

1) Although Robonaut 2, the next generation humanoid robot built by NASA for space exploration, can be controlled by its fellow astronauts in space or a crew on earth, it can complete certain tasks all on its own, becoming better suited for some dangerous projects than its human counterpart.

A. Although Robonaut 2, the next generation humanoid robot built by NASA for space exploration, can be controlled by its fellow astronauts in space or a crew on earth, it can complete certain tasks all on its own, becoming better suited for some dangerous projects than its human counterpart.

B. Even though capable of completing certain tasks all on its own by becoming better suited for some dangerous projects than its human counterpart, Robonaut 2 is the next generation humanoid robot built by NASA for space exploration, controlled by its fellow astronauts in space or a crew on earth.

C. Capable of completing certain tasks on its own and becoming better suited for some dangerous projects than its human counterpart, Robonaut 2, the next generation humanoid robot built by NASA for space exploration, can be controlled by its fellow astronauts in space or a crew on earth.

D. The next generation humanoid robot built by NASA for space exploration, Robonaut 2, although can complete certain tasks all on its own and become better suited for some dangerous projects than its human counterpart, but is controlled by its fellow astronauts in space or a crew on earth.

E. Although Robonaut 2 is the next generation humanoid robot built by NASA for space exploration, it can be controlled by his fellow astronauts in space or a crew on earth, and can also complete certain tasks all on its own, becoming better suited for some dangerous projects than its human counterpart.

2) Between 2000 and 2010, the \$10.7 billion ski and snowboarding industry, with centers in 38 states and which employs 187,000 people directly or indirectly, lost \$1.07 billion in revenue, owing to the warming trend that forces half the nation's ski areas to open late and almost half to close early.

A. Between 2000 and 2010, the \$10.7 billion ski and snowboarding industry, with centers in 38 states and which employs 187,000 people directly or indirectly, lost

B. The \$10.7 billion ski and snowboarding industry, with centers in 38 states and employing 187,000 people directly or indirectly between 2000 and 2010, lost

C. Between 2000 and 2010, the \$10.7 billion ski and snowboarding industry, which has centers in 38 states and which employs 187,000 people directly or indirectly, losing

D. The \$10.7 billion ski and snowboarding industry between 2000 and 2010, with centers in 38 states and employing 187,000 people directly or indirectly, losing

E. The \$10.7 billion ski and snowboarding industry, which has centers in 38 states and employs 187,000 people directly or indirectly, lost, between 2000 and 2010,

3) A new study suggests that different species of mice have different burrow design: a lab-raised mouse too can build species-specific burrow due to its genes, carrying various DNA combinations of burrow creation in genome.

- A. a lab-raised mouse too can build species-specific burrow due to its genes, carrying various DNA
- B. a lab-raised mouse too can build species-specific burrow because of its genes that carry various DNA
- C. a mouse raised in the lab builds species-specific burrow so that its genes carry various DNA
- D. a mouse in the lab can build species-specific burrow as its genes can carry various DNA
- E. a lab-raised mouse too can build species-specific burrows because of their genes carrying various DNA

4) Planned reduction in orders for components for the iPhone 5 is due to weaker-than-expected demand because Apple's share of world-wide smartphone shipments have declined from 23% to 14% since the last year while Samsung's share has steadily increased from 8.8% to 31% during the same time period.

- A. due to weaker-than-expected demand because Apple's share of world-wide smartphone shipments have declined
- B. because of weaker-than-expected demand: Apple's share of world-wide smartphone shipments declined
- C. due to weaker-than-expected demand: Apple's share of world-wide smartphone shipments has declined
- D. because of weaker-than-expected demand, declining Apple's share of world-wide smartphone shipments
- E. because of weaker-than-expected demand that decreased Apple's share of world-wide smartphone shipments

5) Apple, the company that has the highest revenue per employee, focuses more on simplistic and functional design than its competitors.

