

Confusing Phrases:

Agree:

1. **Agree with:** You agree with a person/opinion/policy
I entirely agree with you.
He left the firm because he did not agree with with the sales policy.
2. **Agree to:** You agree to a suggestion.
I will agree to your suggestion if you accept my terms.
3. **Agree on:** a matter of decision.
4. **Agree about:** A subject of discussion.
We agree about most things.

5. **affect** - verb **effect**- noun 2. **Advice**- noun **Advise** - Verb

3. **Personal:** Private

Personnel: The body of persons employed by or active in an organization, business, or service

1. **So as is almost always wrong**
2. Which should always be preceded by a comma
"Afraid of" is right "Afraid by" is wrong.
"Proof of" is correct "Proof for" is wrong.
"Reason For" is correct "Reason of" is wrong.

"Rude to" is correct "Rude with" is wrong.

After verb/noun or adjective + preposition we use ing- form of verb.

He insisted on being paid at once.

he does not like the idea of getting married.

I am not very good at cooking.

Prepositions rule:

When object is relative pronoun "that" then the preposition is placed at the end. Preposition is also placed at the end when the object is interrogative pronoun.

1. Here is the watch that you asked for.
 2. What are you looking at.
- During the recession of 1973, home mortgage foreclosures resulted in tens of thousands americans being evicted from homes, <that they could> no longer afford monthly payments. is wrong because preposition for is omitted at the end. **Correct:** For which they could.

Gerund Rule:

Right: I hope you will excuse my leaving early.

Wrong: I hope you will excuse me leaving early.

Right: I insist on your being present.

Wrong: I insist on you being present.

Since word "leaving" is a gerund so it must be preceded by possive form of hence "my" and not "me".

1. Used to indicate a future event that is part of a plan or arrangement. like: We go to Bombay next week.

2. It is used, instead of simple future tense, in clauses of and of condition. like: I shall wait till you finish your lunch.

1. Which Vs That:

But first, a test magic tip: GMAT almost always (I say almost always because I've seen two questions that did not follow this rule, but the rule was violated in all five answer choices) wants you to put a comma before which. In other words, **if you see which without a comma before it, it's probably wrong.** After this explanation, you should understand why, but for those of you who want only the most important information, this is what you need to know. Both of these sentences are correct in GMAT land:

- Please go into the room and get me the big book, which is mine.

- Please go into the room and get me the big book that is mine.

restrictive

Yes, in GMATland, these two sentences have two different meanings.

Both of these sentences would be incorrect in GMAT land:

- X Please go into the room and get me the big book which is mine. X
- X Please go into the room and get me the big book, that is mine. X

Notice the commas--that's what makes all the difference.

The Explanation

Okay, we have in English this weird idea that we need to use different grammar in an adjective clause (a.k.a. relative clause) depending on whether the information in the adjective clause is necessary to specifically identify which noun we are referring to.

For example, imagine you have one sister, and you are telling a friend that your sister is coming to visit you. Since this person is your friend, we can presume that he knows that you have only one sister.

You utter a sentence like this to your friend in GMATland:

- "My sister, who just graduated from college, is coming to see me."

In GMATland, since your friend (we presume) knows you well and knows that you have only one sister, this extra bit of information is considered unnecessary to identify which sister it is you are talking about. It is a sort of "by the way" information--"My sister is coming to see me, and oh, by the way, she just graduated from college.

"Now imagine you have two, three, or even more sisters. Let's imagine that one is a college professor, another is a web master, and this one who is coming to visit you just graduated from college. If you're talking to your friend, and you say only "my sister," and you do not mention her name, your friend might not know which sister you are talking about. So you add that extra bit of information--my sister who just graduated from college--to identify which sister it is you are referring to. In this situation, we have just correctly employed a very important grammar rule. Read on.

So, if the person you're talking to, or the person who's reading what you've written, needs that extra bit of information to know which noun you're referring to, we say that that extra information is nonrestrictive. This word doesn't really describe the function clearly, so many teachers say that this information is "extra."

On the other hand, if you need that information to know which noun you are talking about, we say that the information is restrictive. Again, this word is not really a good choice for clarity, and many teachers use the term "necessary information" instead.

Finally, just to make English a bit more difficult, we have a rule that says we should use a comma before or after "extra information clauses and phrases," but not with "necessary information clauses or phrases." The idea here is that the comma represents the slight pause in speech or change in intonation that a native speaker might use when making such an utterance.

I should point out that both that and which are relative pronouns, i.e., they are grammatically the same, but their meanings are slightly different.

Now, let's return to our original example sentences:

- Please go into the room and get me the big book, which is mine.

In this sentence, the clause which is mine is "extra" because the information "the big book" is enough to identify which book it is that you want. We can assume that there is only one big book in the room.

- Please go into the room and get me the big book that is mine.

In this sentence, the clause that is mine is "necessary" because the information "the big book" is NOT enough to identify which book

it is that you want--it is probably the case that there are several big books in the room, so I need to add the information "that is mine" to identify which book it is that I want. More Examples

A few more examples may help:

- I met with Bill Clinton, who is a lawyer.

The name Bill Clinton is enough to identify which person I'm talking about--who is a lawyer is therefore extra information.

- I met with the man who is a lawyer. In this case, "the man" is not enough information to identify which person I'm talking about--who is a lawyer is therefore necessary information.

- The Sun, which is the only star in our solar system, is the source of heat for Earth.

Again, the name "the Sun" already clearly identifies the noun; therefore, the information in the adjective clause "which is the only star in our solar system" is extra.

- The star that is at the center of our solar system is called what?

In this case, since we don't have a name here, we don't know which star it is that we are referring to. Therefore, the information in the adjective clause "that is at the center our solar system" is necessary.

Following is correct:

In addition to being one of the first restaurants to combine Mediterranean and American tastes, Chez Panisse in Berkeley is also one of the Bay Area's most established restaurants.

The idiomatic structure in addition to does not have a counterpart that uses a subject and a verb, so our only option here is to use being, which is grammatically a noun, but is derived from a verb.

The second example of when being is correct is shown in this example:

There are many reasons to get an MBA, with increased career prospects being the most important for many MBA applicants.

Technically this part here: with increased career prospects being the most important for many MBA applicants is an absolute phrase, but I think it's also helpful just to memorize the pattern:

with + NOUN + being + NOUN COMPLEMENT

Like vs. Such As

Question: What's the difference between like and such as?

Example of the "mistake" that we make in everyday speech:

Can you buy me some fruit like oranges or grapefruit?

How the GMAT Official Guide would explain this mistake: Using like in this answer choice mistakenly suggests that the utterer of the request does in fact not want oranges or grapefruit, but rather some other kind of fruit that is similar to oranges or grapefruit.

In normal English: In GMATLand, like means similar to, and such as means for example. Take a look at these examples:

- Can you buy me some fruit like oranges or grapefruit?

In GMATLand, this sentence would mean that you do NOT want oranges or grapefruit; instead, you'd prefer some fruit similar to oranges and grapefruit. For example, you may want pomelo, lemons, or limes. Yes, I know this sounds a little crazy, but our goal is to understand what GMAT is looking for, not what is "correct" English.

- Can you buy me some fruit such as oranges or grapefruit?

Yes, this is what we're supposed to say in GMATLand -- oranges and grapefruit are examples of the type of fruit we want.

- I would like you to buy such fruit as oranges and grapefruit for me, if you don't mind.

This is simply a variation -- notice how such and as are separated. Separating the two elements tends to make this pattern a bit harder to see.

Agree to vs Agree with:

You agree WITH someone, You agree TO someones' thing
You agree with me or You agree to me - for me its "with" in this case
2.You agree to my suggestion or You agree with my suggestion - Here i would take "to"

Forget and remember

These two verbs change meaning depending on whether a gerund or infinitive is used as the object.

Examples: Jack forgets to take out the cat. (He regularly forgets.)

Jack forgets taking out the cat. (He did it, but he doesn't remember now.)

Sense verbs that take an object plus a gerund or a simple verb
Certain sense verbs take an object followed by either a gerund or a simple verb (infinitive form minus the word to). With many of the verbs that follow the object, the use of the gerund indicates continuous action while the use of the simple verb indicates a one-time action. Still, sometimes the simple verb can indicate continuous action if one-time action wouldn't make sense in the context.

feel hear notice watch see smell observe

Examples:

We watched him playing basketball. (continuous action)
We watched him play basketball. (one-time action)
I felt my heart pumping vigorously. (continuous action)
I felt my heart pump vigorously. (one-time action)
She saw them jumping on the bed. (continuous action)
She saw them jump on the bed. (one-time action)
Tom heard the victim shouting for help. (continuous action)
Tom heard the victim shout for help. (one-time action)
The detective noticed the suspect biting his nails. (continuous action)
The detective noticed the suspect bite his nails. (one-time action)
We could smell the pie baking in the kitchen. (continuous action)
We could smell the pie bake in the kitchen. (one-time action)

Like Vs As

"Like" is similar to preposition. We use it before a noun or pronoun.

You look like your sister.

"As" is a conjunction and is used before a clause and before an expression beginning with a preposition.

On Friday, as on Tuesday, the meeting is at 8:30.

compare to / compare with

Compare usually takes the preposition to when it refers to the activity of describing the resemblances between unlike things: He compared her to a summer day. Scientists sometimes compare the human brain to a computer. It takes with when it refers to the act of examining two like things in order to discern their similarities or differences: The police compared the forged signature with the original. The committee will have to compare the Senate's version of the bill with the version that was passed by the House. When compare is used to mean "to liken (one) with another," with is traditionally held to be the correct preposition: That little bauble is not to be compared with (not to) this enormous jewel. But to is frequently used in this context and is not incorrect.

Consider:

When the verb consider is used to mean "regard" or "deem", it can be used more economically without any connecting phrase like "to be" or "as being".

Correct: John was one of the first european writers to consider rural poor legitimate subjects for literature and portray them with sympathy and respect in her novels.

Wrong: John was one of the first european writers to consider rural poor as being legitimate subjects
John was one of the first european writers to consider rural poor to be legitimate subjects

so _____ as

It is so unrealistic as to constitute

to mistake x for y.

x [is] expected to y as in "it might have been expected to rise."

not only x but also y

wind not only blows away soil but also damages trees

x ordered y to do z

judge ordered jury to reconsider the case

better served by x than y. credit some one with having done something.

