

GMATClub Sentence Correction – OA and OE by Carcass_Souvik101990

1) The original sentence says something that differs from the logical intent. The verb “should” implies obligation; in this sentence, it indicates that one person in the United States ought to experience a coronary event every 26 seconds, as though the person deserves it, or, for that matter, as though any one person could continue indefinitely to have such frequent heart attacks. The American Heart Association clearly means that some person in the United States will experience a coronary event roughly every 26 seconds.

(A) This choice is incorrect as it repeats the original sentence.

(B) “Should” suggests that a person ought to experience a coronary event, rather than that a person will. Furthermore, “every 26 seconds” is an approximation, but the phrase “once in every 26 seconds” is too precise for the situation, suggesting coronary events occur with predetermined frequency.

(C) “Every 26 seconds” is an approximation, but the phrase “one person in the United States once in every 26 seconds” is too precise for the situation, suggesting that a specific person will suffer coronary events on a predetermined schedule. Furthermore, “once in” is wordy and unnecessary.

(D) **CORRECT.** In this sentence, “will experience a coronary event” is free of the unintended connotations of “should experience a coronary event.”

(E) “Should” suggests that a person ought to experience a coronary event, rather than that a person will.

2) The original sentence contains two problems. First, “towering a hundred feet over brownstone units” is unclear and implies the absurd meaning that the glass apartments are located directly over brownstone units in different buildings. Second, the verb “accentuated” should be in the present tense, since the earlier use of the present perfect tense (“have embraced”) implies that the embracing is still happening, and therefore that the ethic accentuates the lives in the general present. Incidentally, in this context, “by choosing” and “in choosing” have nearly identical meanings; as a result, this split is immaterial.

(A) Incorrect, as it repeats the original sentence.

(B) This choice repeats the errors from the choice(A) and adds another. The adjective “seeming” is incorrect, since adjectives modify nouns; it is not “seeming professionals,” but “seemingly younger... professionals.” An adverb must be used to describe an adjective.

(C) **CORRECT.** Using “in hundred-foot towers instead of” rather than “towering a hundred feet over” makes the intended meaning clearer. Also, the verb “accentuates” is in the proper tense (present).

(D) The verb “accentuated” should not be in the past tense, as noted above.

(E) In this choice, “towering a hundred feet over brownstone units” is unclear and implies the absurd meaning that the glass apartments are located directly over brownstone units in different buildings. The adjective “seeming” is incorrect, as noted earlier in choice B. An adverb must be used to describe an adjective. Finally, the participle “accentuating” should arguably be replaced with the relative clause “that accentuates”; following a comma, the participle implies that the professionals are doing the accentuating, rather than the design ethic. This change of meaning is inadvisable.

3) The original sentence contains a misplaced modifier, which alters the intended meaning of the sentence. The modifying phrase “Nearly 2000 years after its initial construction” incorrectly modifies “the United Nations,” the adjacent noun. However, it is the “Roman aqueduct” that was constructed nearly 2000 years earlier, not “the United Nations.” Further, “declared the Roman aqueduct...to be a Heritage of Humanity” uses an incorrect idiom: “declare X to be Y.” The correct form of the idiom is: “declare X Y.”

(A) This choice is incorrect as it repeats the original sentence.

(B) This sentence implies that it was the deterioration of the aqueduct that prompted the “Spanish government to begin renovations.” However, the intended meaning, as dictated by the original sentence, is that the United Nations’ declaration prompted the renovations. Further, “declared the Roman aqueduct...to be a Heritage of Humanity” uses an incorrect idiom: “declare X to be Y.” The correct form of the idiom is: “declare X Y.”

(C) The modifying phrase “After being declared...in 1985” incorrectly modifies the adjacent noun “Spanish government.” It is not the “Spanish government” that was declared a Heritage of Humanity, but rather the “Roman aqueduct.” Additionally, the modifying phrase “which had been deteriorating...” incorrectly modifies the immediately preceding noun, “Segovia.” Again, it was not “Segovia” that had been deteriorating, but rather the “Roman aqueduct.”

(D) The verbs “declared” and “prompted” are written with parallel structure. This changes the original meaning of the sentence by making these actions independent and sequential. However, the intended meaning is that the “prompting” occurred not independently of the declaration, but as a consequence of the declaration. Further, “declared the Roman aqueduct...to be a Heritage of Humanity” uses an incorrect idiom: “declare X to be Y.” The correct form of the idiom is: “declare X Y.”

(E) **CORRECT.** This sentence is clear in meaning. The modifying phrase “which had been deteriorating...” correctly modifies the immediately preceding noun “aqueduct.” Also, the phrase “prompting the Spanish government...” is subordinate to “declared,” making it clear that the “prompting” occurred as a result of the declaration. Finally, “declared the Roman aqueduct...a Heritage of Humanity” uses the correct form of the idiom: “declared X Y.”

4) The original sentence does not contain any errors. The verb clause “was an underground remnant of Earth's earliest days” is correct in tense (simple past “was”) and number (singular “molten rock” paired with singular “was”). Moreover, the modifier “sporadically erupting through volcanoes” correctly modifies “an underground remnant of Earth's earliest days.”

(A) **CORRECT.** This choice is correct as it repeats the original sentence.

(B) This choice unnecessarily and incorrectly changes the simple past “was” to the past perfect “had been,” which is used only when describing the earlier of two past actions. Moreover, the use of “and” here equates the geologists’ false understanding of lava with the fact that it sometimes erupts through volcanoes.

(C) This choice improperly uses the relative pronoun “which” to modify “Earth's earliest days” instead of “molten rock known as lava.”

(D) This choice incorrectly changes the simple past “was” to the conditional “would be.” Moreover, the use of “that” implies that eruption through

volcanoes was part of what the geologists erroneously believed about lava.

(E) In this choice, "having sporadically erupted" incorrectly places this modifier in the past tense, implying that lava no longer erupts through volcanoes.

5) The given sentence is correct as written. "The residents of" a certain place is the proper idiom. It is also correct to refer to the residents living in the "area" of the Chesapeake Bay, rather than in the Bay itself.

(A) **CORRECT.** The original sentence is correct as written.

