

## Comparison GMAT question and OA

1. (GMAT Prep) Officials at the United States Mint believe that the Sacagawea dollar coin will be used more as a substitute for four quarters rather than for the dollar bill because its weight, only 8.1 grams, is far less than four quarters, which weigh 5.67 grams each.
- A. more as a substitute for four quarters rather than for the dollar bill because its weight, only 8.1 grams, is far less than
  - B. more as a substitute for four quarters than the dollar bill because it weighs only 8.1 grams, far lighter than
  - C. as a substitute for four quarters more than for the dollar bill because it weighs only 8.1 grams, far less than
  - D. as a substitute for four quarters more than the dollar bill because its weight of only 8.1 grams is far lighter than it is for
  - E. as a substitute more for four quarters rather than for the dollar bill because its weight, only 8.1 grams, is far less than it is for

### Answer: C

- A) more as a substitute for four quarters rather than for the dollar bill because its weight, only 8.1 grams, is far less than
  - 1. Word usage: "rather" must not be here.
  - 2. "its weight ... is far less than four quarters": parallelism issue: weight should be compared with weight.
  - 3. Comparison using "more" should be structured as following: X will be used more as Y than as Z. (Y="substitute" in this case)→ Incorrect
- B) more as a substitute for four quarters than the dollar bill because it weighs only 8.1 grams, far lighter than
  - 1. Comparison using "more" should be structured as following: X will be used more as Y than as Z.
  - 2. Position of "more" should be moved to compare the four quarters and the dollar bill.→ Incorrect
- C) as a substitute for four quarters more than for the dollar bill because it weighs only 8.1 grams, far less than  
Correct placement of "more" to compare "four quarters" and "the dollar bill" ☑ Correct
- D) as a substitute for four quarters more than the dollar bill because its weight of only 8.1 grams is far lighter than it is for
  - 1. The preferred phrase should be "the weight...is far LESS/MORE than"
  - 2. "as a substitute for X more than for Y": D lacks "for" before the dollar bill.→ Incorrect
- E) as a substitute more for four quarters rather than for the dollar bill because its weight, only 8.1 grams, is far less than it is for
  - 1. Word usage: "rather" must not be here.
  - 2. The phrase "is far less than it is for" --is chunky→ Incorrect

2. (SC1000) Increases in the cost of energy, turmoil in the international money markets, and the steady erosion of the dollar have altered the investment strategies of United States corporations more radically than those of foreign corporations.

- (A) altered the investment strategies of United States corporations more radically than those of
- (B) altered the investment strategies of United States corporations more radically than
- (C) altered the investment strategies of United States corporations more radically than they have
- (D) radically altered the investment strategies of United States corporations more than
- (E) radically altered the investment strategies of United States and

**Answer: A**

- (A) altered the investment strategies of United States corporations more radically than those of  
Investment strategies of U.S. corporations is compared with those of foreign corporation  
→ Correct
- (B) altered the investment strategies of United States corporations more radically than  
Compare investment strategies of U.S corporations with foreign corporation → incorrect
- (C) altered the investment strategies of United States corporations more radically than they have  
Compare investment strategies of U.S corporations with “they are” → incorrect
- (D) radically altered the investment strategies of United States corporations more than  
Compare investment strategies of U.S corporations with foreign corporation → incorrect
- (E) radically altered the investment strategies of United States and  
Change the meaning of the sentence

3. (OG) According to a study by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, companies in the United States are providing job training and general education for nearly eight million people, about equivalent to the enrollment of the nations four-year colleges and universities.

- A. equivalent to the enrollment of
- B. the equivalent of those enrolled in
- C. equal to those who are enrolled in
- D. as many as the enrollment of
- E. as many as are enrolled in

**Answer: E**

- (A) Compare "people" with "the enrollment" → Incorrect
- (B) Wrong word for comparison: the equivalent of
- (C) Wrong comparison: "equal" is used for uncountable nouns
- (D) Compare "people" with "the enrollment" → Incorrect
- (E) Correct

4. (Official guide) Laos has a land area about the same as Great Britain but only four million in population, where many are members of hill tribes ensconced in the virtually inaccessible mountain valleys of the north.
- A) about the same as Great Britain but only four million in population, where many
  - B) of about the same size as Great Britain is, but in Laos there is a population of only four million, and many
  - C) that is about the same size as Great Britain's land area, but in Laos with a population of only four million people, many of them
  - D) comparable to the size of Great Britain, but only four million in population, and many
  - E) comparable to that of Great Britain but a population of only four million people, many of whom

**Answer: E**

- A) Compare land area with Great Britain → Incorrect
- B) Compare land area with Great Britain → Incorrect
- C) In this sentence, Laos has 2 things: Laos has a land area ... but (has) a population .... → “but only four million in population” is not parallel to land area. → Incorrect
- D) Same as C. In addition, many should go with noun to make the meaning clear. → incorrect
- E) Correct: land area of Laos is compared with that of Great Britain. “but a population of...” is parallel to “land area”

5. (SC1000) A large rise in the number of housing starts in the coming year should boost new construction dollars by several billion dollars, making the construction industry's economic health much more robust than five years ago.
- (A) making the construction industry's economic health much more robust than five years ago
  - (B) and make the construction industry's economic health much more robust than five years ago
  - (C) making the construction industry's economic health much more robust than it was five years ago
  - (D) to make the construction industry's economic health much more robust than five years ago
  - (E) in making the construction industry's economic health much more robust than it as five years ago

**Answer: C**

**Sentence's meaning:** the large rise in the number of housing should boost new construction dollars by several billion dollars. As the result of this phenomenon, the construction industry's economic health will/might be more robust than it was 5 years ago.