Egyptians are credited with having pioneered embalming methods.

x forbids y to do z

x prohibits y from doing z

a debate over

a lot

a responsibility to

a result of

a sequence of

agree with

as an instance of

as good as/or better than

as great as

as good as...or better than

as much as

attend to (someone)

attribute X to Y / X is attributed to Y

based on

believe X to be Y

both X and Y

centers on

concerned with

conform to

created with

defined as

depends on whether

depicted as

different from /differ from

distinguishes between X and Y

independent of

(Independent from is wrong)

indifferent towards

modeled after

(no) more...than/(no) less...than

more than ever

neither...nor

not only...but also

not so much...as

prohibits X from doing Y

potential to

forbid X to do Y

identical with

in contrast to

range from X to Y

regard as
regardless
responsible for
resulting in
Retroactive to
so X as to be Y
so (adjective) that
subscribe to
such...as
the same to X as to Y
to contrast X with Y
to mistake X for Y
to result in
to sacrifice X for Y
Center on (not around)
Consensus
("of opinion" is redundant)
Scarcely anything was..
Identical with
Contrast to
"Plus" not= "and" as conj.
In regard to
Whether we decided (not if) whether + choice
accede to
argue over
choice of
choose from
collaborate with
conclude that
consider
considered to be
consistent with
contract with
credited with
Protect against
Targeted at
Threatened to
Try to
Defend against
Due to
Extend to (someone) "I extended my arm to my cousin."
Fluctuations in
Hypothesize that
in contrast to
in danger of
in order to
just as...so to
unlikely to
liken to
mistaken for
move away from
result from /in
ruled that
(the) same as
type of
use as "use a book as a table."
Worry about

Intent on running
Intending to run
debate over
decide to
opportunity for + noun
opportunity to + verb
distinguish from
doubt that
either...or
enable to
fascinated by
Adding an -s at the end of adjective makes it singular.
as in: dislike-Plural and dislikes-Singular
After "To" or "Of" needs subject + verb NOT object + verb
Either side of a form "to be" (were, was) must have subjects not
objects on either side to agree.

Usage:

1. Fewer/Less

Which of the two following sentences is correct?

1. The company fired no less than fifty employees.
2. The company fired no fewer than fifty employees.

The second sentence is correct. Why? Because you use less when you're talking about things you can't count (less pollution, less violence) but fewer when you're talking about things you can

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http://home.comcast.net/~dave.kim/GMAT_Study_Strategy.htm 6/7/2005
count (fewer pollutants, fewer violent acts).

2. Number/Amount

These words follow the same rule as less and fewer. Number is correct when you can count the thing being described (a number of cars, a number of people) and amount is correct when you cannot (amount of love, amount of pain).

3. Among/Between

Use between when only two options are available (between the red car and the blue car) and among when more than two options are available (among the five answer choices, among the many books).

Between may be used with more than one things are involved. as in handshakes between people. Here essence is that handshakes take place mutually between every two people. or in relations between nations...

4. If/ Whether

Whether is correct when you're discussing two options (whether to get chocolate or strawberry ice cream) and if is correct for more than two options (if she should get ice cream, frozen yogurt, or a cookie).

5. The number & A number

"The number" is singular as in The number of boys is not known.

"A number" is plural as in A number of boys are going.

The only time when less is associated with countable objects is when fractions/percentages or other numbers are involved.

Less than one quarter of all people

amounts to less than one percent

count is less than 1000

Idiom:

Grounds for + noun or Grounds to + verb both are correct

As in: By establishing that the new waste processing plant would contribute to pollution as well as economic impoverishment of the region, Lowell shows that the city council has strong fiscal grounds for opposing of the plant proposal.

Idiom:

Consider:

There is no preposition added to consider.
Historians consider Mona Lisa a great work of art.
not consider to be not consider as

Regarded as:

Due to the critical acclaim generated by his recent exhibit, the artist is currently regarded as the most promising sculptors in America.

Q. Many scholars regard the pre-Hispanic civilizations of Peru as the most impressive in South America.

- (A) regard the pre-Hispanic civilizations of Peru as
- (B) regard the pre-Hispanic civilizations of Peru to be
- (C) regard the pre-Hispanic civilizations of Peru to have been
- (D) consider that the pre-Hispanic civilizations of Peru are
- (E) consider the pre-Hispanic civilizations of Peru as A is correct

think of ...as

Lie-Lay-Lain - To assume a reclining position

Lay-Laid-Laid - To put something

Semicolon: Any sentence after a semicolon (;), should be an independent clause.

Object v/s. Subject: If you need participle and need to decide between present or past participle, use this rule.

If a noun is the object of a verb, the verb should end with 'ed'. If a noun is the subject of a verb, the verb should end with 'ing'. (e.g.

'local times determined' when the noun is object of the verb

'determined') (e.g. determining the local times - where the noun local times is the subject of the verb determining). Somebody determined times - times is object of determined

Times differing - Times is the subject of differed

One of the Group: The pattern to remember is 'one of the NOUN (this noun will always be plural) + that/who + PLURAL VERB

Example : He is one of the persons who make money.

 This is one of the cars that run on hydrogen.

A number of people are waiting for the bus.

The number of cars in the city is decreasing.

Any of the stockholders who disapprove - is the right use

Three cats, each eat Three cats, each of which eats

A sentence like 'X is one of the Y that are. Are is the correct use.

Such a sentence always should have a subject verb agreement with Y and not with X.

Q. With its plan to develop seven and a half acres of shore land, Cleveland is but one of a large number of communities on the Great Lakes that is looking to its waterfront as a way to improve the quality of urban life and attract new businesses.

- (A) is looking to its waterfront as a way to improve the quality of urban life and attract
- (B) is looking at its waterfront to improve the quality of urban life and attract
- (C) are looking to their waterfronts to improve the quality of urban life and attract
- (D) are looking to its waterfront as a way of improving the quality of urban life and attracting
- (E) are looking at their waterfronts as a way they can improve the quality of urban life and attract C is correct.

Less (Also used for sums of money as in above sentence, periods of time and distance, or while citing numerical or statistical data)

- There is less traffic on the road, because fewer people drive these days.
- It's less than twenty miles to Dallas.
- He's less than six feet tall.
- Your essay should be a thousand words or less.
- We spent less than forty dollars on our trip.
- The town spent less than four percent of its budget on snow removal

With a total population of less than two hundred and x fewer breeding females than ever before, the American crocodile seemed a decade ago to be in danger of disappearing.

Correct: (A) of less than two hundred and fewer

Another thumb rule with Use "fewer" to modify a plural noun.

Example: I have fewer papers to write than last year.

Use "less" to modify a singular noun.

Example: You'll need less paper if you type your report.

A description about 'fewness' from dictionary.com

The traditional rule holds that fewer should be used for things that can be counted (fewer than four players), while less should be used with mass terms for things of measurable extent (less paper; less than a gallon of paint). However, less is used in some constructions where fewer would occur if the traditional rule were being followed. Less than can be used before a plural noun that denotes a measure of time, amount, or distance: less than three weeks; less than \$400; less than 50 miles. Less is sometimes used with plural nouns in the expressions no less than (as in No less than 30 of his colleagues signed the letter) and or less (as in Give your reasons in 25 words or less).

Subject Verb Agreement:

exchange subject and object and see that verb still matches in number
One Important Example : All the choices but D contain ambiguities.

Among the various emotions on display was anger...

Among the various things found were statues...

USE of OR: When there are 2 or more options separated by 'OR', both should equally apply to the following clause.

e.g. Slowing the growth or damaging forests (Both slowing the growth and damaging apply to forests. Now, consider the clause 'slowing the growth forests' and 'damaging forests'. The first one, does not seem fine. As, it should be 'slowing the growth of or damaging forests').
Damaging or slowing the growth of forests - Is the correct usage
(Damaging forests or slowing the growth of forests).

Compare to vs Compare with:

To compare two dissimilar things

use compare to

To compare two similar things

use compare with

Because v/s. In That:

When ETS puts 'because' and 'in that' in a sentence, more often than not, 'in that' would be correct. 'In that qualifies' the previous sentence, while 'because' is just used to show a simple causal relationship.

Q. Teratomas are unusual forms of cancer because they are composed of tissues such as tooth and bone not normally found in the organ in which the tumor appears.

A. because they are composed of tissues such as tooth and bone

B. because they are composed of tissues like tooth and bone that are

C. because they are composed of tissues, like tooth and bone, tissues

D. in that their composition , tissues such as tooth and bone, is

Correct

E. in that they are composed of tissues such as tooth and bone, tissues

Usual v/s. Is Usual:

He is faster than is usual for any human being - Is correct.

He is faster than usual today - is correct

A Mercedes is more expensive than usual for a car - Incorrect

A Mercedes is more expensive than is usual for a car - Correct

When something is compared to a subgroup to which it belongs, is usual should be used. When something is compared to itself, usual is fine e.g. He is nicer than usual.

Native to Vs Native of:

Native of v/s. Native to: Native of can be used when referring to human beings. Native to usage is otherwise correct.

CHIEF of WHICH v/s. CHIEF among which:

Q. Jamieson's proposal was rejected for several reasons, the chief among which was cost.

(A) the chief among which was cost

(B) among which the chief was its cost

© the main one was cost

(D) the chief reason of which was its cost

(E) the chief of which was cost

chief means main or principal, and all three words mean the top one.

And when we refer to a member of a group, we use of. For example, if we want to name our best friend, we'd say He is the best of my friends, but not He is the best among my friends.

Now, run these through your head to see how they sound:

- The main reason of all the reasons.
- The main reason among all the reasons.

I think the first sounds better and is more precise.

Also A can be rephrased to main reason among which was cost. Which does not refer to all the reasons and hence A is wrong

E can be rephrased to main reason of which was cost. Here which refers to rejection of the proposal.

EACH v/s. EVERY:

Each refers to '2 times', every refers to 'More than 2 times'

Q. The dog has bitten my younger son twice, and each time, he has had to be sent to his kennel.

(a) each time, he has had to be sent to his

(b) every time, it has had to be sent to his

© each time, it has had to be sent to its

(d) every time, it has had to be sent to its

(e) each time, he has had to be sent to its

'Each time' because it has bitten only twice. The use of the pronoun "he" is unclear here - does it refer to the dog or to the son? In fact, tracing our way back along the sentence, we find that we come across the word "son" before we come across the word "dog", which rather implies that it is the son who owns, and is sent to, the kennel.

The way to get round this ambiguity is to use "it" followed by "its" (no apostrophe!). This limits the choices to (C) and (D). The only difference between these options is the fact that one uses the word "every" and the other uses the word "each". Since these refer to the two times that the dog bit the son, we shouldn't use "every" (that refers to three or more times). The correct option is therefore (C).