(B) This answer incorrectly implies that the residents are living "in" the Bay itself as well as the area surrounding the Bay. (Note that if we were talking about residents with houseboats or the like, they would be living "on" the Bay, not "in" it.)

(C) This answer implies that the residents reside only in or on the Bay itself rather than near it or around the Bay area; though there may be some residents living on boats, the meaning of the original sentence indicates it was not intended to be limited to those living in or on the Bay. In addition, logic dictates that the residents cannot live "in" the Bay.

(D) "Around the vicinity of" is both redundant and the incorrect idiom; to live in the "vicinity" of a landmark already includes the area "around" that landmark. The correct idiom is "in the vicinity of."

(E) "Living in and around the Chesapeake Bay area" is redundant; living "in" a particular "area" implies living "around" that same area.

6) The original sentence contains several errors. First, "household appliances and automobiles" are specific examples of durable goods, so they ought to be introduced with "such as" instead of "like." Similarly, "food and shelter" are specific examples of non-durable goods, so "like" is used incorrectly there, too. Second, the use of "if" in this context is incorrect. On the GMAT, "if" is used only to introduce conditional clauses (e.g. "if X, then Y"). Here, the author should have used "whether" instead of "if" to indicate uncertainty about the health of the overall economy. Third, it is illogical to say that "spending...is a cyclical pattern". The author clearly means that spending follows a cyclical pattern. Finally, the author's intent is to make a comparison between spending on durable goods and spending on non-durable goods, but the original sentence incorrectly compares "spending on durable goods" to "non-durable goods."

(A) This choice is incorrect as it repeats the original sentence.

(B) First, "household appliances and automobiles" are specific examples of durable goods, so they ought to be introduced with "such as" instead of "like." Similarly, "food and shelter" are specific examples of non-durable goods, so "like" is used incorrectly there, too. Additionally, it is illogical to say that "spending...is a cyclical pattern". The author clearly means that "spending" follows a "cyclical pattern."

(C) **CORRECT.** The specific examples of durable and non-durable goods are correctly introduced with "such as." The comparison is made in a logically and structurally parallel way: "spending on durable goods...follows a cyclical pattern" is parallel to "spending on non-durable goods...remains constant."

(D) The phrasing of this choice is wordy and awkward, and "determines the cyclical pattern of spending on durable goods" is not structurally parallel to "non-durable spending ... remains constant." Finally, "non-durable spending" has a nonsensical meaning; it is the goods that are non-durable, and the author's intent was to refer to spending on such goods. NOT parallel.

(E) "Food and shelter" are specific examples of non-durable goods, so they ought to be introduced with "such as" instead of "like." Also, this choice states that "non-durable goods...remain constant" when what is meant is that "spending on non-durable goods...remains constant."

7) The original sentence correctly compares a characteristic of top-performing sales organizations with that of other sales organizations. However, the original sentence is unnecessarily wordy in its use of "they have a tendency" as well as "in the direction of" and "is the case." Moreover, the use of the present perfect verb construction "have concentrated" is inappropriate, since the simple present tense is sufficient to describe a regular feature of "sales organizations."

(A) This choice is incorrect as it repeats the original sentence.

(B) This choice is clear and concise. However, in its use of "toward other sales organizations," this choice does not draw the correct and logical comparison between the behavior of top sales organizations and the behavior of other sales organizations. Instead, this choice illogically compares the level of resources concentrated on certain important customers and the resources directed toward other sales organizations. Finally, the construction "concentrate more resources to" is unidiomatic; the appropriate idiom is "to concentrate on."

(C) This choice incorrectly draws a comparison between the level of resources concentrated on a number of important customers and the resources directed towards other sales organizations in its use of "as opposed to other sales organizations." The correct comparison is between the behavior of top sales organizations and that of other sales organizations.

(D) **CORRECT.** This choice correctly draws a comparison between a characteristic of top sales organizations and that of other sales organizations, and is otherwise clear and concise.

(E) This choice incorrectly draws a comparison between the level of resources directed toward a number of important customers and the resources directed toward other sales organizations in its use of "as opposed to." The correct comparison is between top sales organizations and other sales organizations.

8) In C, D and E, the two it's have to mean the same thing, which is not the case. The meaning of the original sentence is clear: If passengers are not deterred by a significant fare increase, the airline industry must be doing well. The original sentence also uses concise language ("price-sensitive passengers") to make its point. Additionally, the pronoun "it" in the original sentence clearly refers to the fact that passengers are not deterred by a significant fare increase.

(A) **CORRECT.** This choice is correct as it repeats the original sentence.

(B) This choice incorrectly replaces the concise phrase "price-sensitive passengers" with the wordy alternative "passengers who are price-sensitive."

(C) In this choice, the pronoun "it" is used initially to refer to a fare increase. In the non-underlined portion of the sentence, a second "it" is used to refer not to a fare increase, but to the fact that a fare increase does not deter price-sensitive passengers. The use of the pronoun "it" is incorrect in this answer choice as it causes the antecedent to be unclear for the second "it" in the non-underlined portion of the sentence. Also, "acting as a deterrent" is unnecessarily wordy, and the use of the term "may raise" suggests that the airlines are being given permission to increase their fares.

(D) In this choice, the pronoun "it" is used initially to refer to a fare increase. In the non-underlined portion of the sentence, a second "it" is used to refer not to a fare increase, but to the fact that a fare increase does not deter price-sensitive passengers. The use of the pronoun "it" is incorrect in this answer choice as it causes the antecedent to be unclear for the second "it" in the non-underlined portion of the sentence. Also, the use of the term "may raise" suggests that the airlines are being given permission to increase their fares.

(E) In this choice, the pronoun "it" is used initially to refer to a fare increase. In the non-underlined portion of the sentence, a second "it" is used to refer not to a fare increase, but to the fact that a fare increase does not deter price-sensitive passengers. The use of the pronoun "it" is incorrect in this answer choice as it causes the antecedent to be unclear for the second "it" in the non-underlined portion of the sentence.