→ B, D, & E are eliminated since they change the intent meaning of the sentence.

- A) "Making" following comma correctly describes the result of the non-underlined part. However, economic health is compared to five years ago → Incorrect
- C) Correctly use "making" and compare economic health now with economic health 5 years ago.

6. (Veritas Prep) Nothing quite like this Broadway production has ever been made before, and it proved to be a huge hit, broadcast in 20 different countries and around the world.
- A) Nothing quite like this Broadway production has ever been made before, and it proved to be a huge hit, broadcast in 20 different countries and around the world.
  - B) This Broadway production, something which has never been made before, proved to be a huge hit, broadcast around the world in 20 different countries.
  - C) Unlike anything that had ever been made before, this Broadway production proved to be a huge hit, broadcasting in 20 different countries and around the world.
  - D) Nothing quite like this Broadway show had ever been made before, and it proved to be a huge hit, broadcast in 20 different countries around the world.
  - E) Nothing quite like this Broadway show was made before, and it had proved to be a huge hit, broadcast in 20 different countries around the world.

**Answer: D**

**Sentence's meaning:** Nothing like Broadway production show had been made before. Broadway production show proved to be a huge hit and was broadcast in 20 different countries around the world.

Since the intent meaning and the correct idiom are "about 20 different countries around the world", answers with "around the world in 20 different countries" or "20 different countries and around the world" are eliminated. → A, B, & C are incorrect.

D&E have the correct term "20 different countries around the world" but E use the verb tense incorrectly. → E is eliminated.

D is correct.

7. (GMATprep) Unlike computer skills or other technical skills, there is a disinclination on the part of many people to recognize the degree to which their analytical skills are weak.
- A) Unlike computer skills or other technical skills, there is a disinclination on the part of many people to recognize the degree to which their analytical skills are weak
  - B) Unlike computer skills or other technical skills, which they admit they lack, many people are disinclined to recognize that their analytical skills are weak
  - C) Unlike computer skills or other technical skills, analytical skills bring out a disinclination in many people to recognize that they are weak to a degree
  - D) Many people, willing to admit that they lack computer skills or other technical skills, are disinclined to recognize that their analytical skills are weak
  - E) Many people have a disinclination to recognize the weakness of their analytical skills while willing to admit their lack of computer skills or other technical

**Answer: E**

Comparison with “unlike”: Unlike X, Y.... wherein X is parallel to Y.

→ A & B are eliminated.

C) Correct comparison, but “they are weak to a degree” changes the meaning of the sentence → Incorrect

D) Correct

E) Wordy, and “technical” should be followed by skills. → Incorrect

8. (SC1000) According to a survey of graduating medical students conducted by the Association of American Medical Colleges, minority graduates are nearly four times more likely than are other graduates in planning to practice in socioeconomically deprived areas.

- (A) minority graduates are nearly four times more likely than are other graduates in planning to practice
- (B) minority graduates are nearly four times more likely than other graduates who plan on practicing
- (C) minority graduates are nearly four times as likely as other graduates to plan on practicing
- (D) it is nearly four times more likely that minority graduates rather than other graduates will plan to practice
- (E) it is nearly four times as likely for minority graduates than other graduates to plan to practice

**Answer: C**

The use of likely:

1. To be likely to do st:
2. To be likely that S+V
3. Comparison:
  - i. **X is more likely than Y to do something - never used with twice/triple/four times...**
  - ii. **X is Y times as likely as Z (is) to do st**
4. Other: More than likely, my friend will eat worms.  
Don't mix rather than and more likely.  
Eg: Wrong: Rather than my enemy, my friend is more likely to eat worms

→ A, B, & E are eliminated

- D) Rather than & more likely are mixed → Incorrect
- C) Correct comparison and correct use of "likely to do st" → correct

9. (Others) Unlike conventional thinking that early tribes of Apache had reached the American Southwest after the Spanish invasion in the sixteenth Century, Archeologist Seymour revealed that some storage platforms where the tribesman lived in rock shelters clearly pre-dated their stint at least 200 years earlier than originally thought.
- A) Unlike conventional thinking that early tribes of Apache had reached the American Southwest after the Spanish invasion in the sixteenth Century, Archeologist Seymour revealed that some storage platforms where the tribesman lived in rock shelters clearly pre-dated their stint at least 200 years earlier than originally thought
  - B) Unlike conventional thinking, early tribes of Apache had reached the American Southwest after the Spanish invasion in the sixteenth Century, Archeologist Seymour revealed that some storage platforms where the tribesman lived in rock shelters clearly pre-dated their stint at least 200 years earlier than originally thought
  - C) Unlike conventional thinking that early tribes of Apache had reached the American Southwest after the Spanish invasion in the sixteenth Century, Archeologist Seymour revealed that some storage platforms where the tribesman lived in rock shelters clearly pre-dated their stint at least 200 years earlier than originally thought
  - D) As per contemporary studies, and in contrast to conventional wisdom, Archeologist Seymour revealed that some storage platforms in rock shelters where the early tribesman of Apache lived pre-dated the tribal's stint at least 200 years earlier than the Spanish Invasion of the American Southwest took place in the sixteenth century
  - E) Unlike conventional thinking that early tribes of Apache had reached the American Southwest after the Spanish invasion in the sixteenth Century, current wisdom spearheaded by Archeologist Seymour revealed that the tribals had reached the spot at least 200 years earlier, basing the proposal on the storage platforms built in where the early tribesman of Apache lived in rock shelters

**Answer: D**

The conventional thinking should be compared with other kind of thinking, not with human. → A, B, C are eliminated.