Economic v/s. Economical:

Economic means "having to do with the economy or the study of economics."

Economical means "careful or prudent in managing finances, money-saving."

Q.The supply of oil being finite has become an economical and political consideration of the first magnitude for all modern industrial nations.

- (A) The supply of oil being finite has become an economical
- (B) The finite supply of oil has become an economical
- (C) That the supply of oil is finite has become an economical
- (D) The supply of oil being finite has become an economic
- (E) That the supply of oil is finite has become an economic - OA

Idioms and their usage:

A

access to : The company has access to large capital reserves.

act as : The poison pill in the contract acts as a preventative measure against hostile takeovers.

allows for : The design of the robot arm allows for great flexibility.

as....as : Chocolate tastes as good as ice cream.

As a means to: More and more in recent years, cities are stressing the arts as a means to greater economic development and investing millions of dollars in cultural activities, despite strained municipal budgets and fading federal support

associate with : He associates beer with potato chips.

attribute to : The poor first quarter results are attributed to the restructuring.

a responsibility to : The CEO has a fiduciary responsibility to all shareholders.

a result of : The recent Nasdaq decline is a result of higher interest rates.

a sequence of : The Sumerian text was a sequence of incomprehensible symbols.

agree with : The Teamsters do not agree with the Republicans on many issues.

Among: Used when discussing more than two items. He was the finest policeman among the hundreds of rookies.

as good as/or better than : The new software is as good as or better than anything on the market

as great as : The new house looks as great as I had hoped.

attend to (someone): The emergency room doctor attended to the injured victim.

attribute X to Y : We attribute the results to the new management.

X attributed to Y: The extinction of the dinosaurs has been attributed to an asteroid collision.

B

based on The results are based on a comprehensive ten year study.

begin to He will begin to study twelve hours before the test.

believe X to be Y After seeing the flying saucer, I believe UFOs to be a real phenomenon.

between Used when discussing two things (if there are more than two, then use among instead). He could not decide between Corn Flakes or Raisin Bran.

C

care about : How much do business schools care about your score?

centers on + noun : The GMAT centers on the knowledge of basic math and writing/reading skills.

choose to : The number of students who choose to go to business school has increased in the last ten years.

consistent with : Your grades are not consistent with your abysmal GMAT scores.

contend that : He contends that the GMAT has a cultural bias.

consider + noun : How important do you consider the test?
continue + to : If you continue to study, you will succeed.
contrast A with B : If you contrast A with B, you can see the difference.
convert to : You may convert muscle to fat if you study too much.
compare A to B : (compare to stresses similarities). The music critic favorably compared him to Bob Dylan.
compare A with B : (compare with stresses differences). Broccoli is good for you compared with ice cream.
count on + noun : He counts on management support.
concerned with : They are concerned with investor relations more than actual profitability.
conform to : When you work at a new company, you should try to conform to its corporate culture.

D

decide to : We decided to continue.
decide on : We decided on the new format.
depend on : The global economy depends on improving productivity.
different from : The CAT is very different from the paper and pencil GMAT.
difficult to : Many students find the CAT difficult to take. (Different than) is wrong usage.
distinguish between X and Y : Distinguish between domestic and international production.
distinguish X from Y : Juries must attempt to distinguish truth from falsehood.
depends on whether : Our place in the playoffs depends on whether we win tonight.
Disproportionate to : (Disproportionate with is wrong)

E

to be + essential to + noun : Speed is essential to success in the Internet marketplace.
Except for : He did well on the GMAT, except for the sentence correction questions.

F

flee from : The convict fled from the country.

G

grow from : Dell Computer grew from a start-up to a Fortune 500 company in less than fifteen years.
grow out of : Needless to say, they quickly grew out of their first office.

H

help + noun + to : Their direct business model helped them to grow rapidly.

I

indicate that : Dell's recent stock trouble may indicate that their growth will not continue to be as rapid.
invest in : He is too risk-averse to invest in the stock market
identical with : His DNA is identical with his twin's.
in contrast to : The candidate claims to support tax cuts, in contrast to his prior statements.
independent of : The Federal Reserve Board is supposed to be independent of political considerations. (Independent from is wrong usage).

indifferent towards : Some countries are indifferent towards human rights. (Identical to is wrong usage).
In Contrast to : (In contrast with is wrong idiom): In contrast to his bad friend, he never takes any bribes.

L

leads to : Rapid growth often leads to problems.
like: Usually only used for direct comparison: He walks like Joe walks.
localized in : Most Internet venture capital is localized in a few areas of the world.

M

mistake + noun + for : I mistook you for an old friend.
modeled after : The judicial building is modeled after the Parthenon.
more than ever : Companies demand MBA graduates now more than ever.

N

native to : There is a unique business culture native to the U.S.
a native of : It infects those who are not even a native of America.
need to: Living in New York City is an experience everyone needs to try.
to be + necessary + to : It is necessary to get a high GMAT score to get into Stanford.
neither...nor : Neither Tom nor Sam has the necessary skills to finish the job.
not only...but also : Stanford not only has the highest GMAT average, but also the highest GPA.

P

prohibit from + gerund : You are prohibited from using a calculator on test day.
potential to : A graduate of a top business school has the potential to make over \$100,000.

R

range from X to Y : The GMAT scores at top business schools will range from 650 to 770.
refer to : If you have any more questions, you should refer to a grammar book.
regard as : Wharton's finance program is regarded as the finest in the world.
require + noun + to : You require a GMAT score to go to most U.S. business schools.
rivalry between X and Y : The rivalry between the Boston Red Sox and the New York Yankees is one of the most celebrated in professional sports.
responsible for : The manager is responsible for seven entry level employees.
retroactive to : The tax policy change is retroactive to last year.
regret doing something = feel sorry to have done smth.: I don't regret leaving my last job at all.
regret to do something = be sorry that one must do smth.: Dr. Wimpole regrets to say that he cannot answer readers' letters.
remember doing something = keep in mind smth. that one has done: We remembered seeing many little country churches with ancient horse sheds still at the rear.
remember to do something = bear in mind smth. that one has to do: They kept the Ford out in the street in front of the house. It worked all right if they remembered to get it filled with anti-freeze.

S

save for : Save for William, no one else passed the exam.

save from :Many people use business school to save them from dull jobs.
so that : So should not be used as an adjective: GMAT preparation is so... boring. Use it with "that." This guide is designed so that you may raise your score.

subscribe to :Business school students should subscribe to the Wall Street Journal.

stop doing something = cease or give up doing smth.: The teachers had stopped attending to pupils who would certainly pass or certainly fail and were concentrating on the borderline cases.

stop to do something - pause in order to do smth.: He stopped to watch a half-dozen of the boys playing blackjack

T

tie to : The contract should be tied to concessions.

transmit to : The communications system will transmit to anyone within range.

U

used + infinitive : Japan used to be the model industrial economy.

to be + used to + gerund : After five practice tests, he was used to the GMAT CAT format.

This was a question that was posted a little while ago. The answer was said to be D, but it seems that it should be E.

Q.The domesticated camel, which some scholars date around the twelfth century B.C., was the key to the development ofthe 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
- In D, it seems that "thought by some scholars..." modifies camel, rather than domestication Okay, I checked out the other topic, and there was no explanation of the answer. Okay, to be honest, I didn't catch the mistake in E the very first time I read the question, either. I picked D, because somehow it sounded better, but I wasn't sure why. Later, when a student asked me specifically what was wrong with E, I looked at the question a little more carefully. E has a classic mistake, albeit a well disguised one!

I teach this mistake frequently in my SAT II classes for high school students. Let me show you an example of what my high school students might write:

The greatest change in my life was when I immigrated to the US.

Can you see the mistake in this sentence?

Let me try again, with a little hint:

The greatest change in my life was when I immigrated to the US.

Can you see it now?

Okay, just in case, let me give you one more sentence (I'm pretty much doing now what I do in class to explain this grammar point.)

"Target Team Member" to Test Magician:

This pen is a bargain because it's only ten cents.

Hint again:

This pen is a bargain because it is only ten cents.

Okay, got it yet?

Let's work backward. The last sentence is incorrect because it is incorrectly saying that the pen and the ten cents are the same thing; a pen cannot be ten cents; it can be a writing instrument, it can be a

bargain, it can even be a weapon in some cases, but it cannot be ten cents. One-tenth of a dollar is ten cents, a dime is ten cents, but a pen is not.

Are you getting it? Probably, but since I've already started, please let me finish...

Okay, now let's look at the immigration sentence:

The greatest change in my life was when I immigrated to the US.

This sentence means that "change" and "when I immigrated..." are the same thing; they in fact are not.

Like I said, this is a classic mistake, and the classic correction is:

The greatest change in my life occurred/happened when I immigrated to the US. (Do you see where I'm heading now???)

So, in our original question, E says: The camel's domestication was around the twelfth century B.C....

GMAT cleverly hides this mistake by using "to have been" instead of a simple be verb, but "to have been" is one of the many variants of was, were, is, are, am, etc.

The funny thing is that GMAT uses the classic correction as well: domestication... occurred... when...

Finally, I just have to comment: I imagine that if GMAT had to explain this grammar point, they would say in their typical, cryptic fashion something like this:

E incorrectly uses an adverb clause as the noun complement of the subject "domestication."

Okay, what have we learned???

This: NOUN + BE-VERB + NOUN/ADJECTIVE

For example:

The change was good for me.

The change was a good one for me.

The change was an important step for me in my life.

BUT NEVER

The change was when I came to the US.

In other words, noun complements (the words that come after a be-verb and modify nouns) should only be nouns or adjectives (although we often use adverbs when we want to describe location, but more on that later, if you like; this explanation is getting pretty long!!).

I think that's it. I hope what I've said makes sense and is clear, but please be sure to post back with questions or doubts!!

Erin

There is another question on this pattern

Q. Madagascar was one of the last habitable areas of the earth to undergo human settlement, which has made it an ideal site for researching rare flora and fauna.

(A) Madagascar was one of the last habitable areas of the earth to undergo human settlement, which has made it

(B) Madagascar was one of the last habitable areas of the earth to have undergone human settlement, and that has made it

(C) Madagascar underwent human settlement as one of the last habitable areas of the earth, which makes it

(D) Madagascar, one of the last habitable areas of the earth, underwent human settlement, making it

(E) Because Madagascar was one of the last habitable areas of the earth to undergo human settlement, it is

The fact that madagascar was one of the last areas to be inhabited made it ideal. So which and that in A,B and C incorrectly refer to human settlement and are not correct. D also uses Gerund and modifies human settlement. So E is correct.