9) In the original sentence, the pronoun "his" lacks a clear antecedent, making it unclear whether it was "Lewis Latimer" or "Thomas Edison" who "became known for his invention of the light bulb." In fact, the plural phrase "Lewis Latimer and Thomas Edison" leads us to expect a plural pronoun later on; if we only wish to refer to "Thomas Edison," we should position the modifying phrase so as to refer to "Thomas Edison" only.

Also, the construction "who became known for his invention" is wordy and could be replaced by the more concise form "known for his invention."

(A) This choice is incorrect as it repeats the original sentence.

(B) This answer choice replaces the wordy construction "who became known for his invention" with the more concise form "known for his invention," but retains the original ambiguity stemming from the lack of a clear antecedent for the pronoun "his."

(C) **CORRECT.** By placing the modifier "known for his invention of the light bulb" immediately after "Thomas Edison" and prior to the introduction of "Lewis Latimer," this answer choice resolves the original ambiguity and makes it clear that the pronoun "his" refers to "Thomas Edison" rather than "Lewis Latimer." The construction "known for his invention" is also more concise than the original form "who became known for his invention."

(D) This answer choice illogically states that it was the "pioneering research" rather than "Thomas Edison" that became "known for his invention of the light bulb," thus altering the original meaning of the sentence. Further, this answer choice retains the original problem of ambiguity by failing to provide a clear antecedent for the pronoun "his."

(E) This answer choice uses the passive construction "research that was conducted by Thomas Edison" rather than the more direct and concise form "research of Thomas Edison." Further, while the placement of the modifier "who became known for his invention of the light bulb" next to Thomas Edison and prior to the introduction of "Lewis Latimer" resolves the ambiguity, the phrase "who became known for his invention" is wordy; the more concise form "known for his invention" is preferable.

10) The original sentence contains the pronoun "them" but it is not grammatically clear whether the pronoun's antecedent is "bowers of sticks and twigs" or "females." Logically, we know that the antecedent is "bowers", so we need to find a replacement that makes this clear. Moreover, the bowerbird does not derive its name from the fact that it builds bowers, but from the bowers themselves.

(A) This choice is incorrect as it is the same as the original sentence.

(B) **CORRECT.** This choice rewrites the sentence to make it clear that the name derives from the bowers and not from the fact of building them, and it also eliminates the pronoun "them" and instead refers to "structures" to make the relationship clear.

(C) This choice does not make it clear that the males build the bowers and decorate them. Instead, it seems to suggest that the bowers exist on their own and that the male uses only the flowers and vegetation to attract females.

(D) This choice uses the phrase "having decorated them" improperly. It is not necessary to use "having" in this context because the sentence describes an ongoing event, not one that occurred in the past.

(E) This choice is in the passive voice, which is not preferable to active voice when a grammatical active version (such as B) is also offered. Moreover, the placement of the modifier "that are built by the males" incorrectly implies the sticks and twigs are built by the males. Also the phrase "and decorated with flowers and other vegetation to attract females" seems to further imply that the sticks and twigs are also decorated with flowers...

11) The initial connecting word "although" indicates a change of direction will occur later in the sentence, but the subsequent connecting word "and" incorrectly allows the sentence to continue in the same direction instead of introducing a contrast.

(A) This choice is incorrect because it repeats the original sentence.

(B) This choice also uses the incorrect connecting word "and" when the initial "although" indicates a change of direction is necessary. In addition, "it" has an unclear antecedent; it could be referring back to "book" or "lifetime."

(C) **CORRECT.** This choice correctly removes the connecting word "and," enabling the change of direction indicated by "although" to take place successfully.

(D) This choice uses a semicolon incorrectly. Semicolons require each clause before and after the semicolon to be complete sentences, and here "Although reclusive author Harper Lee wrote just one book in her lifetime" is not a complete sentence. In addition, "it" has an unclear antecedent; it could be referring

back to "book" or "lifetime."

(E) This choice uses a semicolon incorrectly. Semicolons require each clause before and after the semicolon to be complete sentences, and here "Although reclusive author Harper Lee wrote just one book in her lifetime" is not a complete sentence.

12) There are several errors in the original sentence. First, "some scientists suggest the moon..." illogically indicates that the moon is the object of the verb "suggest." The scientists are not suggesting the moon, rather they are suggesting something about the moon. Second, "formed out of" is wordier than the preferred idiom "formed from." Finally, the relative pronoun "which" must refer to the immediately preceding noun, suggesting illogically in this case that "the Earth" was dislodged by a meteor. It is more likely that the author intends to say that "a part" of the Earth was dislodged, or that "the moon" was dislodged from the Earth.

(A) This choice is incorrect as it repeats the original sentence.

(B) **CORRECT.** This choice begins with "some scientists suggest that the moon was formed..." clearing up the confusion from the original sentence about what the scientists are suggesting. Second, this choice uses the preferred idiom "formed from." The modifying phrase "that had perhaps been dislodged" correctly refers to "part of the Earth."

(C) The use of the active verb "formed" is incorrect here because it illogically suggests that "part of the Earth" had an active role in forming the moon.

(D) First, "some scientists suggest the moon..." illogically indicates that the moon is the object of the verb "suggest." The scientists are not suggesting the moon, rather they are suggesting something about the moon. Second, "formed out of" is wordier than the preferred idiom "formed from."

(E) The scientists suggest that two actions occurred: "the moon had been formed" and "part of the Earth...had been dislodged." Both of these actions took place in the distant past, and it is logical to infer that the part was dislodged, and later the moon was formed from it. However, this choice uses the past perfect tense for both actions, incorrectly indicating that the part was dislodged and the moon simultaneously formed. Furthermore, the past perfect tense is only used correctly to indicate that one action took place prior to some other action in the simple past tense; this sentence has no verbs in the simple past tense, so the use of the past perfect tense is not warranted.

13) The original sentence incorrectly compares the work of Byron and Shelley to poets. In addition, the use of "which" in the original sentence incorrectly implies that "themes of love and beauty" gave rise to Romanticism.

(A) This choice is the same as the original sentence.

(B) **CORRECT.** The comparison is correctly drawn between Byron and Shelley and "other poets." Moreover, the original problematic use of "which" has been corrected.

(C) This choice incorrectly compares "other poets" to "Byron and Shelley's work."

