

Jhaaria Sentence Correction Notes

→The **present subjunctive** is required in ‘**that**’ clauses after verbs of requirement, recommendation, and request. These verbs include: **require, mandate, insist, command, demand, stipulate, recommend, propose, suggest, urge, advise, move, request, ask, desire.** The present subjunctive is also used in that clauses after adjectives and nouns derived from these verbs: **required, requirement, requested, request, desirable, recommended, recommendation, proposed, proposal, suggested, suggestion, advised, advisable, advice, motion, etc.** *It is also used in ‘that’ clauses after other adjectives and nouns of requirement, recommendation, and request: necessary, essential, critical, vital, imperative, urgent, important, condition.*

Here are some *real GMAT Sentence Correction sentences* that use the present subjunctive:

→The Gorton-Dodd bill requires that a bank disclose to its customers how long it will delay access to funds from deposited checks.

→Legislation in the Canadian province of Ontario requires of both public and private employers that pay be the same for jobs historically held by women as for jobs requiring comparable skill that are usually held by men.

→In one of the most stunning reversals in the history of marketing, the Coca-Cola company in July 1985 yielded to thousands of irate consumers who demand that it bring back the original Coke formula.

→The commission proposed that funding for the development of the park, which could be open to the public early next year, be obtained through a local bond issue.

→Most state constitutions now mandate that the state budget be balanced each year.

→Despite protests from some waste-disposal companies, state health officials have ordered that the levels of bacteria in seawater at popular beaches be measured and the results published.

→Judicial rules in many states require that the identities of all prosecution witnesses be made known to defendants so that they can attempt to rebut the testimony, but the Constitution explicitly requires only that the defendant have the opportunity to confront an accuser in court.

→During her presidency of the short-lived Woman’s State Temperance Society (1852-1853), Elizabeth Cady Stanton, a staunch advocate of liberalized divorce laws, scandalized many of her most ardent supporters by suggesting that drunkenness be made sufficient cause for divorce.

→Several financial officers of the company spoke on condition that they not be named in the press reports.

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→The new regulations mandate that a company allow its retiring employees who would otherwise lose group health care coverage to continue the same insurance at their own expense for a specific period.

→Bankers require that the financial information presented to them by mortgage applicants be complete and follow a prescribed format.

RULE:

X rather than Y preferring **X over Y**

Usage:

Instead of: x instead of Y means substitute X for Y

Like: compare nouns / noun phrases/ Direct Comparison

As: compare actions of two nouns

to introduce subordinate clauses, you can use 'because of'.

As (at the same time) / **because of** (to convey causation)

Manifestations of Islamic political militancy in the first period of religious reformism were the rise of the Wahhabis in Arabia, the Sanusi in Cyrenaica, the Fulani in Nigeria, the Mahdi in the Sudan, and the victory of the Usuli “mujtahids” in Shiite Iran and Iraq.

(A) Manifestations of Islamic political militancy in the first period of religious reformism were the rise of the Wahhabis in Arabia, the Sanusi in Cyrenaica, the Fulani in Nigeria, the Mahdi in the Sudan, and

(B) Manifestations of Islamic political militancy in the first period of religious reformism were shown in the rise of the Wahhabis in Arabia, the Sanusi in Cyrenaica, the Fulani in Nigeria, the Mahdi in the Sudan, and also

(C) In the first period of religious reformism, manifestations of Islamic political militancy were the rise of the Wahhabis in Arabia, of the Sanusi in Cyrenaica, the Fulani in Nigeria, the Mahdi in the Sudan, and

(D) In the first period of religious reformism, manifestations of Islamic political militancy were shown in the rise of the Wahhabis in Arabia, the Sanusi in Cyrenaica, the Fulani in Nigeria, the Mahdi in the Sudan, and(E)

(E) In the first period of religious reformism, Islamic political militancy was manifested in the rise of the Wahhabis in Arabia, the Sanusi in Cyrenaica, the Fulani in Nigeria, and the Mahdi in the Sudan, and in

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Answer:

RULE:

Sentences join two clauses using 'AND' as though they (clauses) are independent. This is the case. Therefore, second 'comma' before second 'and' is necessary, see below pattern OG question 190 (look at correct choice E carefully and please look at the similar constructions of parallel phrases)

E, the best choice, uses parallel phrases for the two major coordinate members (in the rise of... and in the victory of ...) and also for the series listed in the first of these (s in t, u in v, w in x, and y in z). E's placement of the In... reformism phrase at the beginning of the sentence is direct and efficient. Choices A, B, C, and D omit and before the Mahdi, the last element in the first series; thus, they incorrectly merge the second major member (the victory of) into the series listed under the first member (the rise of). Furthermore, in A and B the in... reformism phrase has been awkwardly set between the subject and verb of the sentence.

2) 'Them' is not ambiguous! That's typical ETS trap. We discussed this case already. Please, refer to OG 159 pattern example (pronoun 'they'):

While depressed property values can hurt some large investors, they are potentially devastating for home-owners, whose equity in many cases representing a life's savings can plunge or even disappear.

- (A) they are potentially devastating for homeowners, whose
- (B) they can potentially devastate homeowners in that their
- (C) for homeowners they are potentially devastating, because their
- (D) for homeowners, it is potentially devastating in that their
- (E) it can potentially devastate homeowners, whose

OG 159 Explanation

Choice A is the best. Its wording is unambiguous and economical. The plural pronoun they agrees with its antecedent, property values. The pronoun whose clearly refers to homeowners and efficiently connects them with the idea of lost equity. In B, C, and D, substituting in that their or because their for whose is wordy and confusing since the antecedent of their might be they, not homeowners. Furthermore, can potentially is redundant in B and E. Both D and E use the singular pronoun it, which does not agree with its logical antecedent, property values.

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Usage Notes:

1.) 'unlike' vs 'as....do'

Both forms are grammatically correct but definitely 'as ...do' is less direct than 'unlike', therefore 'unlike' wins. Example OG 267 (as GMAT says we need to keep the sentence as compact as possible)

The correct idiom is "helpful + in + gerund". Example.

New research at Genentech has been helpful in proving the effectiveness of HIV vaccine.

you may also say

New research at Genentech has helped scientist to prove the effectiveness of HIV vaccine.

Demonstrate that shows a fact:

Imagine I stop eating for a week, and I don't die. In this case, I could say that I have demonstrated that it is possible to stay alive and not eat, but I haven't demonstrated how I did it. Remember, "how" means something like "the way that."

Let's compare:

Imagine other people want to know how I did it. I then show people how I drank tea, slept a lot, or whatever. In this case, since I'm showing what I did to succeed, I am demonstrated how it is possible to stay alive and not eat.

Idiomatic Usage: 'likelihood'

'Likelihood of' and 'likelihood that' are idiomatic

'Likelihood for' -Unidiomatic

'to...' vs 'that...'

1) During the nineteenth century Emily Eden and Fanny Parks journeyed throughout India, sketching and keeping journals forming the basis of news reports about the princely states they had visited.

- A)
- B)
- C) to form the basis of news reports about the princely states which they have visited.
- D)
- E) that formed the basis of news reports about the princely states they visited.

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The correct answer is E and it is obvious because in C present perfect have visited doesn't agree with the past tense journeyed. But OG says that C is incorrect also because to form could be read as either in order to form or so as to form. Well I'm little confused because I cannot see the difference between in order to form and so as to form. If there is a difference please, somebody explain it to me.

C could be read to mean that EE and FP would become the basis of news reports.

When I think about this, my first thought is that "so as to form" refers to the goal of creating a basis; "in order to form" means that they would become the basis. However, when I think about it a bit more, I can see that some might disagree. So the main point we can take from this (it doesn't really matter who's right, really) is that the sentence as written is ambiguous and should be changed.

Originally published in 1950, *Some Tame Gazelle* was Barbara Pym's first novel, but it does not read like an apprentice work.

- A) does not read like an apprentice work
- B) seems not to read as an apprentice work
- C) does not seem to read as an apprentice work would
- D) does not read like an apprentice work does
- E) reads unlike an apprentice work

The correct answer is A, but I cannot figure out what is wrong with E.
There is a very subtle difference between affirming a negative and denying an affirmative.

For example, look at the following sentences. Both exist in English, but one is more logical than the other:

I ate nothing today.

I didn't eat anything today.

The second one would be more logical for GMAT SC because it expresses the lack of an action, whereas the first sentence expresses the existence of an action that did not occur.

A huge flying reptile that died out with the dinosaurs some 65 million of years ago, the Quetzalcoatlus had a wingspan of 36 feet, believed to be the largest flying creature the world has ever seen.

- B) and that is believed to be
- C) and it is believed to have been
- D) which was, it is believed
- E) which is believed to be

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Here is the explanation from OG. The pronouns that and which cause confusion in B, D, and E by referring grammatically to the noun wingspan. In choice C, the best answer, it refers to the Quetzalcoatlus.

