of all the phrases used here.
- Look at** = to examine something closely; to think about; to consider
- Look about** = to try to locate someone or something.
- Look in** = to make a short visit to a place; especially somebody's house when they are ill/sick or need help.
- Look into** = to enquire into something.
- Now, it is clear that 'at' should be replaced with **'into'**.
85. b; After 'did' the verb takes its  $V_1$  form. Therefore it should be **'laugh'** in place of 'laughed'.
86. a; Replace 'of' with 'in'.
87. c; The correct usage is 'prior to' not 'prior than'. Hence go with option (c).
88. a; The 'until' means 'upto' (the point in time or the event mentioned). The use of 'the last twenty eight years' suggests a specified period of time therefore, it should be **'since'** in place of 'until'.
89. c; There is no phrase like 'Steer ahead'. According to the suggested meaning of the sentence, it should be **'steer clear'** in place of 'steer ahead'.
90. b; The correct conjunction is 'had....would have'. Therefore, it should be **'would have participated'** in place of 'could participate'.
91. b; The correct substitute for 'came to symbolise' is **'has come to symbolise'**, ie Option (b). options (a) and (c) signify that importance of the event was in the past only whereas truth is that that event still bears importance. Hence it should be **'has'** not 'was' or 'had'.
92. b; Some of the relevant meanings in context of the given sentence are given below:
- Turn off** = to stop listening to some-thing.

- Turn out** = to switch off  
**Turn down** = to reduce the noise etc.  
**Turn in** = to curve towards the centre.  
 Now, it is clear that it should be '**down**' in place of 'off'.
93. c: Amongst the given options only option (c) correctly improves the sentence. Hence we should go with option (c).
94. c: The given sentence is in *Past Tense*. Hence it should be '**had seen**' in place of 'have seen'.
95. a: The '*one of*' is followed by plural noun. Therefore, it should be '**cleverest inventions**' in place of '*cleverest invention*'.
96. c: **Look upon** = to consider somebody/some-thing as a particular type of person or thing  
**Look over** = to examine something to see how good, big etc it is.  
**Look after** = to take care of somebody/something  
**Look for** = to hope for something; to expect something; to search something.  
 It is clear that '*upon*' should be replaced with '**for**'.
97. d: No improvement
98. c: To modify a verb, an adjective or other adverb, or an adverb is used. An adverb that modifies a verb appears immediately before the word it modifies. Therefore, it should be a '**sprightly walk**' in place of '*spright walk*'. The word '*sprightly*' means '*(especially of older people) full of life and energy; lively*'.
99. a: When two subjects are joined by '*as well as*' the verb agrees in number and person with the first subject. Here the first subject is '*Kamal*' which is singular. Hence it should be '**is leaving**' in place of '*are leaving*'.
100. c: The given sentence should be written in *Present Perfect Continuous Tense* because of specific duration (since 9 o'clock this morning) mentioned in the given sentence. Therefore, '*am waiting*' should be replaced with '**have been waiting**'.
101. d: No improvement.
102. c: The given sentence is intended to express that he was behaving still like a young boy. Hence the bold part should be written in *Simple Past Tense*. Therefore '*has lacked*' should be replaced with '**lacked**'.
103. b: If the main clause is negative and there is use of lexical verb (do/does/did) in that clause in question tag the lexical verb has to be in agreement with the noun of the main clause and it should be positive. Therefore the question tag for '*you don't*' should be '**do you**'.
104. b: The normal structure of a sentence in English is S+V+O. Here in the given sentence, the first part is '*I find difficult to understand*'. But there is a lack of object in this part. Hence object should be added to make this part meaningful. Therefore the bold part should be replaced with '**I find it difficult**'.
105. c: The appropriate lexical verb for 'dissolves' is 'does' not 'is'. Therefore it should be '**so does**' in place of '*so is*'.
106. c: Replace '*such*' with '*so*' to give a sense of '*very*'. The correct compound conjunction is '**so...that**'.
107. d: No improvement.
108. b: Replace '*is concerning*' with '**is concerned with**'.
109. d: No improvement.
110. a: **Break off** = to become separated from something  
**Break out** = to start something suddenly (of war/flight/epidemics/unpleasant events).  
**Break up** = to separate into smaller pieces.  
**Break in** = to enter by force; to interrupt or disturb something; to train somebody/something in something new.  
 Now, it is clear that, it should be '**break out**' in place of '*break off*'.
111. b: The given sentence is supposed to be made up of two parts '*there is no objection*' and '*going the party*'. Here the second part requires a possessive pronoun. The appropriate possessive pronoun according to the requirement of the sentence should be '**his**' not '*him*'.
112. d: No improvement.
113. b: It should be '**to tea**' in place of '*for tea*'.
114. b: The correct compound conjunction is '*hardly.... when*'. Therefore, it should be '**when**' in place of '*then*'.
115. d: No improvement.
116. c: The given sentence is a conditional sentence. The second part of the sentence suggests that it should be '**whenever**' in place of '*until*'.
117. a: The correct phrasal verb is '*to discourse on/upon*' that means '*to talk or give a long speech about something that you know a lot about*'.
118. c: To accept that you have committed a '*mistake*' the correct verb is '*admit*'. Therefore '*told*' should be replaced with '**admitted to**'.
119. b: Replace '*isn't it*' with '**do you**' (Explanation same as Q. No. 103.)
120. b: The instructor is giving a command, not a suggestion. Hence, '**should**' which is usually used to give a suggestion, should not be used here. Therefore, '*but should not*' should be replaced with '**and not to**'.
121. c: Here '*interfare*' is a bare infinitive, therefore it will not take '*to*' rather it will be used as gerund. Hence in place of '*interfere*' it should be '**interfering**'.
122. c: The use of 'five times' suggests that the action of knocking is already complete and it has become an event of *Present Perfect Tense*. Therefore it should be '**have knocked**' in place of '*have been knocking*'.
123. a: To imagine something we use '*suppose*' not '*supposing*'. Further, '*supposing*' and '*if*' do not come together, therefore option (b) is ruled out. Option (a) is absolutely correct, therefore we should go with it.
124. b: A decision is taken on the strength of evidence. Hence in place of '*in the strength of scanty*' it should be '**on the strength of scanty**'.
125. b: When two future events are expressed in a sentence, the first event is expressed in *Present Indefinite Tense* while the subsequent event is expressed in *Future Indefinite Tense*. Hence it should be '**invite**' in place of '*will invite*'.
126. b: The '*proportion*' agrees with preposition '*to*' not