(D) This choice incorrectly uses "like" to compare verb clauses. Instead, "as" would be appropriate here. Moreover, parallelism requires that the comparison be made between "the work of Byron and Shelley" and "the work of other poets" or between "Byron and Shelley" and "other poets." Instead, we have "the work of Byron and Shelley" and "other poets."

(E) This choice is awkward and wordy. Moreover, the verb "was" incorrectly refers to "the works of Byron and Shelley."

14) The sentence begins with a modifier: "quarried from a site over five miles away". This clearly describes stone. However, the subject of the modifier in the original sentence is "scientists." This is incorrect. We need to find a choice that places some kind of stone as the subject of the modifier.

(A) This choice is the same as the original.

(B) While the opening modifier correctly modifies "the massive stone blocks," the phrase "because of how" seems to imply that the prehistoric Britons' method of transporting the stones is known.

(C) This choice incorrectly uses "scientists" as the subject of the opening modifier.

(D) **CORRECT.** "Massive stone blocks" is correctly placed as the subject of the modifier.

(E) While the opening modifier correctly modifies "the massive stone blocks," this sentence omits reference to the prehistoric Britons and contains the awkward phrase "due to being transported".

15) Official Answer (OA) – D Concepts Tested – Run-on, Meaning

The sentence as written is a run-on sentence because it uses a comma to connect two independent clauses. Hence eliminate A

B and C - The usage of 'and' makes no sense because the sentence is not telling us two different things that overworked truck drivers do.

Between D and E, E distorts the meaning by incorrectly suggesting that truck drivers were falling asleep as a result of the crashes. D properly connects the first clause with the second clause using 'by' and is the best answer

16) Official Answer (OA) – E Concepts Tested – Usage, Meaning (Modification)

Let's keep out A for the time being because it uses the avoidable 'being' (Remember the usage of 'being' is to be avoided but it may not always be incorrect. If we don't like any of the other options we will go back and reconsider option A)

Option D does not have a verb so let's eliminate D.

This brings us down to B, C, and E. Comparing these three options vertically, we immediately spot the split between 'due to' and 'because'. Remember 'due to' can only be used to replace 'caused by', it can never be used to replace 'because/because of'. Try replacing 'due to' with 'caused by' in option B and you'll realise that this makes no sense. So B goes out.

C and E both are grammatically correct. Now you are being tested on the meaning of the sentence. The original sentence is using 'primarily' to modify 'because' so as to suggest that the primary reason for the difficulty is the fact that the icy surface is difficult to penetrate. E conveys this same meaning whereas C (by using 'primarily' to modify 'icy') distorts the meaning by suggesting that the surface is primarily 'icy'. Thus E is the best answer.

17) Official Answer (OA) – D Concepts Tested – Verb, Usage

The sentence as written is missing a verb, so A goes out. It also uses 'which' incorrectly as a restrictive phrase (there is no comma before 'which'). B is again missing a verb.

C goes out because the present tense verb 'are' does not agree with the past tense (occurred) implied in the sentence

Between D and E, E is awkward in construction. 'Drowning' is an accident and it is much better to say that an accident 'took place'. It also uses the avoidable 'being'. Hence D is the best answer

18) Official Answer (OA) – B Concepts Tested – Verb Tense

The past perfect tense 'had' is not required in this sentence because there are no two events happening in the past. The 'disproving' and the 'showing' happened at the same time, hence the use of the simple past tense 'disproved' should be correct. Thus B is the best answer.

A - Incorrectly uses the past perfect tense

C - The sentence is talking about an event in the past so the use of the present tense is incorrect

D - The sentence is talking about an event in the past so the use of the present perfect tense is incorrect

E - This sentence is a fragment since it's missing a verb.

19) Official Answer (OA) – C Concepts Tested – Sub-Verb Agreement, Pronoun Agreement, Wordiness

The Board of Directors is singular so the plural pronoun 'they' cannot be used to refer to it. Hence eliminate A

D - 'Have a belief' is wordy. Plural 'they' cannot refer to the singular 'Board'

E - Distorts the meaning by removing the causal relation and instead suggesting that the Board believes in doing two things - maintaining and tapping.

Between B and C, in B the singular 'Board' does not agree with the plural 'believe'. Also the phrase 'by means of' is unnecessarily wordy. Hence C is the best answer.

20) Official Answer (OA) – A Concepts Tested – Verb, Parallelism

The sentence is correct the way it is written with 'begin' and 'culminate' in the correct parallel form.

B is missing a main verb

C - Even though 'beginning' is parallel with 'culminating', this sentence is a fragment because it is missing a verb.

D - 'have begun' is not parallel with 'culminated'

E - 'are begun' is logically inconsistent

21) Official Answer (OA) – A Concepts Tested – Meaning, Verb, Wordiness, Run-on

The sentence is correct as written.

B distorts the meaning by changing the placement of 'may'. It is also missing a main verb

C - The usage of should distorts the meaning because 'should' implies that the scientists 'suggest' (and not 'believe') that a cure be found. 'In the belief of' is wordy

D is a run-on sentence because it uses a comma to connect two independent clauses

E is missing a main verb

22) Official Answer (OA) – E Concepts Tested – Parallelism, Meaning (Conjunction)

The scientists have deemed the new composition two things - confusing and elegant - so these should be put in proper parallel construction. Also a 'contrasting' connector such as 'yet' should be used to bring out the contrast between these two qualities. E gets both of these correct and is the best answer.

A - 'Elegant' should follow 'and' to make the structure parallel with 'confusing'. Also 'and' should be replaced with a contrasting conjunction

B - The use of 'by having its' is awkward and not parallel with the structure of the first part.

C - The phrase starting with 'it' is not parallel to the first part of the sentence. 'Elegant' should follow 'and'

D - Gets the contrast right by using 'while' but the passive construction breaks the parallel structure

23). Official Answer (OA) – C Concepts Tested – Meaning (Modification), Parallelism, Pronoun Agreement

The original sentence starts off with a modifying phrase - By constructing new windmill farms,. What follows the comma should be whoever is doing this construction, but both A and B get this wrong and can be eliminated.