- A. more on simplistic and functional design than
- B. on more simplistic yet functional design than
- C. more on simplistic and functional design than on
- D. on simplistic and functional design than
- E. more on simplistic design and is more functional than are

6) President Clinton spent significant money on the “No Child Left Behind” program in several school districts throughout the country, which led to a boom in the school construction industry and also added thousands of jobs for teachers and support staff.

- A. which led to a boom in the school construction industry and also added
- B. which not only led to a boom in the school construction industry, but also added
- C. not only leading to a boom in the school construction industry but also adding
- D. leading to a boom in the school construction industry, which also added
- E. leading to a boom in the construction industry of school, which added

### 1) Official Explanation

#### Sentence structure of Original Sentence

- Clause 1: Although Robonaut 2, the next generation humanoid robot built by NASA for space exploration, can be controlled by its fellow astronauts in space or a crew on earth,
- Clause 2: it can complete certain tasks all on its own, becoming better suited for some dangerous projects than its human counterpart.

#### Meaning of Original Sentence

- The sentence presents contrast (as is evident through the use of 'although').
- The sentence presents contrasting information about Robonaut 2.
- Robonaut 2 is the next generation humanoid robot.
- It can be controlled by astronauts in space or a crew on earth.
- However, it can perform certain functions all by itself.
- This ability makes this robot better suited for some dangerous exploration jobs than the human astronauts.

#### Errors in the Original Sentence

- Clause 1: Although Robonaut 2, the next generation humanoid robot built by NASA for space exploration, can be controlled by its fellow astronauts in space or a crew on earth,
- Clause 2: it can complete certain tasks all on its own, becoming better suited for some dangerous projects than its human counterpart.

1. All the SV pairs are accounted for – “Robonaut 2- can be controlled” & “it can complete”.
2. Since the sentence presents general information about the capability of Robonaut 2, both the

verbs are correctly written in simple present tense.

3. Pronouns “it” and “its” correctly refers to Robonaut 2.

4. Noun phrase “the next generation humanoid robot” correctly refers to Robonaut 2. Verb-ed modifier “built” correctly refers to the preceding noun entity “the... robot”. Comma + Verb-ing modifier “becoming...” correctly presents the result of the preceding clause.

5. “Robonaut 2... can be controlled” and “it can complete...” maintains the parallelism. Again parallelism is maintained

6. The structure and the meaning of the sentence are also correct. Hence, there are no errors in this sentence.

## Answer Choice Analysis

A. Although Robonaut 2, the next generation humanoid robot built by NASA for space exploration, can be controlled by its fellow astronauts in space or a crew on earth, it can complete certain tasks all on its own, becoming better suited for some dangerous projects than its human counterpart.

Correct choice.

B. Even though capable of completing certain tasks all on its own by becoming better suited for some dangerous projects than its human counterpart, Robonaut 2 is the next generation humanoid robot built by NASA for space exploration, controlled by his fellow astronauts in space or a crew on earth.

Error 1 – Per the original sentence, the contrasting points are - Robonaut 2 can be controlled and it can perform a few tasks on its own. Per this choice, the contrasting points are – Robonaut 2 is capable of completing few tasks on its own and it is a Humanoid robot.

Error 2 – Per the original sentence, “becoming better...” presents the result of the Robonaut 2 being capable of doing certain tasks on its own. This choice says that the robot can perform certain tasks on its own by becoming better suited. This is absolutely illogical.

Error 3 – Usage of controlled is incorrect. If it is a verb with “is” understood before it, then the two verbs “is” and “(is) controlled” are not connected properly. If it is a verb-ed modifier, then it refers to the preceding noun entity “space exploration”. Both the usages are incorrect.

C. Capable of completing certain tasks on its own and becoming better suited for some dangerous projects than its human counterpart, Robonaut 2, the next generation humanoid robot built by NASA for space exploration, can be controlled by his fellow astronauts in space or a crew on earth.

Error 1 – This choice has an unintended parallel list – “completing” and “becoming”. This distorts the intended meaning.