I cannot understand why the pronoun it in C refers to Quetzalcoatlus and not to wingspan, the nearest noun. For me choice C without pronoun it ---and is believed to have been--- is more accurate.

There are a couple of concrete reasons why "it" seems to refer to Quetzalcoatlus. First, in C, we are paralleling two main, or independent, sentences. And it's natural to assume that the subject remains the same. For example:

Each store can select its own location, and it...

We can assume that "it" refers to "store" since we are using a coordinating conjunction "it." If we wanted to refer to "location," we would probably use a subordinating conjunction, e.g., "which."

Finally,

Quote:

For me choice C without pronoun it ---and is believed to have been--- is more accurate.

If you think this, then you're missing a very important point for GMAT SC--our job is NOT to choose the perfect answer, but to choose the best answer. In fact, many correct answers on GMAT SC are slightly imperfect. If I were more cynical than I am, I would say that GMAT does this to trick you, to make you miss a question.

Astronomers at the Palomar Observatory have discovered a distant supernova explosion, one that they believe is a type previously unknown to science.

Generally "type" should be preceded or succeeded by " of".

i.e "type of something"

" is of a particular type"

Three rules for subjunctive mood:

- 1.Sentence structure should be smth like Subject+verb1+that+object+verb2+Rest of sentence
 2. Verb2 must be in the infinitive form without the 'to' in front of it
 - 3.Don't use the word 'should' with the subjunctive
-

RULE: such + noun + as to is much less common than so + adj/adv + as to.

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Now, for the difference between these two. I think these are best illustrated with examples:

Xue Mei spoke in such a way as to calm us down.

The sales materials are presented in such a way as to encourage attendees to purchase the products on the spot.

These usages focus on doing an action and paying to that action while you are doing it so that the action creates a result. To simplify a bit, these usages answer the question, "Why did you do it in that way?"

So, the most common words to use with this pattern are way, manner, etc.

Compare these similar sentences:

Xue Mei spoke so that we would stop asking her questions.

The sales materials are presented at the end of the meetings so that the participants won't realize the meeting is actually a sales presentation.

Simple rule to remember is 'Like should not be followed by verb whereas 'As' should be followed by verb'

Non-underlined part(following the underlined part) is 'many self-artists'. It doesn't have any verb. So blindly you can choose 'like'

Carpenters, dentists, sewing machine operators, needlepointers, piano players, and indeed anyone who works with their hands for long hours can get carpal tunnel syndrome.

- (A) anyone who works
- (B) anyone working
- (C) workers
- (D) those for whom work is
- (E) any people who work

This is one more example, in which I have rejected 'E' because of 'any people' noun and have chosen C for plural referent 'their' down the line, as all others were singular. But the correct answer is E.

'any people' is valid noun and also a plural one. I was not aware of it. The reason I rejected D was due to 'any people' noun, which I thought is not a valid one.

In good years, the patchwork of green fields that surround the San Joaquin Valley town bustles with farm workers, many of them in the area just for the season.

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- A) surround the San Joaquin Valley town bustles with farm workers, many of them
- B) surrounds the San Joaquin Valley town bustles with farm workers, many of whom are
- C) surround the San Joaquin Valley town bustles with farm workers, many of who are
- D) surround the San Joaquin Valley town bustle with farm workers, many of which
- E) surrounds the San Joaquin Valley town bustles with farm workers, many are

First, many of who is **WRONG**; we need many of whom. (**Rule: quantifier + of + object**. Examples: some of whom, half of which, 44% of whom, etc.)

Second, **we need a conjunction to join the two sentences**; whom is a conjunction. A and E have no conjunctions.

Third, we need whom to replace workers; we can never use which to refer to people.

Finally, we need a singular verb surrounds to agree with the singular subject patchwork.

In its most recent approach, the comet Crommelin passed the Earth at about the same position, some 25 degrees above the horizon, that Halley's comet will pass the next time it appears.

- a)
- b) that Halley's comet is to be passing
- c) as Halley's comet
- d) as will Halley's comet
- e) as Halley's comet will do

Eliminate A and B because "**same...that**" is **unidiomatic**.

X passed at about the same position as did/does/will Y (the emphasis is on the verb)
X played as will Y's son /sounds better than/X played as Y's son will do.

Despite vs. In spite of

in spite of + noun
although + clause
despite + noun
though + clause
even though + clause

They are similar in meaning, yes. They all serve to record something that is surprising or unexpected. But the difference in usage is that although, though and even though are all conjunctions, whilst in spite of and despite are both prepositions. So usage requires:

in spite of + noun
although + clause
despite + noun

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though + clause

even though + clause

Although and though can be used in the same way. Though is perhaps more common in informal speech and writing, whereas although can be used in a wide variety of styles. Compare:

- * 'Our new neighbours are quite nice, though their dog is a bit of a nuisance.'
- * 'She insisted on keeping her coat on, although it was extremely warm in the house as the central heating was on.'
- * 'Although she was commended for completing the Millennium Dome project on time and within budget, management felt that it was now time for a new person with different talents to take over.'

Though is often used with even in order to give emphasis:

- * 'I managed to get good results in my exams, even though I went out four times a week when I was supposed to be revising.'

Whilst despite might be thought more formal than in spite of - it is, after all, one word rather than three - there is really very little difference in usage between the two:

- * 'Despite the appalling weather, they succeeded in walking to the top of Ben Nevis.'
- * 'They decided to get married in spite of the huge differences in their ages.'

So, to summarise: despite and although: similar meanings, but different syntax required. Compare:

- * 'Although it was raining heavily, we finished the game of football.'
- * 'We finished the game of football in spite of the heavy rain.'
- * 'Despite his strong Welsh accent, we understood most of what he was saying.'
- * 'Even though he had a strong Welsh accent, we understood most of what he was saying.'

One further word. Although, despite and in spite of are normally used as prepositions, they can also be used in adverbial constructions with -ing, thus:

- * 'I managed to pass my exams, despite going out four times a week during the revision period.'
 - * 'In spite of feeling terribly sick, I went to work every day that week.'
 - * 'Despite being severely handicapped, he managed to complete the race.'
-

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A huge flying reptile that died out with the dinosaurs some 65 million years ago, Quetzalcoatlus had wing span of 36 ft, and believed to be the largest flying creature the world has ever seen.

- A.
- B. and that is believed to be
- C. and it is believed to have been
- D. which was, it is believed,
- E. which is believed to be

"believed to be XX" refers to now; "believed to have been XX" refers to the past.

The present subjunctive is required in that clauses after verbs of requirement, recommendation, and request. These verbs include: require, mandate, insist, command, demand, stipulate, recommend, propose, suggest, urge, advise, move, request, ask, desire. The present subjunctive is also used in that clauses after adjectives and nouns derived from these verbs: required, requirement, requested, request, desirable, recommended, recommendation, proposed, proposal, suggested, suggestion, advised, advisable, advice, motion, etc. It is also used in that clauses after other adjectives and nouns of requirement, recommendation, and request: necessary, essential, critical, vital, imperative, urgent, important, condition.

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The new regulations mandate that a company allow its retiring employees who would otherwise lose group health care coverage to continue the same insurance at their own expense for a specific period.

Bankers require that the financial information presented to them by mortgage applicants be complete and follow a prescribed format.

Kansas Republican Nancy Kassebaum, one of only two women in the U.S. Senate in 1992, said she did not so much wish for more women senators but more moderate Republican ones.

- (A) did not so much wish for more women senators but more moderate Republican ones
- (B) wished not so much for more senators who were women than moderate Republicans
- (C) did not wish so much for more women senators as for more moderate Republicans
- (D) did not wish for more women senators so much as moderate Republicans
- (E) wished for more senators who are moderate Republicans than women

correct idiom ..so much for X as for Y

so much X as Y - is used necessarily in negative sentence .

in E - the sentence is changed to positive note which is not the same as in stem .
hence C

It is well known in the supermarket industry that how items are placed on shelves and the frequency of inventory turnovers can be crucial to profits.

- (A) the frequency of inventory turnovers can be
- (B) the frequency of inventory turnovers is often
- (C) the frequency with which the inventory turns over is often
- (D) how frequently is the inventory turned over are often
- (E) how frequently the inventory turns over can be

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When a question word ("what," "where," "when," "how," etc.) is used in a statement (as opposed to a question) it is incorrect to invert subject and verb.

Examples:

What time is it?

I don't know what time it is. (It would be wrong to say "I don't know what time is it.")

Where did he go?

He did not tell us where he went. (It would be wrong to say "He did not tell us where did he go.")

When will he arrive?

I don't know when he will arrive. (It would be wrong to say "I don't know when will he arrive.")