D) Correct

E) Unlike conventional thinking that early tribes of Apache had reached the American Southwest after the Spanish invasion in the sixteenth Century, **current** wisdom spearheaded by Archeologist Seymour **revealed** that the tribals had reached the spot at least 200 years earlier, **basing** the proposal **on** the storage platforms built in where the early tribesman of Apache lived in rock shelters.

1) Current wisdom can't be used with past tense verb "revealed". 2) "basing on" is incorrect, the correct one should be "based on" → E is incorrect

10. (OG) More than 30 years ago Dr, Barbara McClintock, the Nobel Prize winner, reported that genes can “jump”, as pearls moving mysteriously from one necklace to another.

- A) as pearls moving mysteriously from one necklace to another
- B) like pearls moving mysteriously from one necklace to another
- C) as pearls do that move mysteriously from one necklace to others
- D) like pearls do that move mysteriously from one necklace to others
- E) as do pearls that move mysteriously from one necklace to some other one

**Answer: E**

Both “Like” and “As” are used to convey comparison.

But: **Like + noun/pronoun**

**As + a clause**

→ A & D are eliminated

Choice E:

- B) “like pearls moving mysteriously from one necklace to another”. “Moving” modifies “pearls” → Correct
- C) 1) “that” is relative pronoun that modifies a noun but that doesn’t touch the noun it modifies. 2) The intended meaning is that pearls move from necklace to another necklace. Using “others” make it ambiguous as to where the pearls move to → Incorrect
- E) Change the meaning of the sentence. By using the modifier “that move” and verb “do” for pearls, it appears that pearls to two actions - pearls jump and by the way these pearls also move mysteriously...This is not the intended meaning. The author actually wants to say that genes jump like the pearls. And then he describes the manner in which these pearls jump - by moving mysteriously. → Incorrect

11. (OG) To develop more accurate population forecasts, demographers have to know a great deal more than now about the social and economic detriments of fertility.
- A) have to know a great deal more than now about the social and economic
  - B) have to know a great deal more than they do now about the social and economical
  - C) would have to know a great deal more than they do now about the social and economical
  - D) would have to know a great deal more than they do now about the social and economic
  - E) would have to know a great deal more than now about the social and economical

**Answer: D**

Comparison between now and future → future tense should be used → eliminate A and B  
Economic rather than economical should be used in this sentence. → eliminate C and E  
D is correct.

12. (OG) In no other historical Halley's Comet sighting did cause such a worldwide sensation as did its return in 1910-1911.
- A) did its return in 1910-1911
  - B) had its 1910-1911 return
  - C) in its return of 1910-1911
  - D) its return of 1910-1911 did
  - E) its return in 1910-1911

**Answer: C**

Parallel structure should be: **In** no other X did something as **in** Y (in no other historical Halley's Comet sighting did .....as in its return of 1910-1911) → A, B, D, & E are eliminated. C is the correct answer

13. (Economist Gmat) The article on the subject of Colombian drug lords published in the Economist this morning neither alludes nor specifically describes the methods that the police employ in the fight against crime.
- A. neither alludes nor specifically describes the methods that the police employ in the fight against crime
  - B. neither allude to nor specifically describe the methods that the police employ in the fight against crime
  - C. neither alludes to nor specifically describes the methods that the police employs in the fight against crime
  - D. neither alludes nor specifically describes the methods that the police employs in the fight against crime
  - E. neither alludes to nor specifically describes the methods that the police employ in the fight against crime

**Answer: E**

- 1. Use of "allude": allude to something/somebody → eliminate A & D
- 2. Police is plural noun → need plural verb form "employ" → eliminate C&D
- 3. The article is singular noun → need singular verb form "alludes" → eliminate B
- 4. E is the correct answer.

14. (Economist GMAT) The word supine can either refer to the physical position of lying down while facing upward or act as a metaphor for lethargy.

- A. can either refer to the physical position of lying down while facing upward or act as
- B. is either the physical position of lying down while facing upward or
- C. is either the physical position of lying down while facing upward or acts as
- D. can either be a reference to the physical position of lying down while facing upward or
- E. can either refer to the physical position of lying down while facing upward or

**Answer: E**

For this you need to know:

- 1) supine, as a word is not a meaning. The word describes or refers to something. This is the difference between "Supine means..." and "The word supine is"
- 2) in the GMAT, if there are two options, one of them with more wasted words than the other, I always go with the more concise version.
- 3) "Supine" cannot refer to a metaphor - that doesn't make sense as a sentence. Act as a metaphor.
- 4) because of "can" you can have verbs would an "S" at the end" (for example: "he can jump." NOT "he can jumps.")