Error 2 – The choice does not express the intended contrast.

D. The next generation humanoid robot built by NASA for space exploration, Robonaut 2, although can complete certain tasks all on its own and become better suited for some dangerous projects than its human counterpart, but is controlled by his fellow astronauts in space or a crew on earth.

Error 1 - This choice has an unintended parallel list – “can complete” and “(can) become”. This

distorts the intended meaning.

Error 2 – The contrast presented by “but” is not the intended contrast.

Error 3 – Per this choice, “but” connects two entities in the list. Hence, use of comma before “but” is not correct.

E. Although Robonaut 2 is the next generation humanoid robot built by NASA for space exploration, it can be controlled by his fellow astronauts in space or a crew on earth, and can also complete certain tasks all on its own, becoming better suited for some dangerous projects than its human counterpart.

Error 1 – The contrasting points per this choice are – Robonaut 2 is the next generation robot and it can be controlled.

Error 2 – This choice has an unintended list – “can be controlled” and “can also complete”. This distorts the intended meaning.

## Take Away

1: When you read the original sentence, make sure you understand the intended meaning. For example, if there is a contrast in the sentence, then understand the contrasting elements.

2: The correct sentence should have correct sentence structure. For example, if there is a list of elements, it should be connected properly.

## 2) Official Explanation

### Sentence structure of Original Sentence

- Clause 1 - Between 2000 and 2010, the \$10.7 billion ski and snowboarding industry, with centers in 38 states and
- Clause 2 - which employs 187,000 people directly or indirectly,
- Clause 1 (contd.) - lost \$1.07 billion in revenue, owing to the warming trend that forces half the nation’s ski areas to open late and almost half to close early.

### Meaning of Original Sentence

- The sentence is about the ski and snowboarding industry.
- Certain characteristics of industry presented - # of centers and # people employed.
- This industry lost specific amount of money in revenue between 2000 and 2010.
- The reason for the loss in revenue has been specified as – warming trend that forces the ski areas to open late or close early.

## Errors in the Original Sentence

- Clause 1 - Between 2000 and 2010, the \$10.7 billion ski and snowboarding industry, with centers in 38 states and
- Clause 2 - which employs 187,000 people directly or indirectly,
- Clause 1 (contd.) - lost \$1.07 billion in revenue, owing to the warming trend that forces half the nation's ski areas to open late and almost half to close early.

1: Parallelism error – “with” prepositional phrase modifier is not parallel to “which” relative clause modifier. Both should be either relative clause modifier or prepositional phrase modifier.

## Answer Choice Analysis

A. Between 2000 and 2010, the \$10.7 billion ski and snowboarding industry, **with** centers in 38 states and **which employs** 187,000 people directly or indirectly, lost  
Parallelism Error as discussed above.

B. The \$10.7 billion ski and snowboarding industry, with centers in 38 states and employing 187,000 people directly or indirectly **between 2000 and 2010**, lost  
Modifier Error – Highlighted modifier does not modify the action “lost”. It now implies that 187,000 people were employed between the given time period. This results in change in meaning of the sentence.

Note that the parallelism error in choice A has been corrected. Both are phrase modifiers now. One is prepositional phrase modifier and the other is verb-ing modifier.

C. Between 2000 and 2010, the \$10.7 billion ski and snowboarding industry, which has centers in 38 states and which employs 187,000 people directly or indirectly, **losing**  
SV Error – The main clause does not contain any verb. The subject “ski and snowboarding industry” does not have a verb. The verb “lost” in original sentence has been changed to non-verb form “losing”.

D. The \$10.7 billion ski and snowboarding industry **between 2000 and 2010**, with centers in 38 states and employing 187,000 people directly or indirectly, **losing**  
SV Error – As in choice C.  
Modifier Error – The highlighted modifier instead of modifying the verb – lost - modifies the industry. It somehow implies that the sentence is about ski and snowboarding industry that existed between 2000 and 2010. This does not make sense. As such logically there is only one ski and snowboarding industry and not about the industry that was between a certain time period.