D - In the phrase 'it keeps tons...', the singular 'it' incorrectly refers to the plural 'windmill farms'

Between C and E, in E the last part of the sentence starting with 'and' is passive and not parallel to the earlier part. Hence C is the best answer

24). Official Answer (OA) – D Concepts Tested – Meaning (Conjunction), Parallelism

The original sentence implies a contrast so the use of 'and' distorts the meaning of the sentence.

B - In the absence of a connecting word, there is no logical connection between the part before and after the comma

C - There needs to be a preposition 'in' before 'Ireland' to make this parallel to the earlier part

E - Gets the contrasting connector 'but' right, but you still need an 'in' before 'Ireland' to make it parallel with the phrase 'in England' used earlier in the sentence

D uses 'not' correctly to show the contrast inherent in the sentence and also uses 'in' before 'Ireland'. D is the best answer

25). Official Answer (OA) – D Concepts Tested – Sub-Verb Agreement, Usage, Verb

Since we are talking about the 'presidency' of three people, the correct word should of course be the plural 'presidencies'. Hence eliminate A and B

Among C, D, and E, the use of 'happened' and 'took place' does not make sense with 'origin.' The 'origin' of something can always be 'traced' to something else.

Also, in the case of E, the use of 'that' before 'took' results in the sentence missing a main verb. Hence D is the best answer

26). Official Answer (OA) – E Concepts Tested – Meaning (Modification), Verb

The original sentence starts with the modifying phrase - Carried by strong winds, - so whatever was carried by strong winds needs to follow the comma. It obviously has to be the 'dust' that was carried by strong winds so the answer has to be either C or E.

The usage of 'that' in C results in the sentence missing a main verb; hence E is the best answer.

27). Official Answer (OA) – D Concepts Tested – Meaning, Redundancy

The original sentence looks grammatically correct but fails to make logical sense. If the principal has increased the number of teachers in the school, then why is he being accused of maintaining a poor ratio of students to a teacher? Thus eliminate A

B - The modifying phrase starting with 'increasing' cannot possibly be used to modify the principal because it is not the principal who is increasing

C - The use of 'has begun' distorts the meaning because the original sentence suggests that the principal has already increased the number of teachers. Also the subject (principal or he) needs to be repeated in the clause after the comma.

Between D and E, the usage of 'although' and 'yet' together in E is a redundancy.

Hence D is the best answer.

28). Official Answer (OA) – D Concepts Tested – Usage, Meaning, Parallelism, Sub-Verb Agreement

A shift always ‘takes place’ or ‘happens’ so saying that ‘the shift is because of something’ does not make sense. Thus eliminate A and C.

E gets the parallel construction wrong and also the singular verb ‘becomes’ does not agree with the plural subject ‘adults’

B and D both are grammatically correct but the original sentence states that adults in general are getting fewer cavities whereas B distorts this by suggesting that fewer adults are getting cavities. Hence D is the best answer.

29). Official Answer (OA) – E Concepts Tested – Meaning (Modification), Verb Tense

The sentence starts with a modifying phrase - If asked to name a favourite musical group, - so what follows the comma should be whoever is asked to name a favourite musical group. Doing a first-word split quickly tells you that this has to be ‘many people’. Hence A, B, and C go out.

In D, the use of the present tense in ‘choose’ is not consistent with the past tense implied in the non-underlined part of the sentence (‘asked’). E gets this right by using the past tense ‘would’, and is the best answer.

30). Official Answer (OA) – E Concepts Tested – Meaning (Modification), Verb

The sentence starts with a modifying phrase - to reduce the discharge of untreated wastes into the Great Lakes, - so whoever is doing this reduction should come after the comma i.e. the United States. Hence eliminate A, B, and D.

The present tense ‘have set’ in D is not consistent with the non-underlined part of the sentence, which is talking about an event in the past. E gets this right by using the past tense ‘set’, and is the best answer.

31). Official Answer (OA) – A Concepts Tested – Meaning (Modification), Idiom

The original sentence is correct as written

B does not have a grammatical error but changes the meaning of the sentence by using ‘certifiable’ to modify ‘doctor’.

C - There is no connection between the parts before and after the comma. For this to be correct the part after the comma should also mention the subject once again.

D – The correct idiom is ‘certified as’

E - There is no connection between the parts before and after the comma. For this to be correct the part after the comma should also mention the subject once again. The placement of ‘already’ is awkward.

32). Official Answer (OA) – A Concepts Tested – Verb Tense, Run-on, Pronoun Reference

The sentence is correct the way it is written.

B - The use of the past continuous tense (were not showing) is incorrect. We actually need to use the past perfect tense to match ‘had begun’ in the non-underlined part

C - This is a run-on sentence because a comma is used to connect two independent clauses

D - By omitting the pronoun ‘they’ or ‘them’, this sentence fails to clarify who should have shown the signs of the disease

E - The usage of the pronouns ‘it’ and ‘they’ introduces ambiguity in the sentence

33). Official Answer (OA) – D Concepts Tested – Sub-Verb Agreement, Idiom

We can do a split using the verb ‘contribute’. Since we have a compound subject - improper diet and sedentary lifestyle - the verb obviously needs to be plural.

A and B go out because they use the singular ‘contributes’

E goes out because of the singular verb ‘has been contributing’

Between C and D, C unnecessarily uses the continuous tense whereas the sentence does not emphasise the ongoing nature of an activity. C also gets the idiom wrong – the correct idiom is ‘contribute to’. Hence D is the best answer.

34. Official Answer (OA) – E Concepts Tested – Parallelism, Meaning

Friends of the poet use two words to describe him - annoying and delightful. These two should be in the correct parallel form. Also note that these two qualities are contrasting so should be joined using a contrasting connector such as ‘but’. E is the best answer.

A - The passive construction breaks the parallel structure

B - Nothing wrong with the grammar and also uses the contrasting word ‘although’. The problem is that this option distorts the meaning of the original sentence by using ‘delightful’ as an adjective to modify ‘words’ whereas the original sentence does not tell us anything about the words that the poet uses

C - The use of ‘and’ and ‘too’ distorts the meaning of the sentence because the poet is being described using contrasting qualities

D - Unnecessarily uses the avoidable ‘being’ that breaks the parallelism.