A. Correct

B. Violates 1

C. Violates 1

D. Violates 1 and 2

E. violates 3

A) Compare land area with Great Britain → Incorrect

B) Compare land area with Great Britain → Incorrect

C) In this sentence, Laos has 2 things: Laos has a land area ... but (has) a population .... → "but only four million in population" is not parallel to land area. → Incorrect

D) Same as C. In addition, many should go with noun to make the meaning clear. → incorrect

E) Correct: land area of Laos is compared with that of Great Britain. "but a population of..." is parallel to "land area"

15. (VeritasPrep) The report suggests that in some cases radiation levels might have an inverse effect — rodents and insects in areas with higher radiation exposure may show greater adaptation, and thus less genetic damage, compared to areas with lower radiation levels.
- A. compared to areas with lower radiation levels
  - B. compared to those in areas with lower radiation levels
  - C. as those with lower radiation levels in their area
  - D. than areas with lower radiation levels
  - E. than those in areas with lower radiation levels

**Answer: E**

Correct comparison with “higher”: higher ... than... → A, B, & C are eliminated.

This sentence compares “rodents and insects in areas with higher radiation exposure” with “those in areas with lower radiation exposure” → D is incorrect.

E is correct answer choice since it uses than and properly compares the two entities

16. (GMATPrep) Although people in France consume fatty foods at a rate comparable to the United States, their death rates from heart disease are far lower in France.
- A. people in France consume fatty foods at a rate comparable to the United States, their
  - B. people in France and the United States consume fatty foods at about the same rate, the
  - C. fatty foods are consumed by people in France at a comparable rate to the United States's, their
  - D. the rate of fatty foods consumed in France and the United States is about the same, the
  - E. the rate of people consuming fatty foods is about the same in France and the United States, the

**Answer: B**

Sentence's meaning: People in France and the US consume fatty food at the same rate but death rates from heart disease are far lower in France. Here sentence compare the consumption of fatty food of people in two countries. → choice A, D, and E are incorrect.

- A) Compare consumption rate in France with the US → Incorrect
- B) Compare consumption rate of people in France with that of people in the US → Correct
- C) Using "The United State's" makes the comparison and sentence's meaning unclear → Incorrect
- D) Compare rate of fatty food in France with that in the US → Incorrect
- E) Compare rate of people in France with that in the US → Incorrect

17. (OG) Over 75 percent of the energy produced in France derives from nuclear power, while in Germany it is just over 33 percent.
- A. while in Germany it is just over 33 percent
  - B. compared to Germany, which uses just over 33 percent
  - C. whereas nuclear power accounts for just over 33 percent of the energy produced in Germany
  - D. whereas just over 33 percent of the energy comes from nuclear power in Germany
  - E. compared with the energy from nuclear power in Germany, where it is just over 33 percent

**Answer: C**

Sentence meaning:

This sentence compare the energy produced in France and energy produced in Germany.

- A) Using "It" creates ambiguous in the sentence since it's not clear whether "it" refers to the percentage, energy, or nuclear power. → Incorrect
- B) Using B, we can rewrite the sentence as in *Over 75 percent of the energy produced in France derives from nuclear power, compared to Germany, which uses just over 33 percent* . The new sentence compares 75 percent of the energy with Germany → Incorrect
- C) Although the structure provided by this answer is not parallel to the non-underlined portion, the meaning given by this answer perfectly fits the meaning of the original sentence: comparing the **energy produced in France** and **energy produced in Germany** → Correct. Overall, between structure and meaning, we have to choose the one that keep the meaning of the original sentence first.
- D) This answer choice guarantees the parallel structure of this sentence but it incorrectly change the intent meaning by placing "in Germany" after "nuclear power" → incorrect. Again, meaning comes first, structures 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- E) Using B, we can rewrite the sentence as in *Over 75 percent of the energy produced in France derives from nuclear power, compared with the energy from nuclear power in Germany, where it is just over 33 percent*. 75 percent of the energy is compared with the energy from nuclear power → Incorrect.

18. (unknown) Unlike the body's inflammatory response to cuts and sprains, with widespread swelling and stiffness immobilizing the injured area until it heals, the body's response to sunburn is more localized and resulting in a distinct line dividing affected and unaffected areas of the skin.
- A. with widespread swelling and stiffness immobilizing the injured area until it heals, the body's response to sunburn is more localized and resulting
  - B. where the injured area is immobilized with widespread swelling and stiffness until it has healed, sunburn generates a more localized response in the body, which results instead
  - C. with the injured area immobilized by means of widespread swelling and stiffness until healing, sunburn generates a more localized response in the body, one resulting
  - D. in which widespread swelling and stiffness immobilize the injured area until it has healed, the body's more localized response to sunburn results
  - E. in which widespread swelling and stiffness immobilize the injured area until healing, instead, the body's more localized response to sunburn results

**Answer: D**

The sentence compares the body's inflammatory response to cuts and sprain and the body's response to sunburn. Since adjective "inflammatory" modifies the prior response, adjective "more localized" should modify the second one to make two compared entities parallel: the body's inflammatory response and the body's more localized response. → B & C are incorrect.