Run on Sentence:

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)

This problem is run on and following is from a grammar site:

A RUN-ON SENTENCE (sometimes called a "fused sentence") has at least two parts, either one of which can stand by itself (in other words, two independent clauses), but the two parts have been smooshed together instead of being properly connected. Review, also, the section which describes Things That Can Happen Between Two Independent Clauses.

It is important to realize that the length of a sentence really has nothing to do with whether a sentence is a run-on or not; being a run-on is a structural flaw that can plague even a very short sentence:

The sun is high, put on some sunblock.

An extremely long sentence, on the other hand, might be a "run-off-at-the-mouth" sentence, but it can be otherwise sound, structurally. Click [here](#) to see a 239-word sentence that is a perfectly fine sentence (structurally)

When two independent clauses are connected by only a comma, they constitute a run-on sentence that is called a comma-splice. The example just above (about the sunscreen) is a comma-splice. When you use a comma to connect two independent clauses, it must be accompanied by a little conjunction (and, but, for, nor, yet, or, so).

The sun is high, so put on some sunscreen.

Run-on sentences happen typically under the following circumstances*: When an independent clause gives an order or directive based on what was said in the prior independent clause:

This next chapter has a lot of difficult information in it, you should start studying right away.

(We could put a period where that comma is and start a new sentence. A semicolon might also work there.)

When two independent clauses are connected by a transitional expression (conjunctive adverb) such as however, moreover, nevertheless, still.

Mr. Nguyen has sent his four children to ivy-league colleges, however, he has sacrificed his health working day and night in that dusty bakery.

(Again, where that first comma appears, we could have used either a period – and started a new sentence – or a semicolon.)

When the second of two independent clauses contains a pronoun that connects it to the first independent clause.

This computer doesn't make sense to me, it came without a manual.
(Although these two clauses are quite brief, and the ideas are closely related, this is a run-on sentence. We need a period where that comma now stands.)

Most of those computers in the Learning Assistance Center are broken already, this proves my point about American computer manufacturers. Again, two nicely related clauses, incorrectly connected – a run-on. Use a period to cure this sentence.

Source: <http://webster.comnet.edu/grammar/runons.htm>

Finding out run on:

Whenever you find more than one clause in a single sentence, check to see whether some are embedded and whether any independent clauses collide. Start by identifying any dependent words with an asterisk (*). Then discover the subject + verb combinations.

Those swings are the ones that* Dina always chooses, / they are just her size.

The slash (/) marks the point where a new independent clause begins without a conjunction.

Correcting Run-on Sentences:

The first way to correct a run-on sentence is to separate the independent clauses into distinct sentences.

Run-on: This is not such an elegant playground, still, the kids love it.
Corrected: This is not such an elegant playground. Still, the kids love it.

To correct a run-on by this method, you need a period to mark the end of one sentence and a capital letter to mark the beginning of the next one.

Application 2

A second method of correcting run-ons is to compound the independent clauses with a conjunction or a semicolon.

Run-on: That dog is the one that helped me he still scares me.

Corrected: That dog is the one that helped me, but he still scares me.
When you compound independent clauses, put a comma in front of the conjunction. Remember that a comma by itself is not enough. Review these conjunctions:

and | for | or | yet but | nor | so

You may compound two clauses with a semicolon (;) in those rare cases where the clauses are so closely related that you don't need another word to show their relationship.

Run-on: By 7:30, it was too late the show had already begun.

Corrected: By 7:30, it was too late; the show had already begun.

Application 3

A third method of correcting run-ons is to take away the independence of one of the clauses by adding a dependent word.

Run-on: I won't pay these bills, you explain them to me right now.

Corrected: I won't pay these bills unless you explain them to me right away.

When you put a dependent word in front of one clause, you deprive it of its independence and allow it to become embedded in the other clause. (See Chapter 5.) The dependent words who, whose, which, and that are special. When one of these introduces a clause, it replaces a word in the process:

Run-on: This is Myrella's winning lottery ticket, she bought it at Corsetti's Market.

Corrected: This is Myrella's winning lottery ticket which she bought it at Corsetti's Market.

Application 4

A final method of correcting run-on sentences is to reduce one independent clause to a verbal or verbal phrase.

Run-on: The icicles were melting they dripped into the bucket below.

Corrected, using a verbal: The melting icicles dripped into the bucket below.

Run-on: The sun was moving slowly to the south side of the house it thawed the roof gutters.

Corrected, using a verbal phrase: Moving slowly to the south side of the house, the sun thawed the roof gutters.

When you reduce a clause to a verbal or a verbal phrase, you can embed it in the remaining independent clause. (See Chapter 5.) This method doesn't work with all run-on sentences, but when it does, it packs the combined ideas efficiently into a small number of words.

Run-on Sentences: Avoiding Run-on Sentences

Be careful when one independent clause makes a command.

When the command is based on the idea in the other clause, the close relationship between the ideas in the two clauses may make you feel that one is just a continuation of the other.

Run-on: A command can cause a punctuation trap don't fall into it.

Corrected: A command can cause a punctuation trap. Don't fall into it.

Application 7

Be careful when an independent clause begins with one of these pronouns: I, you, he, she, it, we, they, this, or that.

These pronouns may make you feel that a new independent clause is a continuation of the previous one.

Run-on: A pronoun refers to something that you've just said that's how a pronoun creates a feeling of unity between sentences.

Corrected: A pronoun refers to something that you've just said. That's how a pronoun creates a feeling of unity between sentences.

Application 8

Be careful when an independent clause begins with or includes a transitional expression.

Transitional expressions (also known as adverbial conjunctions) are neither dependent words nor conjunctions. They are simply expressions that show relationships between independent clauses.

Run-on: These words link ideas logically however, they don't join clauses grammatically.

Corrected: These words link ideas logically. However, they don't join clauses grammatically.

Here are some common transitional expressions:

Transitional Expressions

To show time and sequence: meanwhile, eventually, soon, later, first, second, next, then, finally, also, besides, furthermore, moreover, in addition, too

To compare and contrast: likewise, similarly, in the same way, however, nevertheless, still, on the other hand, on the contrary, even so

To show cause and effect: therefore, as a result, accordingly, consequently, thus, hence, otherwise

To offer examples and conclusions: for instance, for example, after all, in fact, of course in conclusion, in other words, on the whole, in short

Transitional expressions offer some of the rare occasions when semicolons are useful.

Transitional expressions show the relationship between two ideas; therefore, a semicolon is all you need for connecting the clauses.

Notice that when a transitional expression begins a clause, it is usually followed by a comma.

Infinitive Vs Gerund Vs participle

First kind of verbal: To + [base form of verb] This is called an infinitive.

An infinitive may play several sentence roles:

To twitch* at the moment of falling asleep is perfectly natural.

(subject, "What is?")

Some people try to control* this motion. (completer, "People try what?")

They lie on their stomachs to suppress* the twitch. (modifier, "Why?")

An infinitive never acts as the verb of a sentence.

Second kind of verbal: [base form of verb] + -ing with no auxiliary in front. This is called a present participle, or in some cases, a gerund. The present participle, when it stands without an auxiliary, may play the role of modifier:

Willie Loman was a traveling* salesman. ("What kind?")

Sometimes the same verb form is used in one of the roles that a noun could play. Then it is called a gerund:

Losing* his job pushed him beyond the brink of sanity. (subject, "What pushed?")

People focus on some basic elements of the American character by reading* Death of a Salesman. (object of the preposition by)

Whether the -ing form acts as a modifier or plays a noun's role, if it is not preceded by a form of the auxiliary to be, it cannot work as the verb of its sentence.

Third kind of verbal: [past participle of verb] with no auxiliary in front

A past participle, standing alone without an auxiliary, plays the role of modifier:

Ghandi's chosen* strategy of non-violent protest had its roots in Christian as well as Hindu doctrines. ("Which strategy?")

Educated* in Britain, this young lawyer saw the connections between his own Indian traditions and the highest ideals of Western civilization.

("What kind of lawyer?")

Remember that with regular verbs, the simple past and the past participle forms look exactly alike, but that with irregular verbs the two forms may be

different. <http://www.ccc.commnet.edu/sensen/part1/five/verbal.html>

Q. 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

B settlers used mud and grass to build their homes, did it without

C settlers used mud and grass to build their homes, making them while not having

D settlers used mud and grass to build their homes, making do without

E settlers' homes were built of mud and grass, making do without

make do = to cope in some way (with a situation) and get on with it, using whatever resources happen to be available.

"making do" is a hanging participle. D is the answer.

Personal Pronouns with Infinitive:

In sentences where a pronoun functions as the subject of an infinitive construction (the "to" form of the verb), the pronoun, paradoxically, must be in the objective case. For example,

I want him to understand this rule.

I want Gladys and him to understand this rule.

She told her to clean up.

He told Jorge and them to clean up.

They asked me to stand up.
They asked Larry and us to stand up.
I like them to laugh out loud.
She told Sinead and him to sing loudly.
For other cases :

We are not them; we are in a class of our own.
The pronoun them is in a predicate nominative construction and must agree with the subject of the sentence, we. The correct form is, We are not they; we are in a class of our own.

Personal Pronouns with Comparatives

In comparative expressions (such as "more than" or "better than" or "smarter than") followed by a pronoun, the case, again, is important. In everyday speech, most people use the objective case when they should use the subjective case.

Faulty Usage

I liked it better than her.
She does it more than me.
My sisters are smarter than them.

Tip: As a guide to correct usage, in your mind, add the verb that is understood but not stated: I liked it better than she ["did" is understood]. She does it more than I ["do" is understood]. My sisters are smarter than they ["are" is understood].

Possessive Pronouns with Gerunds

In everyday speech, many people do not use the possessive form before a gerund—the participial ("ing") form of the verb that functions as a noun—although scholars and language purists prefer the possessive. Here are a few examples:
Carelessness leads to them/their making mistakes.
Him/his wanting so much to help is heartwarming to see.
I know that me/my talking to you this way is intrusive.
It/Its being one of her own choices made it special.

Preposition takes objective form:

Preposition takes objective form of pronoun as in
Accepting the assignment as given was a decision to be made between the manager and I.

- (A) given was a decision to be made between the manager and I.
- (B) it was given was a decision to be made between the manager and I.
- (C) given was to be decided by the manager and I.
- (D) given was to be decided between the manager and I.
- (E) given was a decision to be made between the manager and me.