E. The \$10.7 billion ski and snowboarding industry, which has centers in 38 states and employs 187,000 people directly or indirectly, lost, between 2000 and 2010,  
Correct Choice

## Take Away

- 1: Clause entity cannot be parallel to a phrase entity. There can be more than one ways to correct such a list. Write both in either phrase form or clause form.
- 2: Modifiers should be placed appropriately to modify the intended entity.

### 3) Official Explanation

A new study suggests that different species of mice have different burrow design: a lab-raised mouse too can build species-specific burrow due to its genes, carrying various DNA combinations of burrow creation in genome.



## Meaning

- This sentence presents facts.
- Different species of mice build burrows of different designs.
- Even a mouse raised in lab can make a burrow specific to its species.
- Burrow making is genetic as genes carry DNA combinations of burrow making in every species.



## Grammar

### Error Analysis

- Clause 1: A new study suggests
- Clause 2: that different species of mice have different burrow design:
- Clause 3: a lab-raised mouse too can build species-specific burrow due to its genes, carrying various DNA combinations of burrow creation in genome.

1. Use of “due to” is incorrect in this sentence because it has been used to modify the verb in this sentence, more specifically to present the reason for the verb – how can a lab-raised mouse build species-specific burrow. “Due to” can only be used to explain the noun and not a verb.

2. The comma + verb-ing modifier “carrying” modifies the preceding clause. This modification does not make much sense as it seems to suggest that mice carry various DNA combinations. Logically, it is the genes in the mice that carry DNA combinations. Hence, we need a modifier that refers to “genes”.

## PoE

A. a lab-raised mouse too can build species-specific burrow due to its genes, carrying various DNA:

**Incorrect** for the reasons stated above.

B. a lab-raised mouse too can build species-specific burrow because of its genes that carry various DNA:

**Correct Answer.** It corrects both errors of choice A and does not introduce any other errors.

C. a mouse raised in the lab builds species-specific burrow so that its genes carry various DNA: **Incorrect.**

Error 1 – Use of simple presents “builds” is incorrect because the original sentence presents the ability of the lab raised mouse to build species-specific burrow by saying “can build”. This choice suggests that it is a general fact that lab- raised mice make species-specific burrow.

Error 2 – Use of “so that” is incorrect. This phrase is used to present the result of the preceding clause. This usage distorts the intended meaning.

D. a mouse in the lab can build species-specific burrow as its genes can carry various DNA: **Incorrect.**

Error 1 – “A mouse in the lab” does not mean the same as “a lab-raised mouse”. A mouse in the lab can be just any mouse there and not necessarily the mouse that has been raised there.

Error 2 – Per the original sentence, it is a general fact that “genes” carry various DNA combinations. Per this choice, “can carry” suggests the ability of genes to carry various DNA combinations. This is not the intended meaning.

E. a lab-raised mouse too can build species-specific burrows because of their genes carrying various DNA: **Incorrect.** Pronoun “their” should logically refer to “mouse”. But grammatically, plural pronoun “their” does not agree in number with the singular noun “mouse”.

## Take Away

1. “Due to” cannot be used to present reason for the verb. It can only describe noun entities. “Because of” is the correct expression to do so.
2. We must use the correct Modifier must be used correctly to modify the entity it is supposed to modify.
3. “Can verb” presents the ability, while simple presents tense presents general truth.
4. We must use correct expressions to communicate the intended meaning. For example, lab-raised mouse is not the same as mouse in the lab.

#### 4) Official Explanation

Planned reduction in orders for components for the iPhone 5 is due to weaker-than-expected demand because Apple's share of world-wide smartphone shipments have declined from 23% to 14% since the last year while Samsung's share has steadily increased from 8.8% to 31% during the same time period.