How frequently is the inventory turned over?

How frequently the inventory is turned over can be crucial. (It would be wrong to say "How frequently is the inventory turned over can be crucial.")

Though viewed from a distance, Saturn's main rings may appear to be smooth and continuous, they are in fact composed of thousands of separate icy ringlets when viewed up close.

A) Though viewed from a distance, Saturn's main rings may appear to be smooth and continuous, they are in fact composed of thousands of separate icy ringlets when viewed up close.

B) Though Saturn's main rings may appear smooth and continuous when viewed from a distance, they are in fact composed of thousands of separate icy ringlets when viewed up close.

C) Saturn's main rings, when viewed from a distance, may appear to be smooth and continuous, though when viewed up close they are in fact composed of thousands of separate icy ringlets.

D) When viewed from a distance, Saturn's main rings may appear smooth and continuous, but closer viewing reveals them to be composed of thousands of separate icy ringlets.

E) Though composed of thousands of separate icy ringlets if viewed up close, the main rings of Saturn may appear smooth and continuous when they are viewed from a distance.

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ANSWER:

The original sentence introduces the main clause with "though viewed from a distance", which sets up the expectation of a contradiction that never materializes. For example, "Though sleepy, the child stayed awake" is correct, whereas "Though sleepy, the child may have eaten soup" is not. Also, "when viewed up close" is placed in such a way as to illogically suggest that the rings are composed of icy ringlets as a result of being viewed up close. Finally, "appear to be" is redundant.

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

(B) This choice incorrectly introduces the main clause with "though." Additionally, the placement of "when viewed up close" illogically suggests that the rings are composed of icy ringlets as a result of being viewed up close.

(C) This choice incorrectly uses the redundant phrase "appears to be." Additionally, the use and placement of the words "when viewed up close, they are . . ." illogically suggests that the rings are composed of icy ringlets as a result of being viewed up close.

(D) CORRECT. This choice replaces "though" with "when" and shortens "appear to be" to "appear." Further, its use of the phrase "closer viewing reveals" clearly indicates that the close viewing only reveals (not causes) the composition of the rings.

(E) This choice incorrectly introduces the main clause with "though." Additionally, the placement of "if viewed up close" illogically suggests that the rings are composed of icy ringlets as a result of being viewed up close.

Despite the sequel's poor critical reception, most people seeing it find the acting and cinematography at least as good or even better than the original.

A) most people seeing it find the acting and cinematography at least as good or even better than the original

B) most people seeing it find the acting and cinematography at least as good or even better than the original's

C) most people who see the film find the acting and cinematography at least as good as or even better than those in the original

D) most people who see it find the acting and cinematography at least as good or even better than those in the original

E) most people seeing the film find the acting and cinematography at least as good as or even better than those of the original's

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ANSWER:

The original sentence contains several errors. First, the pronoun "it" is used to refer to the film, but the film has not been mentioned in the sentence. Instead "the sequel's poor critical reception" has been mentioned. This is not the same as the film, so the pronoun "it" has no grammatical antecedent and must be changed. Second, the phrase "at least as good or even better than" is incomplete: there should be another "as" after "good". Third, the cinematography and acting are being compared to the "original". What is meant here is that the cinematography and acting in the sequel are as good as the cinematography and acting in the original. This must be changed.

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

(B) The pronoun "it" has no grammatical antecedent and the phrase "at least as good or even better" is missing the second "as" after "good."

(C) CORRECT. This choice replaces "it" with "film", adds the missing "as", and makes clear that the acting and cinematography in the sequel are compared to the acting and cinematography in the original.

(D) The pronoun "it" has no grammatical antecedent and the phrase "at least as good or even better" is missing the second "as" after "good."

(E) This choice introduces the possessive redundancy "those of the original's." One could say either "those of the original" or "the original's", but using both is redundant.

The invention of the cotton gin, being one of the most significant developments of the nineteenth century, had turned cotton cloth into an affordable commodity even though it was expensive before that.

A) being one of the most significant developments of the nineteenth century, had turned cotton cloth into an affordable commodity even though it was expensive before that

B) having been one of the most significant developments of the nineteenth century, turned cotton cloth into an affordable commodity even though it had previously been expensive

C) one of the most significant developments of the nineteenth century, turned cotton cloth into an affordable commodity despite its previous expense

D) one of the most significant developments of the nineteenth century, turned cotton cloth into an affordable commodity despite the fact that it had previously been expensive

E) being one of the most significant developments of the nineteenth century, turned cotton cloth from a previously expensive commodity to an affordable one

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ANSWER:

The word "being" is unnecessary in the opening modifier "being one of the most significant developments . . ." Moreover, the past perfect verb "had turned" coupled with the simple past verb "was" reverses the chronological order of the events. The tenses run counter to the logic of the sentence by incorrectly suggesting that the invention of the cotton gin happened before the cotton cloth became expensive.

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

(B) The words "have been" are unnecessary in the opening modifier. The fact that "have been" is in the present perfect tense also incorrectly suggests that the invention of the cotton gin is somehow ongoing.

(C) This choice incorrectly alters the meaning of the sentence by using the phrase "despite its previous expense" in place of the phrase "despite the fact that it had previously been expensive." "Expense" and "expensive" have different meanings. The word "expense" simply means "cost" so this choice essentially states that the cotton gin was now affordable despite its previous cost. This does not convey the fact that the previous cost was high (expensive).

(D) CORRECT. The modifier "one of the most significant developments of the nineteenth century" eliminates the unnecessary word "being." The simple past verb "turned" coupled with the past perfect "had previously been" correctly expresses the fact that cotton cloth "turned into an affordable commodity" after it "had previously been expensive." The later past event uses the simple past tense, whereas the earlier past event uses the past perfect tense.

(E) The word "being" is unnecessary in the opening modifier. Additionally, in the expression "from a previously expensive commodity to an affordable one" the word "previously" is redundant since its meaning is already contained in the expression "from X to Y."

USAGE OF DESPITE

Despite entering the courthouse with police escort, the lead attorney and his assistant, manhandled by an aggressive crowd of reporters that bombarded him with questions, was injured seriously enough to warrant immediate medical attention.

A) Despite entering the courthouse with police escort, the lead attorney and his assistant, manhandled by an aggressive crowd of reporters that bombarded him with questions, was injured seriously enough to warrant immediate medical attention.

B) Despite the fact that the lead attorney and his assistant entered the courthouse with police escort, they were manhandled by an aggressive crowd of reporters that bombarded

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the attorney with questions and injured him so seriously that he needed immediate medical attention.

C) Despite their entering the courthouse with police escort, the lead attorney and his assistant were manhandled by an aggressive crowd of reporters that bombarded him with questions, injuring him so seriously as to warrant immediate medical attention.

D) Despite the fact that they entered the courthouse with police escort, the lead attorney and his assistant, having been manhandled by an aggressive crowd of reporters, was bombarded with questions and injured seriously enough to warrant immediate medical attention.

E) Despite entering the courthouse with police escort, the lead attorney and his assistant were manhandled by an aggressive crowd of reporters that bombarded him with questions and injured him so seriously as to warrant immediate medical attention.

ANSWER:

The original sentence contains several errors. First, the subject of the original sentence is "the lead attorney and his assistant", yet the corresponding verb is "was injured". The subject and the verb do not agree in number – one is plural, the other singular. Second, "despite" is not properly used with a verb phrase. Instead, it requires a noun or noun phrase. For example, "Despite eating the apple..." is not correct, but "Despite his eating the apple..." is correct. Third, "injured seriously enough to warrant medical attention" is incorrect in this context. "X enough to Y" is used when the emphasis is on Y. "So X as to Y" is used when the emphasis is on X. For example, "I am tall enough to touch the ceiling" implies that the focus is on the fact of being able to touch the ceiling. "So tall as to be able to touch the ceiling" implies that the focus is on the fact of being tall. Finally, the use of the pronoun "him" is ambiguous, since it could refer to either the attorney or his assistant.

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

(B) CORRECT. It eliminates the subject-verb agreement issue and ensures that "despite" is followed by a noun ("the fact"). Additionally, the choice uses the correct expression "so X as to Y" to emphasize the seriousness of the injury. Finally, the sentence is reworked to avoid pronoun ambiguity.

(C) The pronoun "him" has an ambiguous antecedent, since it could refer either to the attorney or his assistant.

(D) The singular verb "was" does not agree with the plural subject "the lead attorney and his assistant." Additionally the phrase "injured seriously enough to warrant immediate medical attention" incorrectly emphasizes the medical attention over the seriousness of the injury,

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(E) The pronoun "him" has an ambiguous antecedent, since it could refer either to the attorney or his assistant. Additionally, the word "despite" is incorrectly followed by the verb "entering" instead of a noun or noun phrase.