E is correct for the objective form of pronoun
x wants me to go there.

The comparative ending "er" is often used incorrectly as an adverb:

- (Faulty) She walks a lot slower since the accident.
- (Correct) She walks a lot more slowly since the accident.

Slow and slower both function as adjectives. For example, you can say:
My reaction time is slow but hers is slower,
where both "slow" and "slower" modify the noun phrase, "reaction time."
Use -er form in comparison with than as in

Q. Sometimes I think everybody works faster than me.

- (A) everybody works faster than me.
- (B) everybody works faster than I.
- (C) everyone works more quickly than me.
- (D) everybody works more quickly than I do.
- (E) everybody works faster than I work.

B is correct

One another/Each other

Each other should be used when referring to two things, and one another should be used when referring to more than two things.

The members of the basketball team (more than two) congratulated one another on their victory.

The business partners (two) congratulated each other on their successful first year.

Speak to/with

To speak to someone is to tell them something.

We spoke to Jennings about the alleged embezzlement.

To speak with someone is to discuss something with them.

Steve spoke with his friend Dave for hours yesterday.

Q.I wanted to take the test than, when I still remembered what I had read.

(A) I wanted to take the test than, when I still remembered what I had read.

(B) I wanted to take the test then, when I still remembered what I had studied.

(C) I wanted to take the test when I still remembered what I had read.

(D) Then I wanted to take the test, when I still remembered what I had read.

(E) I wanted to take the test then, when I still remembered what I had read.

The answer is (E).

Choice (A) incorrectly uses the comparative than instead of the adverb then.

Choice (B) changes read to studied for no reason.

Choice (C) drops then/than altogether and thus takes away the reference to a specific time.

Choice (D) repositions then in the sentence and creates an awkward construction.

Choice (E) is the answer since it correctly changes than to then. alogk see for this one

Which with no comma (From OG)

Q.A report by the American Academy for the Advancement of Science has concluded that much of the currently uncontrolled dioxins to which North Americans are exposed comes from the incineration of wastes.

(A) much of the currently uncontrolled dioxins to which North Americans are exposed comes

(B) much of the currently uncontrolled dioxins that North Americans are exposed to come

(C) much of the dioxins that are currently uncontrolled and that North Americans are exposed to comes

(D) many of the dioxins that are currently uncontrolled and North Americans are exposed to come

(E) many of the currently uncontrolled dioxins to which North Americans are exposed come

Choices A, B, and C are flawed because the countable noun dioxins should be modified by many rather than

much, which is used with uncountable nouns such as "work" and "happiness." In addition, both A and C

incorrectly use the singular verb comes with the plural noun dioxins.

Choices C and D are needlessly wordy,

and D requires that before North Americans, to be grammatically complete. Choice E, the best answer, is both

grammatically correct and concise

Q.Galileo was convinced that natural phenomena, as manifestations of the laws of physics, would appear the same to someone on the deck of a

ship moving smoothly and uniformly through the water as a person standing on land.

- (A) water as a
- (B) water as to a
- (C) water; just as it would to a
- (D) water, as it would to the
- (E) water; just as to the

B, the best choice, uses the idiomatic and grammatically parallel form the same to X as to Y. Because A lacks the preposition to, it seems to compare the appearance of natural phenomena to that of a person standing on land. C and

D unnecessarily repeat would and wrongly use the singular it to refer to the plural phenomena. C and E each contain a faulty semicolon and produce errors in idiom, the same to X just as [it would] to. D and E use the definite article the where the indefinite article a is needed to refer to an unspecified person. (From OG).

hoped vs Hopefully

It is hoped is better than hopefully to represent possibility of an idea.

Because Vs In That

in that vs because - in that is used to talk about some aspects, and because is used to talk about all aspects

Example : Going to Ivy league college is very stressfull because it includes huge expenses. means Going to Ivy league college is very stressfull in all aspects

Going to Ivy league college is very stressfull in that it includes huge expenses. means Going to Ivy league college is very stressfull from economic point of view.

equal vs equivalent

Q.The new resort hotel will serve 20,000 tourists at its maximum capacity, equaling the capacity of a large stadium.

- (A) equaling the capacity of a large stadium
- (B) which equals a large stadium
- (C) which equals that of a large stadium's
- (D) the equivalent of that of a large stadium's
- Correct (E) the equivalent of a large stadium's

Well, GMAT has written in one of their explanations that equal should be used only in its strictest sense, for example, 4+3 is equal to 5+2. equivalent, GMAT says, is preferable when we are saying that two things are not entirely identical, but are almost equal. For example, Country X spent \$XX on something, equivalent to the GDP of Country Y.

one or the other vs one or another

Q.If the claims of coastal nations to 200-mile territorial seas were accepted on a worldwide basis, more than thirty percent of the worlds ocean area would come under the jurisdiction of one or other national states.

- (A) one or other national states
- (B) one or another national state
- (C) one or the other national state
- (D) some or another of the national states
- (E) each and every national state

Generally, the other means the second one. In other words, we can only use the other one when we are talking about only two things, such as our eyes, feet, ears, hands, or legs.

For example, I have two sisters. One is a doctor, and the other one is an artist.

Based on the most reliable information, the company made plans to diversify its holdings.
Based on the most reliable information, plans were made to diversify the company's holdings.
Second one is correct. Take it as follows.
The company, Based on the most reliable information,...
The plans, Based on the most reliable information,...
It can modify only plans. Also based on is a special modifier in this sense.

Q.The nurses went on strike to protest their being overworked.

- a. their being overworked.
- b. themselves being overworked
- c. themselves as overworked
- d. their overworking
- e. overworking themselves

Infinitive to protest needs a noun or pronoun object which is not there in E. B and C have reflexive pronoun which seems awkward here. D shows they are overworking from their own wish but A shows they are being forced to overwork...

that's what I think.

DKP

Good explanation, DKP.

Here's the rule for reflexive pronouns:

The subject and object of the verb or object of the preposition must be the same.

So, if we isolate only the important parts of the sentence, we have: the nurses... protested... themselves...

And of course, they did not protest themselves.

And E says that they were protesting the act of overworking themselves, meaning that they did it themselves; why would anybody protest doing something to herself? I can't (or shouldn't) say, for example, "I protested burning myself."

Anyway, we should say that their bosses, not the nurses, overworked them.

Q.According to Herbert Essame, Patton might have accomplished more had he not been held in check by his superiors, Alexander in the Mediterranean an isen over n Europe.

- (A) had he not been held in check by his superiors
- (B) had his superiors not held him in check
- (C) if his superiors had not held him in check
- (D) if he was not held in check by his superiors
- (E) when not held in check by his superiors

B & C are ruled out because the latter part of the sentence starts with the name of his superiors, so we cannot have "check" before Alexander, we have to have superiors before Alexander.

down to A & D,

A is past continuous which describes that Patton was continuously held in check and could not do more, whereas D gives an impression Patton was held in check only for sometime.

Common error I do:

1. Modifier will not have a verb.

as in: (Wrong)evidence are emerging from a study by organization for media, a study that is underwritten by a number of institutes.

(Right) evidence are emerging, a study underwritten by a number of institutes and conducted by organization for media.

Q.At the time of the Mexican agrarian revolution, the most radical faction, that of Zapata and his followers, proposed a return to

communal ownership of land, to what had been a pre-Columbian form of ownership respected by the Spaniards.

Correct (A) land, to what had been a pre-Columbian form of ownership respected by the Spaniards

(B) land, a form of ownership of the pre-Columbians and respected by the Spaniards

(C) land, respected by the Spaniards and a pre-Columbian form of ownership

(D) land in which a pre-Columbian form of ownership was respected by the Spaniards

(E) land that had been a pre-Columbian form of ownership respected by the Spaniards

communal ownership of land is a noun phrase and you can use 'that' to describe it and for to...

Yesterday I went back to my elementary school in West Virginia, to the place that was so full of happy memories

228. Corporations will soon be required to report to the government whether they have the necessary reserves to pay the pension benefits earned by their employees and that the information be published in annual reports to shareholders.

(A) earned by their employees and that the information be published

(B) that their employees earned and that the information be published

(C) that was earned by their employees with the information being published Correct (D) earned by their employees, information that must also be published

(E) earned by their employees and published the information

1. Corporations will soon be required to report to the government whether they have the necessary reserves to pay the pension benefits earned by their employees and that the information be published in annual reports to shareholders.

2. Corporations will soon be required to report to the government that the information be published in annual reports to shareholders.

lets look at the second coordinate, as in 2, and see the absurdity, because the noun information sums up Corporations will soon be required to report to the government whether they have the necessary reserves to pay the pension benefits earned by their employees

Using summative modifier, as shown in D, solves this problem.

Summative/resumptive modifiers differ from absolute phrases in that the latter is timeless/exochronous.

Q.The value of the dollar in international markets will continue to increase, as it has been since interest rates began to rise.

(A) as it has been

(B) as it has done

(C) which it has

(D) which it has been

(E) which it had been

The given answer is not correct; in point of fact, B is.

As silver asked me to explain further, here we go. This is kinda tricky question. For how to disambiguate the ellipted verb: "continue to increase" or "increase"

The 'standard' practice is: if one wants to ellipt continue to increase, the as-clause should be: as it has continued to increase; if one wants to ellipt just increase, the as-clause should be: it has done, where done = increased. This is a trick used in chained verbs.

The only way to check whether this practice is correct or not: search any corpus or google.

Besides, the sentence "the value increases" is similar to "the book reads easily"

which without comma usage

As a general rule, which should always be preceded by a comma. However are there any exceptions to this?

Look at the following example

Q.A substance derived from the Madagascar periwinkle, which has proved useful in decreasing mortality among young leukemia patients, is cultivated in China as part of a program to integrate traditional herbal medicine into a contemporary system of health care.

(A) A substance derived from the Madagascar periwinkle, which has proved useful in decreasing mortality among young leukemia patients,
(B) A derivative, which has proved useful in decreasing mortality among young leukemia patients, of the Madagascar periwinkle,

(C) A Madagascar periwinkle derivative, which has proved useful in decreasing mortality among young leukemia patients,

(D) The Madagascar periwinkle has a derivative which has proved useful in decreasing mortality among young leukemia patients, that

(E) The Madagascar periwinkle, a derivative of which has proved useful in decreasing mortality among young leukemia patients,

OA is E but it has which without a comma. Please explain why this is right. Thanks First, you must remember that your job as a good GMAT test taker is to choose the best of five, not to choose the perfect answer. There's a difference. I have seen GMAT questions that have which used in all five answer choices with no comma.