35. Official Answer (OA) – E Concepts Tested – Parallelism

The non-underlined part of the sentence uses ‘listening’ and ‘relaxing’ so the underlined part should use ‘practicing’ to get the parallelism right. Hence eliminate C and D.

Options A and B unnecessarily use the words ‘to be’ and ‘for’ before ‘practicing’. This also breaks the parallelism. Hence E is the best answer

36. Official Answer (OA) – D Concepts Tested – Meaning (Modification)

The original sentence starts with the modifying phrase - Driving through the mountains, - what follows the comma should be whoever is driving through the mountains. Doing a first-word split the answer has to be ‘we’ i.e. D.

37. Official Answer (OA) – B Concepts Tested – Wordiness, Usage

The best answer is one that conveys the meaning crisply using the least number of words, in this case B.

A and C are unnecessarily wordy.

E - The use of ‘for recounting’ is unidiomatic

D - Makes for a disconnected sentence. It is not clear who ‘recounted’

38. Official Answer (OA) – B Concepts Tested – Run-on, Usage, Verb Tense

The original sentence, as written, is a run-on sentence since it incorrectly uses a comma to connect two independent clauses.

B corrects this error by using the relationship word ‘by’, and is the best answer.

C – The use two back-to-back modifying phrases (one starting with who and the other with whose) is always incorrect on the GMAT. Also missing a main verb.

D - Incorrectly uses the past perfect tense ‘had; also has an awkward and wordy construction

E – Incorrectly uses the present continuous tense ‘is enriching’, when the original sentence is in the past tense (enriched)

39. Official Answer (OA) – C Concepts Tested – Verb, Meaning

The sentence, as written, is a fragment because it is missing a verb. It also incorrectly gets ‘were’ to agree with ‘writing’.

B does not have a grammatical error but distorts the meaning of the original sentence by using ‘powerful’ as an adjective to modify ‘storytellers’

D has an awkward construction that makes no logical or grammatical sense

Between C and E, E has a passive construction that makes it sound awkward; C is the best answer

40. Official Answer (OA) – E Concepts Tested – Meaning (Modification), Run-on

In the original sentence, the modifying phrase - Finding the view from the mountains fascinating, - should be followed by whoever is finding this view fascinating i.e. Caesar. Both A and C get this wrong so eliminate them.

B is a run-on sentence since it uses a comma to join two independent clauses

The passive construction in D sounds very awkward compared to the active one in E, which is the best answer.

41. Official Answer (OA) – A Concepts Tested – Pronoun Agreement, Verb

Doing a first-word split proves beneficial on this question. Some options start with 'each' and some with 'all'; this immediately tells you to check for subject-verb or pronoun agreement.

B and C go out because the plural pronoun 'their' does not agree with the singular subject 'every one' / 'each'

D goes out because the singular pronoun 'his' does not agree with the plural subject 'all'

Between A and E, E is missing a verb because of the usage of 'who'; hence A is the best answer.

42. Official Answer (OA) – A Concepts Tested – Wordiness, Meaning

The original sentence is correct as written.

B is unnecessarily wordy

C - The use of 'besides' means 'in addition to' which is not the same as 'despite'

D - distorts the meaning of the sentence by using 'all' to modify 'pollution'

E - Same as C above

43. Official Answer (OA) – C Concepts Tested – Parallelism, Meaning, Idiom

Whenever you see 'both' in a sentence check for two things - the placement of 'both' and parallelism between the two things being referred to by 'both' i.e. enforcement and availability

A - The two things implied by both are not parallel. The use of 'being' is awkward

B - Distorts the meaning because there are no two things coming after 'both'

C - The best answer. Makes 'enforcement' parallel with 'availability'

D - The placement of 'both' is incorrect suggesting that there is an enforcement of two things happening in the sentence.

E - The correct idiom is 'both X and Y' and not 'both X in combination with Y'. Also 'available recreational activities' is different from 'availability of recreational activities'

44. Official Answer (OA) – D Concepts Tested – Verb Tense

The options can be split between 'would' and 'will'. Since the sentence is in the past tense (practiced) the correct verb has to be 'would'. Hence B, C, and E go out.

Between A and D, A unnecessarily uses the continuous tense, so D is the best answer.

45. Official Answer (OA) – C Concepts Tested – Parallelism, Run-on

The sentence tells you three things about Salman Rushdie - he was born in India, he was raised in Pakistan, and he now resides in England. These facts need to be conveyed in a coherent and logical manner. C does this best and is the best answer.

A - Awkward construction. The phrase 'being born in India first' appears disjointed with the rest of the sentence

- B - Awkward construction. Uses too many 'beings'
- D - Creates a run on sentence by using a comma to connect two independent clauses
- E - Awkward construction. The participle 'raised' is not parallel with the verb 'resides'.

46. Official Answer (OA) – A Concepts Tested – Verb, Meaning

The sentence is correct as written

- B - The usage of 'which' results in the sentence missing a verb
- C - Incorrectly uses the past perfect tense. Out of the two events that occurred in the past, the establishment of voting rights was the latter one and not the former, so it needs the simple past tense 'were'
- D - The placement of the phrase - throughout United States - seems to incorrectly suggest that women had voted as early as the 1870s throughout the United States. Also uses the avoidable 'being'
- E - Distorts the meaning by putting 'voting rights' away from 'women'

47. Official Answer (OA) – B Concepts Tested – Meaning, Pronoun Reference, Run-on

The sentence as written is awkward and unclear. It fails to clarify who is taking this risk. B makes it clear and is the best answer.

- C - 'Them' has no clear antecedent. To refer back to the young deer the correct term should be 'themselves'
- D - Creates a run-on sentence by using a comma to connect two independent clauses
- E - The use of 'likewise' is incorrect since there is no similarity indicated anywhere in the sentence.