THAT vs WHO

The Diary of Anne Frank tells the true story of a young girl and her family that were hidden during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands by a gentile Dutch couple, though they were eventually discovered.

A) that were hidden during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands by a gentile Dutch couple, though they were eventually discovered

B) that were hidden by a gentile Dutch couple during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands, though they were eventually discovered

C) whom a gentile Dutch couple hid during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands but were eventually discovered

D) who were hidden by a gentile Dutch couple during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands but were eventually discovered

E) who were hidden by a gentile Dutch couple during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands even though they were eventually discovered

ANSWER:

The original sentence uses the relative pronoun "that" where "who" is preferred because the antecedent is a group of people. Also, the prepositional phrase "by a gentile Dutch couple" is placed in such a way as to suggest that the occupation was carried out by the couple. Finally, the pronoun "they" is ambiguous – it could refer to the family or to the couple.

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

(B) This choice incorrectly uses the relative pronoun "that" to refer to a group of people. Additionally, the pronoun "they" is ambiguous - it could refer to the family or to the couple.

(C) The use of the object pronoun "whom" makes "a girl and her family" the object of the clause "a gentile Dutch couple hid;" however "a girl and her family" are the subject of the next clause "were eventually discovered." This is a mismatch.

(D) CORRECT. It correctly uses the pronoun "who" to refer to a girl and her family. Additionally, the phrase "by a gentile Dutch couple" is placed immediately after "who"

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were hidden" to clarify the meaning. Finally, the ambiguous pronoun issue is avoided altogether.

(E) The pronoun "they" is ambiguous - it could refer to the family or to the couple.

Though some education experts claim that the low test scores of children in the city can be raised by hiring more teachers and an increase in the amount of funding for textbooks and other supplies, others insist that doing this cannot guarantee any improvement.

A) by hiring more teachers and an increase in the amount of funding for textbooks and other supplies, others insist that doing this

B) by hiring more teachers and increasing funding for textbooks and other supplies, others insist that doing so

C) by a hiring of more teachers and increasing the amount of funding for textbooks and other supplies, other insist that doing so

D) by hiring more teachers and increasing the amount of funding for textbooks and other supplies, others insist that doing this

E) by hiring more teachers and an increase in funding for textbooks and other supplies, others insist that doing so

ANSWER:

The original sentence contains several errors. First, the construction "by hiring more teachers and an increase in the amount of funding for books" is not parallel. We have a verb phrase paired with a noun. It would be better to have two verb phrases or two nouns, since both play the same role in the sentence. Second, "doing this" is incorrect. A verb phrase cannot be replaced by a pronoun such as "this" or "it". Instead, it must be replaced by "so". For example, "I enjoy swimming at night, but doing so is dangerous" is preferable to "I enjoy swimming at night, but doing it is dangerous." Finally, the "amount of funding" is somewhat wordy and could be replaced by the more concise "funding."

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

(B) CORRECT. It contains two parallel verb phrases, "hiring more teachers" and "increasing funding for textbooks and other supplies." Additionally "doing so" correctly replaces "doing this" and the concise "funding" is used in place of "amount of funding."

(C) The noun phrase "a hiring of more teachers" is not parallel with the verb phrase "increasing the amount of funding for textbooks and other supplies." Additionally, "amount of funding" is wordy.

(D) This choice incorrectly uses "doing this" instead of "doing so" to refer back to the verb phrase "hiring . . ." Additionally, "amount of funding" is wordy.

(E) The verb phrase "hiring more teachers" is not parallel with the noun phrase "an increase in funding for textbooks and other supplies."

Jhaaria Sentence Correction Notes

An economic recession can result from a lowering of employment rates triggered by a drop in investment, which causes people to cut consumer spending and starts a cycle of layoffs leading back to even lower employment rates.

A) a lowering of employment rates triggered by a drop in investment, which causes people to cut consumer spending and start a cycle of layoffs leading back to even lower employment rates.

B) a lowering of employment rates triggered by dropping investment, which causes people to cut consumer spending and starts a cycle of layoffs leading back to even lower employment rates.

C) falling employment rates triggered by a drop in investment, which cause cutbacks in consumer spending, starting a cycle of layoffs that lead to even lower employment rates.

D) falling employment rates that are triggered by a drop in investment, causing people to cut consumer spending and starting a cycle of layoffs that lead back to even lower employment rates.

E) falling employment rates that are triggered by a drop in investment, causing cutbacks in consumer spending and starting a cycle of layoffs leading to even lower employment rates.

ANSWER:

The original sentence contains a clause beginning with "which" that logically describes the result of lower employment rates. However, as written, this clause seems to describe the result of "a drop in investment" because "which" modifies the noun just before it. We need to find a replacement that makes the causal relationship clear. Additionally, the phrase "causes people to cut consumer spending" is wordy and somewhat illogical since the people are the consumers. A more concise way to say this would be "causes cutbacks in consumer spending." Finally, the use of "back" is redundant, as it is implied by the word "cycle".

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

(B) The use of "which" incorrectly suggests that "dropping investment" "causes people to cut consumer spending" when, in fact, the employment rates cause this phenomenon. Additionally, the phrase "causes people to cut consumer spending" is wordy and the use of "back" is redundant, as it is implied by the word "cycle".

(C) CORRECT. This choice makes clear, through the use of the plural verb "cause", that the employment rates are responsible for the cutbacks in spending. Further it uses the concise phrase "cutbacks in consumer spending" and eliminates the redundant word "back."

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(D) This choice contains the wordy phrase "causing people to cut consumer spending" and the redundant phrase "lead back." Moreover, the words "causing" and "starting" illogically refer back to the economic recession. In fact, the falling employment rates, not the economic recession, cause the cutbacks in consumer spending and start the cycle of layoffs.

(E) The words "causing" and "starting" illogically refer back to the economic recession. In fact, the falling employment rates, not the economic recession, cause the cutbacks in consumer spending and start the cycle of layoffs.

USAGE: 'from' and 'between'

Because of differences in the humans body's internal pressure and the ocean's, it is essential that a diver returning to the surface ascends slowly or they will suffer a painful condition known as the "bends."

A) Because of differences in the human body's internal pressure and the ocean's, it is essential that a diver returning to the surface ascends slowly or they

B) Because of the difference between the human body's internal pressure and the ocean's, it is essential that a diver returning to the surface ascend slowly or they

C) Because of the difference in the human body's internal pressure and that of the ocean, it is essential that a diver returning to the surface ascends slowly or he

D) Because of differences in the human body's internal pressure and that of the ocean, it is essential that a diver returning to the surface ascend slowly or they

E) Because of the difference between the internal pressure of the human body and that of the ocean, it is essential that a diver returning to the surface ascend slowly or he

ANSWER:

The original sentence contains several errors. First, "differences in" is not properly used to compare two explicit things. For example, "The difference in color is more important than the difference in size" is correct, but "The difference in the color of the apple and the color of the pear..." is not correct. Instead, it should be "The difference between the color of the apple and the color of the pear..." Second, after the construction "it is essential that", one must use the subjunctive mood. In this case, "ascends" (which is indicative, not subjunctive) should be "ascend". Third, the plural pronoun "they" is used to refer to "a diver", which is singular.

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

(B) This choice incorrectly uses the plural pronoun "they" to refer to the singular noun "a diver."

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(C) This choice incorrectly uses "differences in" where "difference between" is required. Additionally, it uses the indicative mood "ascends" where the subjunctive mood ("ascend") is required. Finally, the construction "the human body's internal pressure and that of the ocean" is not parallel.

(D) This choice incorrectly uses "differences in" where "difference between" is required. Additionally, the plural pronoun "they" incorrectly refers to the singular noun "a diver." Finally, the construction "the human body's internal pressure and that of the ocean" is not parallel.

(E) CORRECT. The phrase "difference between" correctly replaces "differences in." Additionally, the verb "ascend" is in the subjunctive mood. Finally, the singular pronoun "he" correctly refers to the singular "a diver."

Usage of 'Due to' Vs. 'Because of'

The number of acres destroyed by wildfires, which have become an ongoing threat due to drought and booming population density, have increased dramatically over the past several years, prompting major concern among local politicians.

A) which have become an ongoing threat due to drought and booming population density, have increased

B) which have become an ongoing threat due to drought and booming population density, have been increasing

C) which has become an ongoing threat because of drought and booming population density, has increased

D) which have become an ongoing threat due to drought and booming population density, has increased

E) which have become an ongoing threat because of drought and booming population density, has increased

ANSWER:

The subject of the original sentence is "the number of acres", which is singular. The main verb, however, is "have increased", which is plural. We need to find a choice that replaces "have" with "has". Moreover, the phrase "due to" is incorrect in this context. "Due to" is a phrase that must describe a noun. "The fire was due to drought" is correct, but "There was a fire due to drought" is not. When describing a verb phrase, "because of" is preferable: "There was a fire because of drought."