- A) The modifier "with widespread swelling and stiffness immobilizing the injured area until it heals" incorrectly modifies the body's more localized response, and "is... resulting in..." is the wrong tense of "result". → Incorrect
- D) 1) Compare the body's inflammatory response and the body's more localized response; 2) "in which..." correctly modifies inflammatory response → Correct
- E) Instead is never a conjunction. → Incorrect

19. (OG) While it costs about the same to run nuclear plants as other types of power plants, it is the fixed costs that stem from building nuclear plants that makes it more expensive for them to generate electricity.
- While it costs about the same to run nuclear plants as other types of power plants, it is the fixed costs that stem from building nuclear plants that makes it more expensive for them to generate electricity.
  - While the cost of running nuclear plants is about the same as for other types of power plants, the fixed costs that stem from building nuclear plants make the electricity they generate more expensive.
  - Even though it costs about the same to run nuclear plants as for other types of power plants, it is the fixed costs that stem from building nuclear plants that makes the electricity they generate more expensive.
  - It costs about the same to run nuclear plants as for other types of power plants, whereas the electricity they generate is more expensive, stemming from the fixed costs of building nuclear plants.
  - The cost of running nuclear plants is about the same as other types of power plants, but the electricity they generate is made more expensive because of the fixed costs stemming from building nuclear plants.

**Answer: B**

Sentence meaning:

- Cost to run the nuclear plants is the same as cost to run other types of power plants.
- The fixed costs that stem from building nuclear plants make the electricity they generate more expensive.

Answer choices:

- 1) Compare "to run nuclear plants" with "other types of power plants"; 2) "that makes it more expensive" incorrectly modifies nuclear plants rather than "fixed costs"; 3) pronoun "them" is ambiguous → Incorrect
- Correct comparison. Without "that" prior "make", this choice correctly describe the 2<sup>nd</sup> meaning of the sentence → Correct
- Right comparison (because of the use of "for" in "for other types of power plants") but "that makes it more expensive" incorrectly modifies nuclear plants rather than "fixed costs" → Incorrect
- Right comparison (because of the use of "for" in "for other types of power plants") but pronoun "they" is ambiguous → incorrect
- 1) Compare "to run nuclear plants" with "other types of power plants"; 2) pronoun "they" is ambiguous → incorrect.

**Take-away:**

**From BukrsGmat:**

X costs the same as Y: Subject to subject comparison

The cost(s) of running X is (are) same for Y: Object to object comparison **needs Preposition.**

**From Paypal - Egmat: ELLIPIS in comparison:**

When you are dealing with ellipsis, it always helps to begin from the completely expanded version with all the words and then move your way to the abbreviated version by applying ellipsis along the way.

Let's consider only the pertinent portion of the sentence.

- The cost of running nuclear plants is about the same as **the cost of running other types** of power plants.

No issues here with the comparison. Both sides of the comparison are grammatically and logically parallel.

Now what if I replace "the cost of running" with "that"? → We are comparing cost of running of the two categories of plants. But when this ellipsis is applied, we need something to connect "that" with "other types of power plants".

- (Without connection with that): The cost of running nuclear plants is about the same as **that** other types of power plants.  
→ Wrong  
(With correct connection): The cost of running nuclear plants is about the same as **that for other types** of power plants.  
→ So this is where the preposition "for" comes from.

Now we continue with our ellipsis. We can indeed even omit "that" from here since this omission will not lead to any ambiguity.

- The cost of running nuclear plants is about the same as **for other types** of power plants.

So this is how I get to the correct sentence containing "for".

Now let's apply the same on the set of sentences:

1. The incidence of the disease among men exceeds the incidence of the disease among women.

1 to 2 - The incidence of the disease among men exceeds the incidence of the disease among women.

2. The incidence of the disease among men exceeds the incidence among women.

2 to 3 - The incidence of the disease among men exceeds the incidence among women.

3. The incidence of the disease among men exceeds that among women.

→ So the key thing here is that as you replace or omit words, think about what connections you may need to get the correct sentence. The nature of the two sentences is different. In the Official sentence, the main component - cost of running - took direct object without the need of any preposition. So when we replaced this with "that" we needed a connection - i.e. a preposition. However, in the other example, the main component - incidence of the disease - itself needed a preposition to connect to the object and hence when we replaced it with "that" we did not need to get another preposition.

Thus when you cross-check your work in ellipsis, start from the complete sentence and then work your way to simplified version with replacement words and omitted words.

Final example of ellipsis:

1. Attraction of child to chocolates exceeds to ice cream. - IMO incorrect
2. Attraction of child to chocolates exceeds that to ice cream. - Surely Correct.

20. (Official guide) Although women's wages are improving, Department of Labor statistics show that the ratio of their earnings with that of men have been roughly static since 1960.

- A. with that of men have been
- B. to that of men are
- C. to those of men have been
- D. with those of men is
- E. to those of men has been

**Answer: E**

**Sentence meaning:**

1. Women's wages are improving.
2. Department of Labor statistics show that: The ratio of woman's earnings to men's earnings has been roughly static since 1960.

**Analysis:**

- Correct idiom: the **ratio of X to Y**.
- The sentence talks about the ratio of women's earnings to the ratio of men's earnings, yet about the ratio of women's earnings with the ratio of men as in "with that of men" (nonsense).
  - "Those of men" should be used to refer to "earnings of men"
  - Eliminate A, B, and D
- The singular noun "ratio" is singular requires singular verb "has" → Eliminate C
- Correct answer E properly fixed all the issues.

21. (GMATPrep) Just as the free computer operating system Linux has of late become even more crash resistant, so support for it within the computer industry has been growing.