48. Official Answer (OA) – E Concepts Tested – Meaning, Redundancy

The correct option should start with 'to' because it took the museum decades to do something. Hence E is the best answer

- A - The usage of 'and' is incorrect because it fails to show the relation between the two parts of the sentence
- B - 'Their' has no antecedent. Almost makes it sound as if the Rembrandt collection of the museum was acquired by someone else
- C - The usage of 'and' is incorrect because it fails to show the relation between the two parts of the sentence
- D - Redundancy in the use of 'finally' and 'at last'. Doesn't make clear who did the acquiring

49. Official Answer (OA) – A Concepts Tested – Meaning (Modification)

A is correct as written. The modifying phrase at the beginning correctly modifies 'Julio Gonzalez.'

- B - Distorts the meaning by stating that the Spanish themes are world renowned
- C - The modifying phrase at the end incorrectly seems to modify 'Spanish cultural themes'
- D - The modifying phrase at the beginning of the sentence incorrectly modifies Julio Gonzalez' art
- E - Distorts the meaning by incorrectly implying that Julio Gonzalez is a world-renowned artist

50. Official Answer (OA) – A Concepts Tested – Meaning, Tense

A last-word split comes in handy in this question. Since the sentence talks about a past event, we need to go with 'would' and not 'will'. Hence B and C go out.

E uses a double negative by using 'hardly' and 'nothing' in the same sentence

Both A and D get the grammar correct but D distorts the meaning by using 'should' to imply 'suggestion' whereas the original sentence uses 'must' to imply 'compulsion'. Hence A is the best answer.

51. Official Answer (OA) – E Concepts Tested – Parallelism, Wordiness, Meaning

The use of ‘and’ should tell you to check for parallelism. Stacy had shown improvement in literature and in something else. Thus A goes out because it uses the infinitive ‘to learn’ after the ‘and’.

B - breaks the parallelism by repeating the subject ‘she’ after the comma

C - the phrase ‘ability that was considerable’ is awkward and unnecessarily wordy

D - Distorts the meaning by changing the adjective ‘considerable’ into the adverb ‘considerably’

E – Gets the parallelism right by repeating the ‘in’ before ‘foreign languages’, and is the best answer

52. Official Answer (OA) – A Concepts Tested – Meaning, Verb

In this question, a lot of the options get the grammar correct but the meaning wrong because of the incorrect placement of ‘both’. The original sentence implies that the director reveals two things through his movies - the pain and the beauty. Thus ‘both’ should come after ‘reveals’ since the director is revealing two things. The sentence is correct the way it is written

B - This sentence is a fragment because it does not have a main verb

C - The placement of ‘both’ before ‘reveals’ is incorrect

D - The placement of ‘both’ makes it appear as though the director is revealing something to two people

E - Gets the subject-verb agreement wrong. The director ‘reveals’, he cannot ‘reveal’. Also the use of ‘yet’ to imply contrast is incorrect

53. Official Answer (OA) – C Concepts Tested – Subjunctive, Meaning

The question is talking about a cause and its effect so it’s best to start with ‘because’. The use of ‘require’ implies the subjunctive mood so ‘require’ must be followed by a ‘that’. C is the best answer

A - The usage of ‘being’ makes the sentence awkward and unclear

B - According to the subjunctive mood, ‘require’ needs to be followed by a ‘that’

D - No grammatical error but the usage of ‘and’ fails to show the cause and effect relation implied by the original sentence

E - The usage of ‘require’ and ‘should’ is logically inconsistent because ‘requires’ implies a compulsion whereas ‘should’ implies a suggestion. Also the usage of a semi colon fails to show the cause and effect relation implied by the original sentence

54. Official Answer (OA) – C Concepts Tested – Comparison, Meaning (Modification)

The sentence starts with a modifying phrase - A mixture of reggae and jazz, - so what follows the comma should be the music and not the artist. Thus B and E go out.

A incorrectly compares the music of the artist with his contemporaries (and not with their music)

Between C and D, D is unnecessarily wordy and also the use of ‘being’ makes the construction unclear. C is the best answer.

55. Official Answer (OA) – B Concepts Tested – Run-on, Parallelism, Verb

The sentence as given is a run-on sentence because it uses a comma to connect two independent clauses. B is the best answer as it gets the placement of ‘both’ right and also uses the parallel structure correctly.

C - The placement of ‘both’ is incorrect. The original sentence implies that the release of Jurassic Park led to the inauguration of two things; hence ‘both’ should come after ‘inauguration’

D - The use of ‘and’ is not appropriate since it fails to show the causal relationship implicit in the sentence. Also the preposition ‘of’ does not have to be repeated in the phrase ‘of the audience’s fascination with dinosaurs’ because ‘of’ is coming before ‘both’, which implies that it applies to both the things that come after ‘both’.

E - This sentence is missing a main verb

56. Official Answer (OA) – A Concepts Tested – Meaning (Modification), Idiom

The sentence starts with a modifying phrase - Indicating their desire to rid the country of corruption, - so what follows should be whoever is indicating this desire. Since the pronoun used in the modifying phrase is the plural 'their', the subject also has to be plural i.e. it can't be the leader of the 'Banish Corruption' party. Hence eliminate B, C, and E.

Both A and D are grammatically correct but D gets the meaning upside down by suggesting that the President was elected as the leader whereas it was actually the leader who was elected as the President. Also D gets the idiom wrong – the correct idiom is 'elected as'. Hence A is the best answer.

57. Official Answer (OA) – C Concepts Tested – Parallelism, Meaning, Run-on

C gets the parallelism right ('praise' and 'show') and is the best answer.

A - Breaks the parallelism by using 'it'. Also it's not clear who is the subject in the second clause after the comma

B - The use of 'rare' as an adjective to modify 'kindness' distorts the meaning of the original sentence by suggesting that the academicians are actually showing a type of kindness (rare kindness) towards contrary theories.

D - This is a run on sentence because a comma is used to connect two independent clauses

E - Same as B

58. Official Answer (OA) – D Concepts Tested – Wordiness, Pronoun reference

The relative pronoun 'that' cannot be used to modify living things such as 'painter', hence A is incorrect.

C goes out because the 'it' at the end of the sentence has no antecedent.

E is unnecessarily wordy.

Between B and D, 'is able to make' is the same thing as 'makes', so B is unnecessarily wordy and D is the best answer.