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

(B) The plural verb "have been" does not agree with the singular subject "the number of acres." Additionally, the passive voice "have been increased" is incorrect. Finally, the

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phrase "due to drought . . ." is unidiomatic since "because of" (not "due to") should be used to modify the verb phrase "have become an ongoing threat."

(C) The modifier "which has become an ongoing threat . . ." contains the singular verb "has" which does not agree with the plural subject "wildfires."

(D) The phrase "due to drought . . ." is unidiomatic since "because of" (not "due to") should be used to modify the verb phrase "have become an ongoing threat."

(E) CORRECT. The singular verb "has" agrees with the singular subject "the number of acres." Additionally, "because of drought . . ." is properly used to modify the verb phrase "have become an ongoing threat."

A higher interest rate is only one of the factors, albeit an important one, that keeps the housing market from spiraling out of control, like it did earlier in the decade.

A) that keeps the housing market from spiraling out of control, like it did earlier in the decade.

B) that keep the housing market from spiraling out of control, as it did earlier in the decade

C) that keeps the housing market from spiraling out of control, as it did earlier in the decade

D) that keep the housing market from spiraling out of control, like earlier in the decade

E) that keep the housing market from spiraling out of control, like it did earlier in the decade

Rule : one of the factors that..

That always refers to factors not one

Recently documented examples of neurogenesis, the production of new brain cells, include the brain growing in mice when placed in a stimulating environment or neurons increasing in canaries that learn new songs.

A. the brain growing in mice when placed in a stimulating environment or neurons increasing in canaries that

B. mice whose brains grow when they are placed in stimulating environment or canaries whose neurons increase when they

C. mice's brains that grow when they are placed in stimulating environment or canaries' neurons that increase when they

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D. the brain growth in mice when placed in a stimulating environment or the increase in canaries' neurons when they

E. brain growth in mice that are placed in a stimulating environment or an increase in neurons in canaries that

ANSWER: E

"Recently documented examples of neurogenesis... include..." must be followed by two nouns or noun phrases that are examples of neurogenesis. That narrows the choices to D and E.

D has a couple of problems. First, it is not clear what is "placed in a stimulating environment." Second, the reference of "they" is ambiguous. Does it refer to "neurons"? That doesn't make sense. Does it refer to "canaries"? It's not good to have a subject pronoun refer to a noun that's in the possessive case.

The best choice is E.

Most students like to read these kind of books during their spare time.

- A. these kind of books
- B. these kind of book
- C. this kind of book
- D. this kinds of books
- E. those kind of books

kind, manner, sort, type, style, and way must be modified by singular demonstratives (this/that kind or manner or sort or style or way) and that normally each will be followed by an of phrase with a singular object (this kind of dog, that manner of chatter, that sort of dilemma, this type of book, this way of writing). Further, when kind, manner, sort, type, way, and the like are plural, then the preceding demonstratives and any count nouns serving as objects of the following prepositions must also be plural: these kinds of studies, those sorts of poems, these types of airplanes.

Hence C.

Rule (1) One of the most powerful forces **are/is** - it will always take singular form as it always refers to one not forces in any construction.

Rule (2) One of the most powerful forces **that is/are** - it will take plural form as introduction of 'that' causes it to refer to the nearest noun so it will always refer to forces not one.

Jhaaria Sentence Correction Notes

Chicago, where industrial growth in the nineteenth century was more rapid than any other American city, was plagued by labour troubles like the Pullman Strikes of 1894.

- A) where industrial growth in the nineteenth century was more rapid than any other American city
- B) which had industrial growth in the nineteenth century more rapid than that of other American cities
- C) which had growth industurally more rapid than any other American city in the nineteenth century
- D) whose industrial growth in the nineteenth century was more rapid than any other American city
- E) whose industrial growth in the nineteenth century was more rapid than of any other American city

Something's wrong here. All choices are wrong. Most other choices have comparison problems.

A: says that Chicago's growth was "more rapid than any other American city." Needs to be "more rapid than that of any other American city."

B: "had industrial growth... more rapid than that of other American cities." Here "that of" makes no sense. If you're going to start the comparison with "had," you need to finish with a verb, as in "than other American cities had."

C: Adverb "industrially" in "had growth industrially more rapid" seems to modify "more rapid" instead of "had growth."

D: like A, needs "that of."

E: Maybe this is supposed to be the correct answer and it's just mistyped. I see "of" where I want to see "that of."

Unlike lions and tigers, whose hyoid bones vibrate loosely to create their trademark roars, the hyoid bones of domestic felines do not move and so housecats cannot roar.

- A) whose hyoid bones vibrate loosely to create their trademark roars, the hyoid bones of domestic felines
- B) whose hyoid bones vibrate loosely to create the cats' trademark roars, domestic felines have hyoid bones that
- C) whose hyoid bones vibrate loosely to create the cats' trademark roars, the hyoid bones of domestic felines
- D) who have hyoid bones that vibrate loosely to create their trademark roars, domestic felines have hyoid bones that
- E) which have loosely vibrating hyoid bones that create their trademark roars, domestic felines have hyoid bones that

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who can be used both for singular as well as plural nouns. It is verb after who that defines whether the subject in picture is singular or plural.

e.g we say Clark, who has . Here verb has defines that subject clark is singular.

Unlike lions and tigers, who have. Here verb have defines that the subject is plural.

whose usage: **You can use whose as a possessive to refer to both animate and inanimate nouns.** Thus you can say Crick, whose theories still influence work in laboratories around the world or Crick's theories, whose influence continues to be felt in laboratories around the world. With inanimate nouns you can also use of which as an alternative, as in Crick's theories, the influence of which continues to be felt in laboratories around the world. But as this example demonstrates, substituting of which for whose is sometimes cumbersome

Patience Lovell Wright, whose traveling waxworks exhibit preceded Madame Tussaud's work by 30 years, became well known as much because of having an eccentric personality as for having skillfully rendered popular public figures in wax.

- A) well known as much because of having an eccentric personality as for having skillfully rendered popular public figures in wax.
- B) well known as much for having an eccentric personality as for her skillful wax renderings of popular public figures
- C) well known as much because of her eccentric personality as was for her skillful wax renderings of popular public figures.
- D) as well known for having an eccentric personality as having skillfully rendered popular public figures in wax.
- E) as well known for her eccentric personality as for her skillful wax renderings of popular public figures.

I would go with B. A and C are out because I don't believe "as much because" is idiomatic. Also A and C are not parallel. "As much because... as for" D and E are out because they change the meaning. D is also out because of not being parallel: "as well known for... as having" E is parallel "as well known for...as for..." E is close, but the change in the meaning is what I have a problem with, namely that Wright is as well known... as for her skill

OA: B

The 151 member governments of the world bank are expected to increase the bank's funding by \$75 billion, though some united states legislators cite an obstacle to congressional passage being the concern that the bank's loans will help foreign producers compete with american businesses.

- a) an obstacle to congressional passage being the concern

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- b) a concern as an obstacle to congressional passage
- c) as an obstacle to congressional passage the concern
- d) the concern, an obstacle to congressional passage,
- e) as an obstacle for congress to pass it the concern

Answer:

The legislators cite the concern as obstacle. To elaborate on the "concern," the writer of the sentence deemed it wise to move "as an obstacle" to before "the concern." If he/she had written:

...legislators cite the concern that the bank's loans will help foreign producers compete with American businesses as an obstacle to congressional passage.

the placement of the phrase "as an obstacle..." would be confusing. So he/she moved "as an obstacle..." in front.

In any case, you need "as." D is not good because it makes the obstacle a parenthetical description of the concern. By placing "an obstacle to congressional passage" between commas, the writer treats it as something of so little importance that it could be omitted. Try reading the sentence without that phrase. That the concern is an obstacle is no minor fact -- it's the whole point of the sentence.

OA:C

EACH OTHER/BOTH OTHER : GERUND vs INFINITIVE USAGE

I'll try to address the questions raised: first, there are many constructions in English in which two or more patterns are possible. For many of these patterns, we can choose between the of + GERUND or the infinitive. A good example of this is way of doing something and way to do something. I have seen both patterns be correct on the GMAT, but in general, all things being equal, go for the infinitive. In this case, power to do something is better than the power of doing something. If we want to get into this a bit more deeply, I would say follow these guidelines: power of + SIMPLE NOUN with no action implied (power the Internet/diplomacy, etc.), but, power to do something when action is implied (power to succeed/learn/survive, etc.). This distinction between action and inaction, or dynamic and static, is kind of important for GMAT SC, so please pay attention to these points.