### Meaning

- Apple has reduced orders for iPhone 5 components.
- The reason for this decision is weaker-than-expected demand.
- Since last year,
  - o Apple's share has declined from 23% to 14%.
  - o However, Samsung's share has increased from 8.8% to 31%.



### Grammar

#### Error Analysis

- Clause 1: Planned reduction in orders for components for the iPhone 5 is due to weaker-than-expected demand
- Clause 2: because Apple's share of world-wide smartphone shipments **have declined** from 23% to 14% since the last year
- Clause 3: while Samsung's share has steadily increased from 8.8% to 31% during the same time period.

Error 1 – Illogical Meaning – The sentence implies that demand is weaker because Apple's share has declined over a certain time period. The causal relationship in this context does not make much sense since the demand did not become weak because the shipments decreased. In fact the correct relationship should be as follows: Demand has weakened as evidenced by the decrease in number of shipments. So the correct sentence should present such relationship.

Error 2 - Plural verb "have declined" does not agree in number with singular subject "Apple's share".

## PoE

A. due to weaker-than-expected demand because Apple's share of world-wide smartphone shipments have declined: **Incorrect** for the reasons stated above.

B. because of weaker-than-expected demand: Apple's share of world-wide smartphone shipments declined: **Incorrect.**

Correct Part – This choice uses correct construction to express the logical intended meaning. The clause after the colon is used to present the idea that explains the weaker than expected demand.

Error 1 – Use of “because of” is incorrect because it modifies the noun entity “Planned reduction”. “Due to” should be used to modify nouns.

Error 2 – Use of past tense “declined” is incorrect because the word “since” has been used to present the sequencing decline in shipments started in the recent past and may still be continuing. Hence we need present perfect tense.

C. due to weaker-than-expected demand: Apple's share of world-wide smartphone shipments has declined: **Correct Answer**

D. because of weaker-than-expected demand, declining Apple's share of world-wide smartphone shipments: **Incorrect.**

Error 1 – Use of “because of” is incorrect because it modifies the noun entity “Planned reduction”.

Error 2 – The comma + verb-ing modifier “declining” modifies the preceding clause. It presents the result of the modified clause. This modification is illogical as discussed in original choice.

E. because of weaker-than-expected demand that decreased Apple's share of world-wide smartphone shipments: **Incorrect.**

Error 1 – Use of “because of” is incorrect because it modifies the noun entity “Planned reduction”.

Error 2 – Use of past tense “decreased” is not correct. We need present perfect.

Error 3 – Illogical meaning. This choice implies that weaker than expected demand decreased Apple's share of shipments. This is not logical intended meaning.

## Take Away

1. “Because of” cannot be used to refer to a noun entity. Use of “Due to” is correct for such usages.
2. Subject and Verb must agree in number with each other.
3. Use present perfect tense with “since”, when “since” is used to present sequencing.
4. Comma + Verb-ing modifies the preceding clause. It either presents additional information about the preceding clause or it presents the result of the preceding clause.

## 5) Official Explanation

Apple, the company that has the highest revenue per employee, focuses more on simplistic and functional design than its competitors.



## Meaning

- Apple, the company
- that has the highest revenue per employee,
- focuses more on simplistic and functional design than its competitors.

The sentence presents a comparison. However, the way this sentence is written, one can infer two comparisons:

- o Apple focusses more on simplistic and functional design than on its competitors. The entities compared are simplistic and functional design and competitors.
- o Apple focusses more on simplistic and functional design than its competitors focus on. The entities compared are Apple and its competitors.

The correct sentence should clearly state one clear meaning.



## Grammar

### Error Analysis

- Apple, the company
- that has the highest revenue per employee,
- focuses more on simplistic and functional design than its competitors.

If the sentence is intended to compare simplistic and functional design and competitors (stating that Apple focuses on design more than it focuses on its competitors), then we need the pronoun “on” before “its competitors” to make the comparison clear.

If the sentence is intended to compare Apple and its competitors (stating that Apple focuses on design more than its competitors do), then we need the helping verb “do” before “its competitors” to make the comparison clear.