- 'with'. Hence replace the bold part with option (b).
127. c; Here, there is a comparison between 'Cheeta' and 'Gazelle'. Hence comparative degree of 'speed' that is 'speedier' should be used in place of 'the speediest' (superlative degree)
128. d; No improvement.
129. a; The correct preposition is 'on' not 'for'. Hence replace the bold part with option (a).
130. b; Replace 'is hearing' with 'hears' because the given sentence expresses a general event.
131. a; After wh-words a verb should be used. Since neither main verb nor auxiliary verb has been used between wh-word and the subject. There must be an appropriate lexical verb between them. The verb 'left' (V<sub>2</sub>) suggests that it should be 'did' (V<sub>2</sub> of do) between 'when' and 'you'.
132. d; No improvement.
133. d; No improvement.
134. a; The 'when' suggests a condition whereas 'as long as' suggests a parallel condition. The given sentence require a phrase bearing the meaning 'parallel condition'. Therefore it should be 'as long as' in place of 'when'
135. a; Here, 'have' has been used for 'problem' not for 'complications'. Since problem is singular. There should be 'has' in place of 'have'.
136. d; No improvement.
137. a; The question tag for 'we have' is 'haven't we' not 'isn't it'.
138. c; Two negatives cancel each other. Therefore it is better to convert one negative into positive. Hence replace 'does not ask for' with 'asks for'.
139. b; The 'repent' takes the preposition 'for'. Therefore, replace 'over' with 'for'.
140. c; Usually apostrophe(s) is used with living things. (For example, *Ram's brother is intelligent*). In case of a non-living thing we use 'of' not apostrophe (s). Therefore, the bold part should be replaced with option (c).
141. a; The appropriate word for a bad moment is 'troubled' moment not 'anxious' moment.
- 142 a; An architect can 'design' buildings, etc. Therefore replace 'devised' with 'designed'.
143. a; The 'besides' means 'in addition to' whereas 'beside' means 'by the side of'. Therefore, 'besides' should be replaced with 'beside'.
- 144 a; The proper word is 'resumes' not 'resurfaces'. Therefore, replace the bold part with option (a).
145. a; Replace 'estimation' with 'admiration'.
- 146 a The correct word is 'auspices'. 'Auspicious' means 'suggesting that there is a good chance of success'. Whereas 'under the ouspices of' means 'with the help, support or protection of somebody/something'.
147. d; No improvement.
- 148 b; Replace 'efficient' with 'effective'.
149. b; Replace 'people' with 'consumers'.
150. b; Replace 'refused' with 'rejected'.
151. b Replace 'in' with 'into'.
- 152 d; No improvement.
153. b; Replace 'what does it matter most' with 'what does it matter more'.
154. b; The given sentence is in *Past Tense* therefore 'don't you?', should be replaced with 'didn't you?'
155. b; The correct phrase is 'boarding and lodging'.
156. b; Replace 'released' with 'discharged'.
157. c; Replace 'softened' with 'mellowed'.
158. b; Replace 'considerable' with 'considerate'.
159. b; Replace 'hanged' with 'hung'.

K KUN DAN