But this question here is a bit different; to say that which must always be preceded by a comma actually simplifies the rule to the point that you could get confused by the rule. It would be more accurate to say that when which is used as a non-restriction relative pronoun, it should be set off from the main clause with a comma. In your example, which is not being used in this way; it is being used similar to the same way as these examples are being used:

**some of which many of which one of which all of which and these:
with which after which under which because of which in which**

Notice that in these constructions the comma comes not before which but before the word or words before the which:

I have several GMAT books, some of which are not very helpful.

Let's have lunch, after which we can talk about whether we want to see a movie.

I just had lunch with Julie, the brother of whom I know from college.

(This one is similar to your example.)

One more sentence, just to compare:

I need a pen with which to write. (no comma at all)

Repose is a method of sculptor in which workers

A standard candle is a light source whose intrinsic luminosity is so well known that the extent to which

Here is a handy chart to distinguish the two categories of words:

amount vs. number, quantity vs. number, little vs. few, less vs. fewer, much vs. many
More can be used with countable and non countable nouns.

BETWEEN :

"Between 1939 to 1945" is obviously incorrect to most people--it should be "between 1939 and 1945"--but the error is not so obvious when it is written thus: "between 1939-1949." In this case, the "between" should be dropped altogether. Also incorrect are expressions like "there were between 15 to 20 people at the party." This should read "between 15 and 20 people."

Between you and me is better over between you and I
Prepositions need objective form of pronoun.

Contrast with: With must not be omitted in sentences like this:
"Julia's enthusiasm for rugby contrasts with my devotion to ches."

DOUBT THAT/DOUBT WHETHER/DOUBT IF:

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If you really doubt that something is true (suspect that it's false), use "doubt that": "I doubt that Fred has really lost 25 pounds." If you want to express genuine uncertainty, use "whether": "I doubt whether we'll see the comet if the clouds don't clear soon." "Doubt if" can be substituted for "doubt whether," though it's considered somewhat more casual, but don't use it when you mean "doubt that.". Doubt if should not be used in GMAT.

DUE TO THE FACT THAT/BECAUSE

Although "due to" is now a generally acceptable synonym for "because," "due to the fact that" is a clumsy and wordy substitute that should be avoided in formal writing. "Due to" is often misspelled "do to."

EACH

"Each" as a subject is always singular: think of it as equivalent to "every one." The verb whose subject it is must also be singular. Some uses, like "to keep them from fighting, each dog has been given its own bowl," cause no problem. No one is tempted to say "have been given." But when a prepositional phrase with a plural object intervenes between subject and verb, we are likely to be misled into saying things like "Each of the children have to memorize their own locker combinations." The subject is "each," not "children." The tendency to avoid specifying gender by using "their" adds to pressure toward plurality; but the correct version of this sentence is "Each of the children has to memorize his or her own locker combination." One can avoid the entire problem by pluralizing throughout: "All the children have to memorize their own locker combinations" (but see the entry on singular "they"). In many uses, however, "each" is not the subject, as in "We each have our own favorite flavor of ice cream" which is correct because "we" and not "each" is the subject of the verb "have".
So essentially look for patterns like each of group verb.
Here verb is to match the each and hence singular.

ECONOMICAL/ECONOMIC

Something is economical if it saves you money; but if you're talking about the effect of some measure on the world's economy, it's an economic effect.

EITHER

"Either" often gets misplaced in a sentence: "He either wanted to build a gambling casino or a convent" should be "He wanted to build either a gambling casino or a convent." Put "either" just before the first thing being compared.

EITHER ARE/EITHER IS

As a subject, "either" is singular. it's the opposite of "both," and refers to one at a time: "Either ketchup or mustard is good on a hot dog." But if "either" is modifying a subject in an "either . . . or" phrase, then the number of the verb is determined by the number of the second noun: "Either the puppy or the twins seem to need my attention every other minute."

EVIDENCE TO/EVIDENCE OF

You can provide evidence to a court, even enough evidence to convict someone; but the standard expression "is evidence of" requires "of"

rather than "to" in sentences like this: "Driving through the front entrance of the Burger King is evidence of Todd's inexperience in driving." If you could substitute "evidences" or "evidenced" in your sentence, you need "of."

EVERY

"Every," "everybody" and "everyone" and related expressions are normally treated as singular in American English: "Every woman I ask out tells me she already has plans for Saturday night."

FROM . . . TO

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"From soup to nuts" makes sense because soup was the traditional first course in a formal meal, nuts the last. Similarly "from A to Z" makes sense because these are the first and last letters of the alphabet. But this construction, which identifies the extremes of a spectrum or range is often improperly used when no such extremes are being identified, as in "She tried everything from "penicillin to sulfa drugs." These are not extremes, just examples of different sorts of drugs. Even worse is "He gave his daughter everything from a bicycle to lawn darts to a teddy bear." A range can't have more than two extremes. "He gave his daughter everything from paper dolls to a Cadillac" conveys the notion of a spectrum from very cheap to very expensive, and is fine. Often when people are tempted to use "from . . . to" they would be better off using a different expression, as, for example, in this sentence: "She tried all sorts of medicines, including penicillin and sulfa drugs."

GOOD/WELL

"Good" is the adjective; "well" is the adverb. You do something well, but you give someone something good. The exception is verbs of sensation in phrases such as "the pie smells good," or "I feel good." Despite the arguments of nigglers, this is standard usage. Saying "the pie smells well" would imply that the pastry in question had a nose. In the old days when people studied traditional grammar, we could simply say, "The first person singular pronoun is "I" when it's a subject and "me" when it's an object," but now few people know what that means. Let's see if we can apply some common sense here. The misuse of "I" and "myself" for "me" is caused by nervousness about "me." Educated people know that "Jim and me is going down to slop the hogs," is not elegant speech, not "correct." It should be "Jim and I" because if I were slopping the hogs alone I would never say "Me is going . . ." So far so good. But the notion that there is something wrong with "me" leads people to overcorrect and avoid it where it is perfectly appropriate. People will say "The document had to be signed by both Susan and I" when the correct statement would be, "The document had to be signed by both Susan and me." Trying even harder to avoid the lowly "me," many people will substitute "myself," as in "The suspect uttered epithets at Officer O' Leary and myself." "Myself" is no better than "I" as an object. "Myself" is not a sort of all-purpose intensive form of "me" or "I." Use "myself" only when you have used "I" earlier in the same sentence: "I am not particularly fond of goat cheese myself." "I kept half the loot for myself." All this confusion can easily be avoided if you just remove the second party from the sentences where you feel tempted to use "myself" as an object or feel nervous about "me." You wouldn't say, "The IRS sent the refund check to I," so you shouldn't say "The IRS sent the refund check to my wife and I" either. And you shouldn't say "to my wife and myself." The only correct way to say this is, "The IRS sent the refund check to my wife and me." Still sounds too casual? Get over it.

HIM, HER/HE, SHE

There is a group of personal pronouns to be used as subjects in a sentence, including "he," "she," "I," and "we." Then there is a separate group of object pronouns, including "him," "her," "me," and "us." The problem is that the folks who tend to mix up the two sets often don't find the subject/object distinction clear or helpful, and say things like "Her and me went to the movies."

A simple test is to substitute "us" for "her and me." Would you say "us went to the movies?" Obviously not. You'd normally say "we went to the movies," so when "we" is broken into the two persons involved it becomes "she and I went to the movies."

But you would say "the murder scene scared us," so it's correct to say "the murder scene scared her and me."

If you aren't involved, use "they" and "them" as test words instead of "us" and "we." "They won the lottery" becomes "he and she won the lottery," and "the check was mailed to them" becomes "the check was mailed to him and her."

See also "I/me/myself"

IN REGARDS TO/WITH REGARD TO

Business English is deadly enough without scrambling it. "As regards your downsizing plan . . ." is acceptable, if stiff. "In regard to . . ." is also correct. But don't confuse the two by writing "In regards to."

IN THE FACT THAT/IN THAT

Many people mistakenly write "in the fact that" when they mean simply "in that" in sentences like "It seemed wiser not to go to work in the fact that the boss had discovered the company picnic money was missing." Omit "the fact." While we're at it, "infact" is not a word; "in fact" is always a two-word phrase.

LIKE/AS IF

"As if" is generally preferred in formal writing over "like" in sentences such as "the conductor looks as if he's ready to begin the symphony." But in colloquial speech, "like" prevails, and when recording expressions such as "he spends money like it's going out of style" it would be artificial to substitute "as if." And in expressions where the verb is implied rather than expressed, "like" is standard rather than "as": "she took to gymnastics like a duck to water."

MAY/MIGHT

Most of the time "might" and "may" are almost interchangeable, with "might" suggesting a somewhat lower probability. You're more likely to get wet if the forecaster says it may rain than if she says it might rain; but substituting one for the other is unlikely to get you into trouble--so long as you stay in the present tense.

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But "might" is also the past tense of the auxiliary verb "may," and is required in sentences like "Chuck might have avoided arrest for the robbery if he hadn't given the teller his business card before asking for the money." When speculating that events might have been other than they were, don't substitute "may" for "might."

Singular- Plural

Plural: Data, phenomena, media, criteria.

So use this phenomenon but these phenomena.

Lots of people get into trouble with sentences that describe a hypothetical situation in the past: "If he would have packed his own suitcase, he would have noticed that the cat was in it." That first

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"would have" should be a simple "had": "If he had packed his own suitcase he would have noticed that the cat was in it." Also "The game would have been more fun if we had [not "would have"] won." This sort of construction consists of two parts: a hypothetical cause in the past and its logical effect. The hypothetical cause needs to be put into the past tense: "had." Only the effect is made conditional: "would have." Note that in the second example above the effect is referred to before the cause.

WHEREABOUTS ARE/WHEREABOUTS IS

Despite the deceptive "S" on the end of the word, "whereabouts" is normally singular, not plural. "The whereabouts of the stolen diamond is unknown." Only if you were simultaneously referring to two or more persons having separate whereabouts would the word be plural, and you are quite unlikely to want to do so.

WHETHER/WHETHER OR NOT

"Whether" works fine on its own in most contexts: "I wonder whether I forgot to turn off the stove?" But when you mean "regardless of whether" it has to be followed by "or not" somewhere in the sentence: "We need to leave for the airport in five minutes whether you've found your teddy bear or not."