## PoE

A. more on simplistic and functional design than **Incorrect** for the reasons stated above.

B. on more simplistic yet functional design than: **Incorrect.**

Error 1 – Repeats the same ambiguous comparison error as in choice A.

Error 2 – Change of placement of “more” changes the meaning. Per the original sentence, “more” modifies “focusses”. Apple focusses more on design than its competitors. Per this choice, “more” modifies “simplistic design”. Here the emphasis is not the action of focusing but on the design itself.

Error 3 – Use of “yet” changes the meaning. Per the original choice, “and” suggests that the design is simple and functional. Use of word “yet” brings in the contrast, implying that even though the design is simple, it is functional. The original sentence does not present this contrast.

C. more on simplistic and functional design than on: **Correct Answer**

Use of preposition “on” makes the comparison clear. The sentence states that Apple focusses on design more than it focuses on its competitors.

D. on simplistic and functional design than: **Incorrect.**

Error 1 – Use of “than” requires the use of some comparative terms such as “more” to present comparison. Just using “than” leads to idiom error in this choice.

Error 2 – Repeats the same ambiguous comparison error as in choice A.

E. more on simplistic design and is more functional than are: **Incorrect.**

Error 1 – This choice distorts the intended meaning. Per this choice, the subject for “is” is “Apple”. The choice suggests that Apple is more functional whereas, per the original choice, the design is functional. Also the choice suggests comparison between Apple and the competitors on the basis that Apple is more functional. This is certainly not the intended meaning of the sentence

## Take Away

1. The sentence must be constructed in such a way that the comparison is absolutely clear. As we saw in this case due to omission of words, the comparison was no longer clear. So when we omit words we should always make sure that the comparison does not become unclear.
2. Pay attention to the change in placement of the words. Such changes in placement may lead to change in the intended meaning of the sentence.
3. Be wary of the choices that distort the intended meaning of the sentence.

## 6) Official Explanation

President Clinton spent significant money on the “No Child Left Behind” program in several school districts throughout the country, which led to a boom in the school construction industry and also added thousands of jobs for teachers and support staff.



## Meaning

- President Clinton spent significant money on the “No Child Left Behind” program in several school districts throughout the country,
- which led to a boom in the school construction industry and also added thousands of jobs for teachers and support staff.

President Clinton spent money on a particular program in several schools. This spending has resulted in two things:

- o Boom in the school construction industry
- o Addition of jobs for teachers and support staff.



## Grammar

### Error Analysis

- President Clinton spent significant money on the “No Child Left Behind” program in several school districts throughout the country,
- which led to a boom in the school construction industry and also added thousands of jobs for teachers and support staff.

Error 1 – Per the meaning of the sentence, the action of spending resulted into two things. Here relative pronoun “which” has been used to mention the results of the action in the preceding clause. This is incorrect because “which” can only refer to a noun entity and not a clause.

## PoE

A. which led to a boom in the school construction industry and also added: **Incorrect** for the reasons stated above.

B. which not only led to a boom in the school construction industry, but also added: **Incorrect**. Repeats the same error as in choice A.

C. not only leading to a boom in the school construction industry but also adding: **Correct Answer**

D. leading to a boom in the school construction industry, which also added: **Incorrect**.

Error 1 – Use of “which” is incorrect because it illogically modifies the preceding noun entity “the school construction industry”. Per this choice, the sentence means that the school construction industry added jobs for teachers and support staff. E. more on simplistic design and is more functional than are:

**Incorrect.**

E. leading to a boom in the construction industry of school, which added: **Incorrect**. Repeats the same error as in choice AD

## Take Away

1. Relative pronouns CANNOT refer to the preceding clause. They can only refer to the preceding noun entity. So when the function of the modifier is to modify preceding clause, then relative pronoun modifiers cannot be used.
2. Comma + Verb-ing modifier presents the result of the preceding clause.