The other issue is also important--the difference between each/the other and both/each other. The way I explain this in class is this--use each when the parties are more separate, and use both when the parties are "collaborating." For example, each side was fighting the other sounds better than both sides were fighting each other, don't you think?

Usage of Lay and Lie:

Usage Note:

Lay (“to put, place, or prepare”) and **lie** (“to recline or be situated”) have been confused for centuries; evidence exists that lay has been used to mean “lie” since the 1300s. Why? First, there are two lays. One is the base form of the verb lay, and the other is the past tense of lie. Second, lay was once used with a reflexive pronoun to mean “lie” and survives in the familiar line from the child's prayer Now I lay me down to sleep; lay me down is easily shortened to lay down. Third, lay down, as in She lay down on the sofa sounds the same as laid down, as in I laid down the law to the kids. Lay and lie are most easily distinguished by usage. Lay is a transitive verb and takes a direct object. Lay and its principal parts (laid, laying) are correctly used in the following examples: He laid (not lay) the newspaper on the table. The table was laid for four. Lie is an intransitive verb and cannot take an object. Lie and its principal parts (lay, lain, lying) are correctly used in the following examples: She often lies (not lays) down after lunch. When I lay (not laid) down, I fell asleep. The rubbish had lain (not laid) there a week. I was lying (not laying) in bed when he called. There are a few exceptions to these rules. The phrasal verb lay for and the nautical use of lay, as in lay at anchor, though intransitive, are standard.

'Making do with/without' [Managing with scarce resources]: **Is the correct Idiom** / Phrase and OA is D.

On the Great Plains, nineteenth-century settlers used mud and grass to build their homes, doing it without timber and nails.

(A) settlers used mud and grass to build their homes, doing it without [It Is a dangerous pronoun, on its best days it can refer only to nouns. Here used to refer to verb, So Wrong]

(B) settlers, using mud and grass to build their homes, did it without [Wrong : Similar reason(s) as A]

(C) settlers used mud and grass to build their homes, making them while not having [Wrong : 'them' ambiguous reference to settlers or homes]

(D) settlers used mud and grass to build their homes, making do without [Correct : Clear and concise, 'making do without', introduces a clear modifier clause for 'to build']

(E) settlers' homes were built of mud and grass, making do without [Wrong : The subordinate clause, wrongly modified 'mud and grass']

Jhaaria Sentence Correction Notes

According to recent studies comparing the nutritional value of meat from wild animals and meat from domesticated animals, wild animals have less total fat than do livestock fed on grain and more of a kind of fat they think is good for cardiac health.

- A) wild animals have less total fat than do livestock fed on grain and more of a kind of fat they think is
- B) wild animals have less total fat than livestock fed on grain and more of a kind of fat thought to be
- C) wild animals have less total fat than that of livestock fed on grain and have more fat of a kind thought to be
- D) total fat of wild animals is less than livestock fed on grain and they have more fat of a kind thought to be
- E) total fat is less in wild animals than that of livestock fed on grain and more of their fat is of a kind they think is

"That" is not only unnecessary, but wrong.

When a comparison includes "than that of" the word "that" refers to a specific noun. For example, in the following sentence:

The population of California is greater than that of New York.

..."that" stands in for "the population." The sentence can also be written:

The population of California is greater than the population of New York.

In choice C of the item under discussion:

wild animals have less total fat than that of livestock fed on grain

...what does "that" stand in for?

The problem with this item is that there is no good answer choice. What is the source? I'm sure it's not a real GMAT question.

The sentence should be something like this:

According to recent studies comparing the nutritional value of meat from wild animals and that of meat from domesticated animals, wild animals have less total fat than do livestock fed on grain and more fat of a kind thought to be good for cardiac health.

C says: "wild animals have less total fat than that of livestock fed on grain." If "that" stands for "total fat" then the C means: "wild animals have less total fat than the total fat of livestock fed on grain." To me that makes no sense. The sentence is trying to compare wild animals with domesticated animals. It should read: "wild animals have less total fat than do livestock fed on grain."

Jhaaria Sentence Correction Notes

There is no good answer. I suppose you could say that B is the "least bad," but settling for the "least bad" is never necessary on the GMAT. There's always a good sentence.

800Bob: I wish I had stayed out of this discussion. I generally prefer not to comment on bogus questions.

I will try one more time to explain why C is wrong, and then I promise to shut up. A comparison needs "than that of" or "than those of" only when it is comparing one possession or attribute to another possession or attribute. Generally the first item in the comparison will either be followed by a prepositional phrase beginning with "of" or be preceded by a possessive. Examples:

The total mass of all the asteroids is less than that of the Moon.
("That" refers to "mass," which is followed by "of.")

Shanghai's birth rate is lower than that of Western countries.
("That" refers to "birth rate," which is preceded by the possessive "Shanghai's.")

In choice C:

...wild animals have less total fat than that of livestock fed on grain...

"that," I suppose, is meant to refer to "total fat," but "total fat" is not followed by "of" or preceded by a possessive.

Try googling on "less total fat than" and you will get hundreds of hits, such as these:

Walkers Lites and Potato Heads contain 33% less total fat than Walkers crisps.

"Reduced-fat" ice cream contains at least 25 percent less total fat than the regular product.

Body mass indices did not demonstrate that men had less total fat than women.

Peanuts actually have less total fat than most other nuts.

Turkey has less total fat than other meats.

Even the very fattest wild land mammals contain 60-75% less total fat than the average domesticated animal.

In general, fish and poultry have less total fat than red meats.

Grass-fed beef has a much better fatty acid ration and less total fat than grain-fed animals.

Duck breast meat prepared without the skin (2 grams) has less total fat than chicken (3 grams) and more fat than turkey (0.5 grams).

Wild deer meat has 44 percent less total fat than beef.

KFC chicken had only slightly less total fat than a Whopper.

The higher muscled-scored animal not only has more total meat but also has less total fat than the lower muscle-scored animal.

Grass-finished meat has considerably less total fat than grain-fed animals.

Chicken without skin has less saturated fat and less total fat than chicken with skin.

Jhaaria Sentence Correction Notes

Wild animals not only have less total fat than livestock fed on grain, but more of their fat is of a kind (omega-3) thought to be good for cardiac health.

Usage of 'that of' (repeated: read discussion)

Chicago, where industrial growth in the nineteenth century was more rapid than any other American city, was plagued by labour troubles like the Pullman Strikes of 1894.

A) where industrial growth in the nineteenth century was more rapid than any other American city

B) which had industrial growth in the nineteenth century more rapid than that of other American cities

C) which had growth industrially more rapid than any other American city in the nineteenth century

D) whose industrial growth in the nineteenth century was more rapid than any other American city

E) whose industrial growth in the nineteenth century was more rapid than of any other American city

Originally Posted by 800Bob

Something's wrong here. All choices are wrong. Most other choices have comparison problems.

A: says that Chicago's growth was "more rapid than any other American city." Needs to be "more rapid than that of any other American city."

B: "had industrial growth... more rapid than that of other American cities." Here "that of" makes no sense. If you're going to start the comparison with "had," you need to finish with a verb, as in "than other American cities had."

C: Adverb "industrially" in "had growth industrially more rapid" seems to modify "more rapid" instead of "had growth."

D: like A, needs "that of."

E: Maybe this is supposed to be the correct answer and it's just mistyped. I see "of" where I want to see "that of."

Bob, in option B, why didn't 'that of' make any sense? I mean, if remove it then wouldn't the comparison be wrongly comparing 'growth' with 'other american cities'? I am confused.

We can eliminate B on the basis of parallelism - 'had...had' but 'that of' in B sounds correct to me.

Jhaaria Sentence Correction Notes

Bob said:--

You can say either:

which had industrial growth more rapid than other American cities had

or:

whose industrial growth was more rapid than that of other American cities

But B confuses the two.

Maybe an analogous but simpler example will help. You can say either:

The area of Russia is greater than that of India.

or:

Russia has a greater area than India has.

But it's imprecise to say:

Russia has a greater area than that of India.

The increased popularity and availability of televisions has led to the decline of regional dialects, language variations which originate from diverse ethnic and cultural heritages and perpetuated by geographic isolation.

- (A) which originate from diverse ethnic and cultural heritages and perpetuated
- (B) that originated from diverse ethnic and cultural heritages and perpetuated
- (C) originated from diverse ethnic and cultural heritages and perpetuated
- (D) originating from diverse ethnic and cultural heritages and perpetuated
- (E) originating from diverse ethnic and cultural heritages and perpetuating

B is not parallel. "Originated" is a verb (the simple past). "Perpetuated" is an adjective (past participle).

D is parallel. "Originating" and "perpetuated" are both adjectives. The present participle "originating" is correct because the variations originate. The past participle "perpetuated" is correct because the variations don't perpetuate; they are perpetuated.