See also

use objective form of pronoun after preposition.

as in between him and me

Generally sentence should not end with prepositional phrase.

Although the author himself declared them unpublishable, the first appearance in print of 40 poems by T. S. Eliot is a great event, Since they provide facinating evidence about the creative processes that were engaged in by this great modernist.

Above ends with "in by this great modernist" so not good.

Although the author himself declared them unpublishable, the first appearance in print of 40 poems by T. S. Eliot is a great event, Since they provide facinating evidence about the creative processes in which this great modernist engaged.

Also notice which without comma

With words that indicate portions—percent, fraction, part, majority, some, all, none, remainder, etc.—you must look at the noun in your of phrase (object of the preposition) to determine whether to use a singular or plural verb. If the object of the preposition is singular, use a singular verb. If the object of the preposition is plural, use a plural verb.

Fifty percent of the pie has disappeared.

Pie is the object of the preposition of.

Fifty percent of the pies have disappeared.

Pies is the object of the preposition.

One third of the city is unemployed.

One third of the people are unemployed.

All of the pie is gone.

All of the pies are gone.

Some of the pie is missing.

Some of the pies are missing.

When either and neither are subjects, they always take singular verbs.

Neither of them is available to speak rig

Use a singular verb with sums of money or periods of time.

Ten dollars is a high price to pay.

Five years is the maximum sentence for that offense

Majority is used with countable nouns only

Rivaling the pyramids of Egypt or even the ancient cities of the Maya as an achievement, the army of terra-cotta warriors created to protect Qin Shi Huang, China's first emperor, in his afterlife is more than 2,000 years old and took 700,000 artisans more than 36 years to complete them.

(a) took 700,000 artisans more than 36 years to complete them

(b) took 700,000 artisans more than 36 years to complete it

© took 700,000 artisans more than 36 years to complete

(d) 700,000 artisans took more than 36 years to complete

to complete them too 700,000 artisans more than 36 years

Them is incorrect in A and E.

C is wrong because its army cannot take artisans. Artisans took 36 years. Out of B and D, D is wrong because second clause is not complete without "it". C uses subject verb inversion but is better than D.

965. In many upper-class Egyptian homes, French was spoken within the family, just as it had once been among the Russian aristocracy.

(A) just as it had once been among the Russian aristocracy

(B) just like it once been among the Russian aristocracy

(C) just as Russian aristocracy had once done

(D) similar to what the Russian aristocracy had once done

(E) like what had once been done by the Russian aristocracy A is OA

5) If one pronoun is sufficient to introduce a modifier, another pronoun is not needed. E.g. Astronomers have discovered a supernova, one that they believe is of a type unknown. - **Incorrect**

Astronomers have discovered a supernova, one they believe to be of a type unknown. - **correct**

For many travelers, charter vacations often turn out to cost considerably more than they originally seemed.

a. they originally seemed

b. they originally seem to

c. they seemingly would cost originally

d. it seemed originally

e. it originally seemed they would.

B would need to be in past tense, seemed. In fact, I often teach GMAT and TOEFL students that the words original (and its derivations) and first usually require past tense.

Furthermore, the "past future" of would in E is more precise than the simple past in A (or that B is lacking, in case you're going to ask if B would be correct if we changed seem to seemed). Since we're talking about something we'd learn after a certain point in the past, would is better. For example:

• This Acura is a lot better than I thought it would be. is better than

• This Acura is a lot better than I thought it was.

In the first example, we are saying that something turned out to be true. In the second example, we are saying that we were not aware of a fact that was true at that time.

And in the charter vacations question, there is no fact that the travelers were unaware of when they purchased the charter vacation-- after the original purchase of the charter vacation (and probably toward the end of the vacation), the charter vacation turned out to be more costly than they had at first believed it would be.

Re: consider/regard:

If the Object complement is far away from object, use *consider to be* a majority of plural uses plural verb.

never never never - use that with 'order' or 'directive' words and is C
ETS WILL PUNISH YOU FOR THIS BIG TIME

559. One of Ronald Reagan's first acts as President was to rescind President Carter's directive that any chemical banned on medical grounds in the United States be prohibited from sale to other countries.
(A) that any chemical banned on medical grounds in the United States be prohibited from sale to other countries

(B) that any chemical be prohibited from sale to other countries that was banned on medical grounds in the United States

(C) prohibiting the sale to other countries of any chemical banned on medical grounds in the United States

(D) prohibiting that any chemical banned on medical grounds in the United States is sold to other countries

(E) that any chemical banned in the United States on medical grounds is prohibited from being sold to other countries. C is correct

719. The computer software being designed for a project studying Native American access to higher education will not only meet the needs of that study, but also has the versatility and power of facilitating similar research endeavors.

(A) but also has the versatility and power of facilitating

(B) but also have the versatility and power to facilitate

(C) but it also has the versatility and power to facilitate

(D) and also have the versatility and power of facilitating

(E) and it also has such versatility and power that it can facilitate

B is correct. Software will not only A. Software will B.

Hence due to parallelism it needs to have "have".

Difference between May and Might

Let me begin by saying that there was a very thin line between may and might (two decades earlier) and is becoming imperceptible by the day. Trying to pick our answer based on just this issue, might (surely) not be a good idea. Having more than one clue (as is usual in GMAT questions) may be a better idea- [Please follow the earlier posts]
In this particular question, as exemplified by the following sentences, usage of might is more appropriate.

Check these two sentences.

I may go into town tomorrow for the Christmas sales. And James might come with me!

What are you doing over the New Year, Ann? ~ Oh, I may go to Scotland, but there again, I might stay at home.

Here might suggests a relative certainty as compared to may. I hope it helps. The difference is tooooooo narrow for me to do anything more. My suggestion - don't bank on this concept (may not be correct for all you know) while picking the answer. I had just listed it as an adjunct. Look at the other important aspects or clues (I am sure you already did this).

Fossils of the arm of a sloth found in Puerto Rico in 1991, and dated at 34 million years old, made it the earliest known mammal of the Greater Antilles islands.

A.sloth found in Puerto Rico in 1991, and dated at 34 million years old, made it the earliest known mammal of

B.sloth, that they found in Puerto Rico in 1991, has been dated at 34 million years old, thus making it the earliest mammal known on

C.sloth that was found in Puerto Rico in 1991, was dated at 34 million years old, making this the earliest known mammal of

D.sloth, found in Puerto Rico in 1991, have been dated at 34 million years old, making the sloth the earliest known mammal on

E.sloth which, found in Puerto Rico in 1991, was dated at 34 million years old, made the sloth the earliest known mammal of

Contentions seems to between C and D. Would focus on just these two.

With Choice C:

Fossils in the arm of a sloth that was found in Puerto Rico in 1991, was dated at 34 million years old, making this the earliest known mammal of the Greater Antilles islands.

1) Fossils is subject of the sentence. Verb has to be "were (dated)". This is the major error.

2) "Mammal on Greater" is better than "mammal of greater...."

3) Tense mismatch - was (past) with making (present participle)t

4) "Fossils in the arm of a sloth that was found in Puerto Rico in 1991". The Highlighted portion is a squinting modifier. That could refer to either fossils or sloth. Only tense seems to be indicating that it is sloth. But it is ambiguous as "Fossils" is the subject. Multiple errors and so C is wrong.

With Choice D:

Fossils in the arm of a sloth, found in Puerto Rico in 1991, have been dated at

34 million years old, making the sloth the earliest known mammal on the Greater Antilles islands.

All the above errors are taken care off including the tense - have been (present perfect) D is correct ans.

Q. One of every two new businesses fail within two years.

(A) fail

(B) fails

(C) should fail

(D) may have failed

(E) has failed

I'm confused with the use of 'One'. I know 'One' is singular and hence the ans should be B here (Yes OA is B). But somewhere I read that if it's a fraction, then the verb will be singular or plural according to the immediate preceding noun. May be I've interpreted it wrong. But can some one clarify this point? When is the case when a plural verb can appear along with the use of 'one'?

what you say is true of fractions mentioned like "half of", "Most of", "Few of" etc...

In case of contructions like Singular noun + of + plural noun, the verb will be plural if the plural noun can perform the action.

Going by this rule, 'fail' should be correct.

However, when we apply this rule, we need to ensure that the intent is preserved.

Do businesses fail? or one of them fails?

Since the intent is the latter, B is rite.

This is one of the cars that run on hydrogen.

In this sentence, we are referring to one in a group of cars all of which run on hydrogen. So the subject cars is caparable of performing the action run. So the plural is bang!

Same logic for the other sentence.

More explanation frm an earlier post:

Ex: One of the students believes that math is boring

In the above, it is actually not an exception; it is about logic. Ask yourself: Do the students believe that math is boring? No. Only that one student believes so. Hence, "believes" should be third person singular.

Here is the attern that I have noticed (seems to work so far):

In such contructions, when the verb immediately follows the plural subject, it takes the singular form.

When is followed by who/that, usually it takes the plural form.

Help needs a verb to follow without infinitive

Ideally, the professional career diplomat should help in the ongoing maintenance of an effective American foreign policy despite changes in administration.

- (A) in the ongoing maintenance of
- (B) in the maintaining of
- (C) maintain
- (D) to maintain and continue
- (E) the maintenance of

C is correct.

Q. Soaring television costs accounted for more than half the spending in the presidential campaign of 1992, a greater proportion than it was in any previous election.

- a. a greater proportion than it was
- b. a greater proportion than
- c. a greater proportion than they have been
- d. which is greater than was so
- e. which is greater that is has been

B is best.

I know it's a bit confusing, but the proportion in B is a summative modifier; i.e., it sums up the essence of something said before in the sentence.

Another grammar point the 700 Club needs to know--it must refer to exactly the same noun. If the noun is not exactly the same, it cannot be used.

Compare:

The rock weighed more on Earth than it did on the Moon.

it is okay here because it's the same rock--imagine picking up the rock and carrying it to the new place--same rock, different location, different weight.

The average American weighed more last year than he did 100 years ago. This one doesn't work--the means we have one "average American," and this very same average American is the one we're talking about. If this sentence were logically correct, then this average Am 100 years, and we'd be comparing his weight now with his weight of the past. Doesn't work.

The average American weighed more last year than 100 years ago. This works. This construction, lacking the pronoun, allows us to "shift" the reference of the "average American" to the current average American.

Resumptive modifier may or may not have that depending on the need.

575. Pensions are now viewed as a deferred payment of salary, money a worker is compelled to put away to take care of one's later years.