59. Official Answer (OA) – C Concepts Tested – Redundancy, Meaning,

The use of 'because' and 'is the reason' in the same sentence is redundant, so eliminate A. C gets this right and is the best answer.

B - This sentence makes it appear as though 'lack of education' is the reason why planners attack illiteracy first, whereas it is the entire first clause that is the reason and just the lack of education

D - Awkward and wordy construction because of the usage of 'being'.

E - Distorts the meaning by changing 'social ills' into 'illnesses in society'

60. Official Answer (OA) – B Concepts Tested – Sub-verb Agreement, Pronoun reference

This sentence is testing you on the knowledge of singular and plural. Remember that we have a compound subject - accounting and cost-management - so the verb needs to be plural as well. B is the best answer.

A - Two things can be 'examples' and not 'an example'.

C - The singular 'financial field' does not agree with the compound subject

D - The singular 'financial field' does not agree with the compound subject

E - The pronoun 'they' has no logical referent

61. Official Answer (OA) – D Concepts Tested – Run-on, Verb Tense, Meaning

The sentence as given is a run-on because it uses a comma to connect two independent clauses. D corrects this by using a semi colon between the two clauses.

B – Gets the tense wrong – we require the past tense 'set' and not the present tense 'sets'

C - This is again a run-on sentence

E - Incorrectly uses 'by' to show a causal relationship between the first and the last parts of the sentence

62. Official Answer (OA) – E Concepts Tested – Parallelism, Sub-verb Agreement

The sentence is testing you on parallel construction. The pianist did three things to secure the contract and these should be stated in the correct parallel form - studying, practicing, and performing. Thus E is the best answer.

A - Gets the parallelism wrong. Also the singular verb 'has' does not agree with the compound subject.

B - This option also gets the parallelism wrong

C - The passive nature of this construction makes it sound awkward

D - Gets the parallelism wrong

63. Official Answer (OA) – D Concepts Tested – Meaning, Verb Tense

The sentence starts with a modifying phrase - One of the world's most renowned abstract painters, - naturally the comma needs to be followed by 'Piet Mondrian' and not by 'critics'. Hence A goes out.

B - The placement of 'once' incorrectly suggests that Piet Mondrian was only mocked once by his critics. The original sentence actually implies that critics once upon a time mocked Piet Mondrian.

C - Incorrectly uses the past perfect tense. The sentence does not have two events taking place at different time periods in the past.

Between D and E, E is missing a verb. D is the best answer since it correctly uses the simple past tense to refer to an event in the past

64. Official Answer (OA) – D Concepts Tested – Verb, Meaning

The part between the commas (the legendary.....stand today) is a modifying phrase describing Secretariat. Outside of this modifying phrase, the sentence does not have a verb. Hence A is incorrect.

In B and C the use of 'and' does not make sense because the sentence is not telling us two things about the horse

Between D and E, E again does not have a main verb; hence D is the best answer

65. Official Answer (OA) – E Concepts Tested – Pronoun reference, Meaning, Verb Tense

The subject of the sentence is the singular 'band', so the plural 'their' cannot be used to refer to it. Hence A goes out and E is the best answer

B - The adjective 'cheap' cannot be used to modify the verb 'sold'; we need the adverb 'cheaply' instead

C - The non-underlined part of the sentence is in the past tense (shared), so the use of the present continuous tense in 'are selling' is incorrect

D - Distorts the meaning by suggesting that the CDs are 'cheap'

66. Official Answer (OA) – B Concepts Tested – Parallelism, Comparison, Idiom

This sentence is testing you on comparison. The second 'as' in the sentence (as in the Australian.....) needs to be followed by 'inhabit' or 'do' to maintain parallelism and get the comparison right. Thus B is the best answer.

A - The use of 'in' breaks the parallel structure

C - Again the use of 'than' breaks the parallel structure in the first part of the sentence. Also the correct idiom is 'as many.....as'

D - The singular 'does' cannot replace the plural 'inhabit'. Also the correct idiom is 'as many.....as'

E - The use of 'opposed to' breaks the parallel structure

67. Concepts Tested – Redundancy, Meaning

The part between commas (feeling bored and dejected) is a modifying phrase describing Greg so it's best to omit this phrase and see if the rest of the sentence makes sense. Obviously the use of 'and' in A makes no sense, hence A goes out.

D corrects this and is the best answer.

B - There is no logical connection between the two clauses such as the use of 'yet'

C - Looks fine but the use of 'although' and 'nonetheless' in the same sentence leads to a redundancy

E - Totally distorts the meaning by suggesting that Greg was able to finish the task in time because he was feeling bored and dejected.

68. Official Answer (OA) – D Concepts Tested – Meaning, Parallelism

The sentence as given is awkward and unclear because of the use of the phrase 'to be returning'. So keep A out for the time being. B can also be left out because of the passive and wordy construction.

C looks good until you realize that it distorts the meaning of the original sentence by suggesting that the villagers return late i.e. not on time.

Between D and E, the use of 'to have returned' in E is not parallel with 'leave' earlier in the sentence. D makes 'leave' and 'return' parallel and is the best answer.

69. Official Answer (OA) – C Concepts Tested – Parallelism, Meaning

The Contemporary Art Society does two things – one, provides information and guidance and two, gives discounts on artefacts. These two things need to be made parallel. C gets this right and is the best answer.

A - 'provides' and 'giving' are not in parallel form

B - The phrase 'provides the getting of discounts' makes no sense

D - To maintain parallelism a 'not only' needs to be followed by a 'but also'

E - Distorts the meaning by suggesting that the Society is selling a particular type of artefacts i.e. discounted artefacts

70. Official Answer (OA) – D Concepts Tested – Run-on, Idiom, Pronoun reference, Verb

The sentence as given is a run-on because it incorrectly uses a comma to connect two independent clauses. D corrects this by using a semi colon and is the best answer.

B - This is again a run-on sentence. Also the correct idiom is 'so...that' and not 'as...that'

C - The construction is awkward and unclear. Also the pronoun 'his' (his ear) has no antecedent

E - Uses the semi colon correctly but omits the verb 'was'. Also the correct idiom is 'so...that' and not 'as...that'