- (A) as the free computer operating system Linux has of late become even more crash resistant, so
- (B) as **with** the free computer operating system Linux that has of late become even more crash resistant, so **the**
- (C) as **the free computer operating system Linux has of late become even more crash resistant**, so **it has been that**
- (D) **like** with the free computer operating system Linux becoming even more crash resistant of late, so
- (E) **like** the free computer operating system Linux that has of late become even more crash resistant, so it is that

**Answer: A**

Correct idiom: Just as X, so Y → Eliminate D & E.

2 entities in this idiom (X and Y) should be parallel → Eliminate B & C

A correctly fixes the idiom and parallelism issue.

22. (GMAT Prep) According to scientists at the University of Alaska, while the surface temperature of the globe has risen over the last century by about one degree Fahrenheit, the surface temperature in Alaska, Siberia, and northwestern Canada has increased in the previous thirty years by about five degrees.
- (A) the surface temperature in Alaska, Siberia, and northwestern Canada has increased in the previous thirty years by about five degrees
  - (B) the surface temperature in Alaska, Siberia, and northwestern Canada has increased over the last thirty years by about five degrees
  - (C) there was an increase in the last thirty years by about five degrees in Alaska, Siberia, and northwestern Canada
  - (D) it had increased in Alaska, Siberia, and northwestern Canada by about five degrees over the previous thirty years
  - (E) it has increased in Alaska, Siberia, and northwestern Canada over the previous thirty years by about five degrees

**Answer: B**

Sentence meaning:

Increase in = to become progressively greater (as in size, amount, number, or intensity)

1. Cost to run the nuclear plants is the same as cost to run other types of power plants.
  2. The fixed costs that stem from building nuclear plants make the electricity they generate more expensive.
- 
- A) 1) Compare “to run nuclear plants” with “other types of power plants”; 2) “that makes it more expensive” incorrectly modifies nuclear plants rather than “fixed costs”; 3) pronoun “them” is ambiguous → Incorrect
  - B) Correct comparison. Without “that” prior “make”, this choice correctly describe the 2<sup>nd</sup> meaning of the sentence → Correct
  - C) Right comparison (because of the use of “for” in “for other types of power plants”) but “that makes it more expensive” incorrectly modifies nuclear plants rather than “fixed costs” → Incorrect
  - D) Right comparison (because of the use of “for” in “for other types of power plants”) but pronoun “they” is ambiguous → incorrect
  - E) 1) Compare “to run nuclear plants” with “other types of power plants”; 2) pronoun “they” is ambiguous → incorrect.

23. (Official guide) While it costs about the same to run nuclear plants as other types of power plants, it is the fixed costs that stem from building nuclear plants that makes it more expensive for them to generate electricity.
- A. While it costs about the same to run nuclear plants as other types of power plants, it is the fixed costs that stem from building nuclear plants that makes it more expensive for them to generate electricity.
  - B. While the cost of running nuclear plants is about the same as for other types of power plants, the fixed costs that stem from building nuclear plants make the electricity they generate more expensive.
  - C. Even though it costs about the same to run nuclear plants as for other types of power plants, it is the fixed costs that stem from building nuclear plants that makes the electricity they generate more expensive.
  - D. It costs about the same to run nuclear plants as for other types of power plants, whereas the electricity they generate is more expensive, stemming from the fixed costs of building nuclear plants.
  - E. The cost of running nuclear plants is about the same as other types of power plants, but the electricity they generate is made more expensive because of the fixed costs stemming from building nuclear plants.

**Answer: B**

- A) "In the previous" means that the thirty years do not include the present. Then we cannot justify the use of present perfect "has increased" wrong → Incorrect
- B) Last thirty years means last thirty years including the present. So the use of present perfect "has increased" is justified. → Correct
- C) We can't use past tense, when we say last thirty years. → Incorrect
- D) Had increased denotes it happened before some other past event; There is no such simple past event to justify past perfect → incorrect
- E) Can't use present perfect 'has increased' when we say previous → incorrect.

**Take away:** use past tense when previous is used, because previous is a closed chapter of a past event. Use present perfect when last is use, because last is a roll-over that includes the present.

24. (Official guide) In the five most important battleground states – New York, California, Illinois, Ohio, and Massachusetts – Democrats reported \$48.7 million in cash on hand, compared to the Republicans, who reported \$35 million.
- A) compared to the Republicans, who reported \$35 million
  - B) in comparison to the Republicans, with \$35 million
  - C) compared with \$35 million for the Republicans
  - D) compared with the reporting of the Republicans of \$35 million
  - E) in comparison to the Republicans' report of having \$35 million

**Answer: C**

The sentence compares \$48.7 million reported by Democrats with \$35 million reported by the Republicans.

- A) \$48 million is compared with Republicans → Incorrect
- B) \$48 million is compared with Republicans → Incorrect
- C) \$48 million is compared with \$35 million → Correct. "for" is used to denote the ellipsis.
- D) \$48 million is compared with the reporting → Incorrect
- E) \$48 million is compared with the Republicans' report → Incorrect

25. (GMAT Prep) To meet the rapidly rising market demand for fish and seafood, suppliers are growing fish twice as fast as their natural growth rate, cutting their feed allotment by nearly half and raising them on special diets.
- A. their natural growth rate, cutting their feed allotment
  - B. their natural growth rate, their feed allotment cut
  - C. growing them naturally, cutting their feed allotment
  - D. they grow naturally, cutting their feed allotment
  - E. they grow naturally, with their feed allotment cut

**Answer: D**

The sentence compares “suppliers are growing fish to meet the demand” with “suppliers grow fish naturally”. The phrase “cutting their feed allotment by...” modifies the whole sentence by introducing the means through which they grow fish to meet the demand.