The correct response is D.

Dr. Sayre's lecture recounted several little-known episodes in the relations between nations that illustrates what is wrong with alliances and treaties that do not have popular support.

- (A) relations between nations that illustrates
- (B) relation of one nation with another that illustrates
- (C) relations between nations that illustrate
- (D) relation of one nation with another and illustrate

Jhaaria Sentence Correction Notes

(E) relations of nations that illustrates

Subject-verb agreement problem in A, B, and E. Should be: "...several little-known episodes ... that illustrate..."

"Between" is just fine here. From The Columbia Guide to Standard American English:

"It is often argued that between should be used to express a relationship involving two of something, and among should express relationships involving three or more, but in fact that generalization does not describe the way English has long used these prepositions. Between can be used of as many items as you like if the relationship is one-to-one, however much it may be repeated with different partners: Economic relations between Great Britain, France, and Italy [or between some members of the EEC] are tense at present."

The correct response is C.

You are confusing two different thats. The demonstrative adjective that is indeed used only with singular nouns. The plural is those:

that shoe
those shoes

But the relative pronoun that can be either singular or plural.

the shoe that fits
the shoes that fit

Would you really say "the shoes those fit"?

Very common question.

To clarify, the -ing form of a verb, when it is used as a noun, is called a gerund. They are perfectly fine as nouns.

And yes, for purposes of parallel structure:

gerunds = nouns

Gerunds generally follow rules very similar to those of nouns, however, gerunds are rarely plural, are generally singular without "a" before them (or "non-count nouns" for you grammar fiends out there).

Jhaaria Sentence Correction Notes

A little trick that I teach in class might help a bit here. Generally speaking, when trying to figure out whether to use "the" or "of," we need to use them together.

For example, I can say

selling cars

or

the selling of cars

but I CANNOT should not say "selling of cars"

or

"the selling cars"

Whether or not to use "the" and "of" together depends on the usage, not whether it's a gerund or a "regular" noun. In other words, plug in another noun to figure out the best way to cast your sentence.

The domesticated camel, which some scholars date around the twelfth century B.C., was the key to the development of the spice trade in the ancient world.

- a. The domesticated camel, which some scholars date
- b. The domesticated camel, which some scholars have thought to occur
- c. Domesticating the camel, dated by some scholars at
- d. The domestication of the camel, thought by some scholars to have occurred
- e. The camel's domestication, dated by some scholars to have been

See Spidey's Notes.

The Emperor Augustus, it appears, commissioned an idealized sculptured portrait, the features of which are so unrealistic as to constitute what one scholar calls an "artificial face."

- (A) so unrealistic as to constitute
- (B) so unrealistic they constituted
- (C) so unrealistic that they have constituted
- (D) unrealistic enough so that they constitute
- (E) unrealistic enough so as to constitute

go with A.

Format "so+adjective+as to", with D we have a problem with "THEY"
"That they" is not a good construction

Jhaaria Sentence Correction Notes

The director of the conservatory emphasized to the new students that to become successful musicians not only talent but also hard work were necessary.

- (A) to become successful musicians not only talent but also hard work were necessary
- (B) in order to be successful musicians requires hard work as well as talent
- (C) becoming a successful musician requires hard work as well as talent
- (D) not only talent but also hard work was necessary to become a successful musician
- (E) both hard work and talent were necessary for them becoming successful musicians

I chose D but the correct answer is C.

The author wants to emphasize that hard work is necessary, so I think that D is better than C.

Why do you think that hard work is being emphasized over talent?

There's no reason to assume this in this SC.

D has at least two controversial grammar points. First, can not only... but also... create a plural subject? Second, should we use a past tense or present tense verb in this case?

The first grammar point is fairly controversial, but the second less so. GMAT prefers to follow the more modern rule that if it's still true now, then the present tense is preferable. Can't you just imagine GMAT's "official" explanation, "To describe a situation that is generally true, the present tense is preferable."

D also has a minor problem--"musician" is singular, but the director is talking to a group. A small problem, one that could be correct in some questions, but a problem nonetheless.

Finally, to my ears, C just "flows" better. D is a bit clunky, partly because much of the information is loaded before the verb (English, as is well known, prefers "end-weighted" sentences to "front-weighted" ones, in general), and partly because it uses the somewhat unfamiliar not only... but also... in the subject.

Erin

In good years, the patchwork of green fields that surround the San Joaquin Valley town bustles with farm workers, many of them in the area just for the season.

- A) surround the San Joaquin Valley town bustles with farm workers, many of them
- B) surrounds the San Joaquin Valley town bustles with farm workers, many of whom are
- C) surround the San Joaquin Valley town bustles with farm workers, many of who are
- D) surround the San Joaquin Valley town bustle with farm workers,

Jhaaria Sentence Correction Notes

many of which

E) surrounds the San Joaquin Valley town bustles with farm workers,
many are

B is the only possible answer:

First, **many of who** is WRONG; we need **many of whom**. (**Rule: quantifier + of + object. Examples: some of whom, half of which, 44% of whom, etc.**)

Second, we need a conjunction to join the two sentences; **whom** is a conjunction. A and E have no conjunctions.

Third, we need **whom** to replace **workers**; we can never use **which** to refer to people.

Finally, we need a singular verb **surrounds** to agree with the singular subject **patchwork**.

I read another post in another group, and wanted to add this info:

I'd like to point out a very important grammar rule: **we must have a conjunction to join two sentences. Thus, if we choose A, using "many of them," we have no conjunction to join the two main sentences.**

This is a commonly tested pattern, both on the GMAT and on the TOEFL. Look at this example of a mistake:

I saw two movies this weekend, both of them were good.

On first listen, this sounds correct, but it's not, for reasons that may seem at first hard to explain. However, if we realize that we have two sentences, "I saw two movies this weekend" and "both of them were good," then we'll also realize that we must have a conjunction between them to join them (the basic rule of conjunctions and parallel structure).

The classic corrections (in descending order of likeliness of appearing as correct answers) are:

- I saw two movies this weekend; both of them were good. (joining two sentences with a semi-colon)
- I saw two movies this weekend, both of which were good. (using a relative pronoun (aka subordinating conjunction) to join two sentences)
- I saw two movies this weekend, and both of them were good. (using a coordinating conjunction to join two sentences)

Jhaaria Sentence Correction Notes

Erin

The proposed rural development zones do not represent a new principle; it was employed in "Let's Work Together!" in Bora Bora.

- A) do not represent a new principle; it
- B) represent not a new principle, but one that
- C) are not a new principle; the same one
- D) are not a new principle, but one that

Actually, this one is rather simple to explain. Essentially, we have to focus on the subject, verb, and complement in this sentence. The problem is that they are not logical; in the incorrect answer choices, we are saying that the "zones are not principles." If we think about this, then we will realize that it is illogical to say that zones = principles, much like the example that I use in class here at TestMagic: The earthquake caused broken windows.

It is more accurate to say that the zones *represent* principles, don't you think?

The easiest mistake to point out in A is that *it* does not agree with the plural noun *zones*:

Quote:

The proposed rural development **zones** do not represent a new principle; **it** was employed in "Let's Work Together!" in Bora Bora.

You might then say that *it* is referring to *principle*, but this is not how I read the sentence; by using two complete sentences in parallel, the *it* seems to more logically refer to the subject of the first sentence (since *it* is in the subject position in the second sentence).

Furthermore, since the intended focus of this sentence is on the direct object *principle*, a full sentence is not warranted; instead, we should use a noun phrase to parallel the direct object *principle*. In other words, there's no need to repeat a subject and a verb if we're more concerned with the object: S-V-Q-CONJUNCTION-Q is preferable to S-V-Q;S-V-Q.

Though now eaten in large quantities around the world and harmless, the tomato is a member of the generally toxic nightshade family, including belladonna, and was once thought to be poisonous itself as a result.

Jhaaria Sentence Correction Notes

- Though now eaten in large quantities around the world and harmless, the tomato is a member of the generally toxic nightshade family, including belladonna, and was once thought to be poisonous itself as a result.
 - The tomato, though now eaten in large quantities around the world and harmless, is a member of the generally toxic nightshade family, which includes belladonna, and it was therefore once thought to be poisonous itself.
 - Once thought to be poisonous itself, the tomato is harmless and now eaten in large quantities around the world, and is a member of the generally toxic nightshade family, including belladonna.
 - Though now eaten in large quantities around the world and known to be harmless, the tomato was once considered poisonous because it is a member of the generally toxic nightshade family, which includes belladonna.
 - A member of the generally toxic nightshade family, including belladonna, the tomato was once considered poisonous even though it is harmless and now eaten in large quantities around the world.
-

The original sentence contains a lot of clauses in a confusing order. We need to find an answer choice that rephrases the sentence in a clear and concise manner. Also, the phrase "though now eaten in large quantities around the world and harmless" contains two elements that are not parallel. Moreover, "including belladonna" is incorrect left dangling. It should be "which includes belladonna." Finally, "itself" could refer either to "tomato" or to "belladonna".