- (A) a worker is compelled to put away to take care of one's
- (B) that a worker is compelled to put away to take care of oneself in
- (C) a worker is compelled to put away to take care of oneself in
- (D) workers are compelled to put away to take care of them in
- (E) workers are compelled to put away to take care of themselves in

E is correct ans.

577. People who inherit the sickle cell anemia gene from only one parent seem to be resistant to malaria, an evolutionary advantage that may explain why a genetic condition so debilitating to many individuals has survived in the human population.

- (A) seem to be resistant to malaria,
- (B) seemingly are resistant to malaria,
- (C) seem to be resistant to malaria and have
- (D) seemingly are resistant to malaria and to have
- (E) are, it seems, resistant to malaria, and they have

A is correct ans.

719. The computer software being designed for a project studying Native American access to higher education will not only meet the needs of that study, but also has the versatility and power of facilitating similar research endeavors.

(A) but also has the versatility and power of facilitating

(B) but also have the versatility and power to facilitate

(C) but it also has the versatility and power to facilitate

(D) and also have the versatility and power of facilitating

(E) and it also has such versatility and power that it can facilitate

Parallel makes B correct because will need to be there in both clauses of not only but also.

Adjective needs to agree with noun in number

For example

She is the sort of person who I feel would be capable of making these kind of statements. is wrong

She is the sort of person who I feel would be capable of making these kinds of statements. is correct

As a child, my parents took me to chicago.

a....

b. My parents took me, as a child, to chicago.

C. When I was a child, My parents took me to chicago.

Watch for usage of one and you in a single sentence, You cannot refer to something with one and you at the same time. However he/she matches with one.

Wrong: if you see, one finds.

Correct: If one sees, he or she finds.

1. Because of his broken hip, john has not been and possibly never would be able to run.

2. Beause of his broken hip, john has not been able to run and possibly never will be able to run.

Possibly connotates hypothetical situation and will denotes certainty. Both hypothesis and a certainty of the same condition is not possible at the same time.

(1) is correct IMO.

Second,in addition, has redundancy.

I wrote: Kg's "Because of his broken hip, john has not been run and possibly never would be able to run. ...This is obviously wrong"

I think is wrong interpretation. If you expand the sentence then it is "Because of his broken hip, john has not been able to run and possibly never would be able to run."

I think "able to run" applies equally to both the phrase joined by "and".

Since "would" denotes relative uncertainty so I also chose A. But OA given in "Barron's" is B.

Tianlong are you sure it should be A (Though I agree with you)...I think B is redundant and "would" is preferable to "will"?

Possibly and will cannot go together...

927. 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 A is best here

Although one link in the chain was demonstrated to be weak, but not sufficiently so to require the recall of the automobile.

(A) demonstrated to be weak, but not sufficiently so to require
(B) demonstrated as weak, but it was not sufficiently so that it required
(C) demonstrably weak, but not sufficiently so to require
(D) demonstrably weak, it was not so weak as to require
(E) demonstrably weak, it was not weak enough that it required
A,B and C are wrong. Although already establishes contrast so but is not needed. Out of D and E so adjective as to is better.

362. In a plan to stop the erosion of East Coast beaches, the Army Corps of Engineers proposed building parallel to shore a breakwater of rocks that would rise six feet above the waterline and act as a buffer, so that it absorbs the energy of crashing waves and protecting the beaches.

(A) act as a buffer, so that it absorbs
(B) act like a buffer so as to absorb
(C) act as a buffer, absorbing
(D) acting as a buffer, absorbing
(E) acting like a buffer, absorb C is correct answer...

500. Many psychologists and sociologists now contend that the deliberate and even brutal aggression integral to some forms of competitive athletics increase the likelihood of imitative violence that erupts among crowds of spectators dominated by young adult males.

(A) increase the likelihood of imitative violence that erupts
(B) increase the likelihood that there will be an eruption of imitative violence
(C) increase the likelihood of imitative violence erupting
(D) increases the likelihood for imitative violence to erupt
(E) increases the likelihood that imitative violence will erupt

"It" can be used in two ways - as a referential "it"

eg - 1) -- fairly common-----
or Expletive "it"

eg - 1) It is dangerous to skate on thin ice.

2) It seems that the manuscript has been found.

3) Whenever it rains hard, the roof leaks.

expletive is the term used to describe syllables, words, or phrases that "fill a vacancy" without adding meaning to a text.

Formal definition: An expletive pronoun is a pronoun (a word used to replace a noun or noun phrase) that provides a subject for a sentence or clause that otherwise lacks one.

The expletive "it" is not "the panacea" for this question. It is only attendant concept. More important is the broad pronoun reference.

For many travelers, charter vacations often turn out to cost considerably more than they originally seemed.

(A) they originally seemed
(B) they originally seem to
(C) they seemingly would cost originally
(D) it seemed originally
(E) it originally seemed they would E is correct here

975. Puritan fanatics brought to civil and military affairs a coolness of judgment and mutability of purpose that some writers have thought inconsistent with their religious zeal, but which was in fact a natural outgrowth of it.

(A) but which was in fact a natural outgrowth of it
(B) but which were in fact a natural outgrowth of it
(C) but which were in fact natural outgrowths of it
(D) but it was in fact a natural outgrowth of them
(E) which was in fact a natural outgrowth of it Correct is c here

Q. In Hungary, as in much of Eastern Europe, an overwhelming proportion of women work, many of which are in middle management and light industry.

- A. as in much of Eastern Europe, an overwhelming proportion of women work, many of which are in
- B. as with much of Eastern Europe, an overwhelming proportion of women works, many in
- C. as in much of Eastern Europe, an overwhelming proportion of women work, many of them in
- D. like much of Eastern Europe, an overwhelming proportion of women works, and many are
- E. like much of Eastern Europe, an overwhelming proportion of women work, many are in

OA is C.

"a proportion of women" is plural and "the proportion of women" is singular.

Similarly for "a number of rules" is plural and "the number of rules" is singular.

446. It may be another fifteen years before spacecraft from Earth again venture to Mars, a planet now known to be cold, dry, and probably lifeless.

- (A) again venture to Mars, a planet now known to be
- (B) venture to Mars again, a planet now known for being
- (C) will venture to Mars again, a planet now known as being
- (D) venture again to Mars, a planet that is known now to be
- (E) will again venture to Mars, a planet known now as being

A is ans.

Q. Although it claims to delve into political issues, television can be superficial such as when each of the three major networks broadcast exactly the same statement from a political candidate.

- (A) superficial such as when each of the three major networks
- (B) superficial, as can sometimes occur if all of the three major networks
- (C) superficial if the three major networks all
- (D) superficial whenever each of the three major networks
- (E) superficial, as when the three major networks each

First of all, each, if it's a pronoun (as it is in A), is singular. In fact, each is almost always singular, but there's at least one exception, which we will see in just a minute. So, A can be faulted for using a plural verb, broadcast, with a singular subject, each.

What I really like about A is that it uses such as, which we use to give examples. All the other incorrect answer choices use words that mean something different from for example. The best answer, E, maintains the same meaning as A, and corrects the subject/verb agreement problem. Please note that one of the accepted meanings of as is for instance, and with this meaning, as is an adverb and can therefore be followed by www.TestMagic.com www.sentencecorrection.com

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parts of speech other than simply nouns.

B is not only awkward, it also incorrectly uses if in the subordinate clause connected

with can in the main clause.

I think this is the part that is confusing people (it certainly is what has confused

TestMagic students in the past), so let's flip the sentence around to see a bit more

clearly that it's not correct to use if with can:

If all of the three major networks broadcast the same statement, television can be superficial.

This sentence should read:

If all of the three major networks broadcast the same statement, television will be superficial.

In other words, it's not correct to use can after if (in the context of what we've been

talking about). Let's look at a simpler example:

If the temperature drops below 0 degrees celsius, distilled water can or will freeze.

Please post back with questions if you need clarification on this.

Finally, it's better to use each than it is to use all, since each network is operating

independently--all implies that the networks were working together.

HTH, guys, and I'll try my best to clear up any doubts you might have!

Where v/s. When: Where is used to point to a region/area/place

When is used to point to a time.

Each of the factory towns which has pollution as a severe problem...

Each of the factory towns where the pollution problem is severe - is correct

When I paid her one-dollar, she answered my question.

When clauses are very important, because they happen first when both clauses are in simple past tense.

When he had run for mayor of Cleveland in 1968, Carl Stokes won the election, proving that an African American candidate can be elected in a city in which African Americans constitute a minority of the population.

(A) When he had run for mayor of Cleveland in 1968,

(B) He ran for mayor of Cleveland in 1968, and

(C) Running, in 1968, for mayor of Cleveland,

(D) When he ran for mayor of Cleveland in 1968,

(E) In 1968 he had run for mayor of Cleveland, and

Choice (D)

Step 1: Look at the verb tenses. Is "had run" correct? No; "ran" would be better. Therefore eliminate choices (A) and (E).

Step 2: Is "ran" better than "running"? Yes, so eliminate choice (C).

Finally, choice (B) doesn't fit with the rest of the sentence.

Step 3: Choice (D) remains.

Step 4: When he ran for mayor of Cleveland in 1968, Carl Stokes won the election, proving that an African American candidate can be elected in a city in which African Americans constitute a minority of the population. Yes.

41. Under a provision of the Constitution that was never applied, Congress has been required to call a convention for considering possible amendments to the document when formally asked to do it by the legislatures of two-thirds of the states.

(A) was never applied, Congress has been required to call a convention for considering possible amendments to the document when formally asked to do it

(B) was never applied, there has been a requirement that Congress call a convention for consideration of possible amendments to the document when asked to do it formally

(C) was never applied, whereby Congress is required to call a convention for considering possible amendments to the document when asked to do it formally

(D) has never been applied, whereby Congress is required to call a convention to consider possible amendments to the document when formally asked to do so

(E) has never been applied. Congress is required to call a convention to consider possible amendments to the document when formally asked to do so

There is no main sentence in this group of words; if you remove the word whereby (a subordinating conjunction), you would have a main sentence. If you plug in another subordinating conjunction (let's use although) it'll be easier to see that we have only subordinate clauses in the sentence:

Under a provision of the Constitution that has never been applied, although Congress is required to call a convention to consider possible amendments to the document when formally asked to do so by the legislatures of two-thirds of the states.

You may also want to try moving the Under... part to the end to see what's wrong:

Whereby Congress is required to call a convention to consider possible amendments to the document when formally asked to do so by the legislatures of two-thirds of the states, under a provision of the Constitution that has never been applied.

would/will