- A) The action “grow” is compared with noun “growth rate” → Incorrect
- B) Same as A → Incorrect
- C) “... suppliers are growing fish twice as fast as growing them naturally, cutting their feed allotment by nearly half and raising them on special diets.” There is meaning issue here. “Growing fish” is compared to “growing them (fish) naturally”. “Growing fish” is the general action whereas “growing fish naturally” is a type of growing fish. How come these two entities are compared? Should “growing fish naturally” be compared to another type of growing fish such as “growing fish artificially”? → Incorrect
- D) → Correct.
- E) Correct comparison but incorrect use of the modifier “with their feed allotment....” → Incorrect

26. (Magoosh) The film professor said he regarded Leni Riefenstahl more like a pioneer of cinematographic aesthetics instead of being a Nazi propagandist.

- (A) more like a pioneer of cinematographic aesthetics instead of being
- (B) more as a pioneer of cinematographic aesthetics than as
- (C) more as a pioneer of cinematographic aesthetics instead of being
- (D) mainly like a pioneer of cinematographic aesthetics, instead of like
- (E) mainly as a pioneer of cinematographic aesthetics, as opposed to

**Answer: B**

Correct Idiom: regard X as Y  
More ... than ...

- A) Incorrect use of idiom (regard like, more... instead of) → Incorrect
- B) Correct use of idiom → Correct
- C) Incorrect use of idiom (more as ... instead of being) → Incorrect.
- D) Incorrect use of idiom (mainly like ... instead of like) → Incorrect
- E) Incorrect use of “as opposed to” → change the meaning of sentence → Incorrect

27. (GMATPrep) Laboratory rats and mice live up to 40% longer than usual when fed a diet of at least 30% fewer calories than that which they would normally eat, but that otherwise contains all necessary vitamins and nutrients..
- A) of at least 30% fewer calories than that which they would normally eat, but that otherwise
  - B) with at least 30% fewer calories than what they would normally eat though otherwise it
  - C) that has at least 30% fewer of the calories than they would normally eat, but otherwise it
  - D) that has at least 30% fewer calories than they would normally eat but that otherwise
  - E) that has at least 30% fewer calories than that which they normally eat, though that otherwise

**Answer: C**

The sentence compares \$48.7 million reported by Democrats with \$35 million reported by the Republicans.

- A) \$48 million is compared with Republicans → Incorrect
- B) \$48 million is compared with Republicans → Incorrect
- C) \$48 million is compared with \$35 million → Correct. “for” is used to denote the ellipsis in the
- D) \$48 million is compared with the reporting → Incorrect
- E) \$48 million is compared with the Republicans’ report → Incorrect

28. (Knewton ) A study done on children under the age of twelve showed that 15 percent of them experienced night terrors but for children whose parents had also experienced such terrors in childhood it was more likely that they would perceive their behavior as fundamentally different from their peers.

- (A) for children whose parents had also experienced such terrors in childhood it was more likely that they would perceive their behavior as fundamentally different from their peers
- (B) for children whose parents also experienced such terrors in childhood, they were more likely than other children prone to night terrors to perceive their behavior as fundamentally different from their peers'
- (C) when children had parents who had also experienced such terrors in childhood it was more likely for them to be perceiving their behavior as different from that of their peers'
- (D) that children whose parents had also experienced such terrors in childhood were more likely than other children prone to night terrors to perceive their behavior as fundamentally different from their peers'
- (E) that when children had parents who had also experienced such terrors in childhood they were more likely to be perceiving behavior that differed from their peers

**Answer: D**

Sentence meaning:

A study done on children under the age of twelve showed 2 results:

- 15 percent of them (children) experienced night terrors
- But children whose parents had also experienced such terrors in childhood were more likely than other children to prone to night terrors to perceive their behavior as fundamentally different from their peers'.

The sentence compares children (<12 years-old) whose parents had also experienced night terrors in childhood (group A) with children (<12 years-old) whose parents had NOT experienced night terrors in childhood (Group B). Then it states that A is more likely than B to prone to night terrors to perceive A's behavior as fundamentally different from B's.

- A) 1) Pronoun "they" is ambiguously used to refer to children or parents. 2) Lack of ";" between 2 independent clauses: "A study..." and "it was more likely..." 3) the use of "it was more likely that" change the meaning of the sentence → Incorrect
- B) 1) The lack of comma prior to "but" indicates that the portion relating to "but" will not be an independent clause. If there is another clause, ";" or other conjunction should be used to connect the first non-underlined clause and the second underlined clause. However, the underlined portion relating to but is a clause and connected to the first clause by a comma. → Incorrect sentence structure.
- C) 1) Incorrect structure: clause 1 but when S + V (when S+V = an independent clause). However, "but" in the non-underlined portion is not preceded by a comma. Thus, an independent clause cannot immediately follow "but". 2) "that of their peers' " = double possessive. 3) the use of "it was more likely that" change the meaning of the sentence → Incorrect
- D) Correctly describes two results of the study: A study... showed that X but that Y. Pronoun "they" correctly refers to children. Correct comparison → Correct.
- E) 1) Pronoun "they" is ambiguous. 2) Wrong comparison: 3) "behavior" is compared with "their peers". 4) "to perceive" is prefer to "to be perceiving" → Incorrect

29. (Others) In addition to having a greater number of students than Lexington Community College, the students in Vaughn College are academically stronger than those in Lexington, with more national achievement award winners among their ranks.