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

(B) The pronoun "it" is ambiguous as it could refer either to "the nightshade family" or "belladonna" or "tomato." Additionally, the phrase "though now eaten in large quantities around the world and harmless" contains two elements that are not parallel.

(C) The phrase "including belladonna" does not properly modify anything.

(D) CORRECT. The opening phrase contains the two parallel elements "eaten in large quantities . . ." and "known to be harmless." The phrase "which includes belladonna" correctly modifies the "nightshade family." Finally, the pronoun "it" unambiguously refers to the tomato.

(E) The phrase "including belladonna" does not properly modify anything.

Carbon monoxide levels in the atmosphere grew by enough of an increased percentage during the twentieth century that it began to trap heat radiating from the Earth, and it caused the average surface temperature to rise.

Jhaaria Sentence Correction Notes

Carbon monoxide levels in the atmosphere grew by enough of an increased percentage during the twentieth century that it began to trap heat radiating from the Earth, and it caused the average surface temperature to rise.

Carbon monoxide levels in the atmosphere increased by enough of a percentage during the twentieth century that they began to trap heat radiating from the Earth, causing the average surface temperature to rise.

Levels of atmospheric carbon monoxide increased sufficiently during the twentieth century to begin trapping heat radiating from the Earth, causing the average surface temperature to rise.

Atmospheric carbon monoxide levels increased by a sufficient percentage during the twentieth century to begin trapping heat radiating from the Earth, which caused the average surface temperature to rise.

Levels of carbon monoxide in the atmosphere during the twentieth century increased enough to begin trapping heat radiating from the Earth, causing the average surface temperature to rise.

The original sentence contains several errors. First, "carbon monoxide levels in the atmosphere" is wordy. Second, "grew by enough of an increased percentage" is wordy and redundant. Third the singular pronoun "it" incorrectly refers to the plural "levels". Fourth, the final clause of the sentence--"and it caused the average surface temperature to rise"--disjoined from the main clause.

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

(B) This choice uses the unnecessarily wordy phrase "increased by enough of a percentage."

(C) CORRECT. The sentence is made more concise by rewriting "carbon monoxide levels in the atmosphere" as "Levels of atmospheric carbon monoxide" and "grew by enough of an increased percentage" as "increased sufficiently." The choice also eliminates the pronoun "it" from the sentence and reworks the final clause--"causing the average surface temperature to rise"--as a modifier, thereby more clearly connecting it to the main clause.

(D) This choice uses the unnecessarily wordy phrase "increased by a sufficient percentage." It also uses "which" to refer to the action of the preceding clause, though "which" grammatically refers only to the immediately preceding noun (in this case, "Earth").

(E) This choice alters the position of "during the twentieth century", thereby changing the meaning of the sentence. In this choice "during the twentieth century" modifies the carbon monoxide levels instead of describing when those levels "increased." This distorts the meaning by leaving open the possibility that twentieth century carbon monoxide levels "increased enough" during some other time period (e.g., the 21st century).

Congress has enacted legislation forbidding state and local governments from raising taxes on connections that link consumers to the Internet for the next three years.

Jhaaria Sentence Correction Notes

forbidding state and local governments from raising taxes on connections that link consumers to the Internet for the next three years.

that forbids state and local governments for the next three years from raising taxes on connections that link consumers to the Internet.

that for the next three years forbids state and local governments to raise taxes on connections that link consumers to the Internet.

forbidding for the next three years to state and local governments the raising of taxes on connections that link consumers to the Internet

that forbids for the next three years state and local governments from raising taxes on connections that link consumers to the Internet.

The original sentence contains several errors. First, the preferred idiom is "forbid X to do Y" and not "forbid X from doing Y". Second, the placement of the adverbial modifier "for the next three years" suggests that it modifies "link." However, the legislation does not forbid an Internet connection that "links" for the next three years; it "forbids" for the next three years raising Internet connection taxes.

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

(B) This choice incorrectly uses "forbid X from doing Y" instead of the idiomatic "forbid X to do Y."

(C) CORRECT. This choice correctly uses the idiom "forbids X to do Y." Additionally "for the next three years" is correctly placed next to the verb it modifies, "forbids."

(D) This choice creates an awkward sentence by using "forbidding to X Y" (where Y is the awkward noun "the raising of taxes") instead of the idiomatic "forbid X to do Y."

(E) This choice incorrectly uses "forbid X from doing Y" instead of the idiomatic "forbid X to do Y."

Regarded by analysts to be the result of tensions during the Cold War, the spy novel reached the zenith of its sales in the 1960s, when most Americans perceived the U.S.S.R. like a constant threat.

Regarded by analysts to be the result of tensions during the Cold War, the spy novel reached the zenith of its sales in the 1960s, when most Americans perceived the U.S.S.R. like a constant threat.

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Regarded by analysts as the result of tensions during the Cold War, in the 1960s the spy novel reached the zenith of its sales, when most Americans perceived the U.S.S.R. like a constant threat.

Reaching the zenith of its sales in the 1960s, the spy novel was regarded by analysts as the result of tensions during the Cold War, when most Americans perceived the U.S.S.R. as a constant threat.

Regarded by analysts as the result of tensions during the Cold War, sales of the spy novel reached their zenith in the 1960s, when most Americans perceived the U.S.S.R. as a constant threat.

Jhaaria Sentence Correction Notes

The original sentence contains several errors. First, the proper idiom is "to regard as" not "to regard to be". Second, the initial modifier "regarded by analysts to be the result of tensions during the Cold War" should modify "sales" and not "the spy novel." Third, the proper idiom is "to perceive as" not "to perceive like".

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

(B) The modifier "regarded by analysts to be the result of tensions during the Cold War" incorrectly describes the spy novel when it should modify sales of the spy novel. Moreover, the modifier use of "regarded . . . to be" is unidiomatic.

(C) The modifier "regarded by analysts as the result of tensions during the Cold War" incorrectly describes the spy novel when it should modify sales of the spy novel. Additionally, the phrase "perceived the U.S.S.R like" is unidiomatic.

(D) The modifier "reaching the zenith of its sales in the 1960s" incorrectly describes the spy novel when it should modify sales of the spy novel.

(E) CORRECT. "Sales" is correctly positioned as the subject of the opening modifier. Additionally, the phrases "regarded by analysts as . . ." and "perceived the U.S.S.R as" are idiomatic.

The invention of the cotton gin, being one of the most significant developments of the nineteenth century, had turned cotton cloth into an affordable commodity even though it was expensive before that.

being one of the most significant developments of the nineteenth century, had turned cotton cloth into an affordable commodity even though it was expensive before that
having been one of the most significant developments of the nineteenth century, turned cotton cloth into an affordable commodity even though it had previously been expensive
one of the most significant developments of the nineteenth century, turned cotton cloth into an affordable commodity despite its previous expense
one of the most significant developments of the nineteenth century, turned cotton cloth into an affordable commodity despite the fact that it had previously been expensive
being one of the most significant developments of the nineteenth century, turned cotton cloth from a previously expensive commodity to an affordable one

The word "being" is unnecessary in the opening modifier "being one of the most significant developments . . ." Moreover, the past perfect verb "had turned" coupled with the simple past verb "was" reverses the chronological order of the events. The tenses run counter to the logic of the sentence by incorrectly suggesting that the invention of the cotton gin happened before the cotton cloth became expensive.

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

Jhaaria Sentence Correction Notes

(B) The words "have been" are unnecessary in the opening modifier. The fact that "have been" is in the present perfect tense also incorrectly suggests that the invention of the cotton gin is somehow ongoing.

(C) This choice incorrectly alters the meaning of the sentence by using the phrase "despite its previous expense" in place of the phrase "despite the fact that it had previously been expensive." "Expense" and "expensive" have different meanings. The word "expense" simply means "cost" so this choice essentially states that the cotton gin was now affordable despite its previous cost. This does not convey the fact that the previous cost was *high* (expensive).

(D) **CORRECT.** The modifier "one of the most significant developments of the nineteenth century" eliminates the unnecessary word "being." The simple past verb "turned" coupled with the past perfect "had previously been" correctly expresses the fact that cotton cloth "turned into an affordable commodity" after it "had previously been expensive." The later past event uses the simple past tense, whereas the earlier past event uses the past perfect tense.

(E) The word "being" is unnecessary in the opening modifier. Additionally, in the expression "from a previously expensive commodity to an affordable one" the word "previously" is redundant since its meaning is already contained in the expression "from X to Y."

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Jhaaria Sentence Correction Notes

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