- (A) the students in Vaughn College are academically stronger than those in
- (B) Vaughn College is home to students who are academically stronger than those in
- (C) the students in Vaughn College are academically stronger than they are in
- (D) Vaughn College's students are academically stronger than they are in
- (E) Vaughn College has students stronger academically than

**Answer: B**

"Having a greater number of students" should modify Vaughn College --> eliminate A, C, D

"Stronger academically" change the meaning of the sentence: student in Vaughn College are academically stronger --> eliminate E.

Answer: B

30. (GMAT Prep) In contrast to the ongoing trade imbalances with china and japan, the United States trade deficit with Mexico declined by \$500 million as a result of record exports to that country.
- A- In contrast to the ongoing trade imbalances with china and japan, the United states trade deficit with Mexico declined by \$500 million as a result of record exports to that country
  - B- In contrast to ongoing trade imbalances with China and Japan, the United states sold record exports to Mexico, reducing its trade deficit by \$500million
  - C- When compared with ongoing trade imbalances with china and Japan, the United states sold record exports to Mexico, reducing their trade deficit by \$500 million
  - D- Compared with ongoing trade imbalances with China and Japan , the united states sold record exports to Mexico, reducing the trade deficit by \$500million
  - E- Compared to the ongoing trade imbalances with China and Japan, the United states record exports to Mexico caused a \$500 million decline in trade deficit with that country

**Answer: A**

Sentence meaning:

- Ongoing trade imbalances are compared with the US trade deficit with Mexico. → the two compared entities in the original sentence are correct.
  - The US trade deficit with Mexico declined by \$500 million as a result of record exports to that country: emphasis on that the trade deficit declined by \$500 million. “that” correctly refers to Mexico. → the use of “that” is correct in the original sentence.
- A) Correct as is.
  - B) “ongoing trade imbalances” is compared with “the United states”. Using “reducing its trade deficit by \$500million” as modifier change the intent meaning → Incorrect.
  - C) “ongoing trade imbalances” is compared with “the United states” → Incorrect
  - D) “ongoing trade imbalances” is compared with “the United states” → Incorrect
  - E) “ongoing trade imbalances” is compared with “the United states record exports to Mexico” → Incorrect

31. (Kaplan) Some historians estimate that in the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, twice as much acreage was destroyed than had earlier been ravaged in Napoleon's Moscow burnings of 1812 and the Great Fire of London of 1666 combined.

- A) than had earlier been
- B) than the amount that was earlier
- C) over the amount that was previously
- D) as had earlier been
- E) as was

**Answer: D**

- Correct comparison: twice **as much X as Y** → eliminate A, B, C
- Compared entities: "acreage in Great Chicago Fire of 1871" and "acreage in Napoleon's Moscow burings of 1812 and the Great Fire of London of 1666" → eliminate B, C (compare "acreage" with "amount")
- Since both "Napoleon's Moscow burnings of 1812" and "the Great Fire of London of 1666" happen before "the Great Chicago Fire of 1871" → past perfect tense should be used. → eliminate E
- Correct answer: D

32. (OG) In addition to having more protein than wheat does, the protein in rice is higher quality than that in wheat, with more of the amino acids essential to the human diet.

- (A) the protein in rice is higher quality than that in
- (B) rice has protein of higher quality than that in
- (C) the protein in rice is higher in quality than it is in
- (D) rice protein is higher in quality than it is in
- (E) rice has a protein higher in quality than

**Answer: B**

“Having more protein than wheat does” should modify rice not protein → eliminate A, C, & D.

This sentence compares “protein in rice” and “protein in wheat” → eliminate E since the comparison is ambiguous, we are not sure if rice is compared with wheat or protein is compared to wheat. Moreover, using “a” before protein changes the meaning of the original sentence.

Correct answer:

33. (Kaplan) Unlike the use of headset telephones, which allow drivers to keep their hands on the wheel, all drivers are prohibited from using portable phones while driving.
- A) Unlike the use of headset telephones, which allow drivers to keep their hands on the wheel
  - B) Besides using headset telephones, which allow drivers to keep their hands on the wheel
  - C) Unless headset telephones, which allow drivers to keep their hands on the wheel, are used
  - D) Other than the use of headset telephones, which allows drivers to keep their hands on the wheel
  - E) Aside from using headset telephones which allow drivers to keep their hands on the wheel

**Answer: C**

Sentence meaning:

The first part of the sentence talks about using headset telephones, which allow drivers to keep drivers' hands on the wheel. The second part of the sentence talks that drivers are **prohibited** from using portable phones while driving.

→ There might be a contradiction or conditional in this sentence.

- A) Compare the use of headset telephones with all drivers → Incorrect
- B) Using "besides" changes the intended meaning of the original sentence, which denotes the contradiction/conditional → Incorrect
- C) The use of "unless" correctly describe the condition in which drivers are allowed to use phone while driving: using headset telephones or nothing → Correct
- D) Idiom "Other than X, Y" should have X // Y. This choice gives incorrect idiom → Incorrect.
- E) "Aside from" = "in addition to" → same as B, this choice changes the intended meaning of the original sentence → Incorrect

34. (SC1000) In Japan elderly people are treated with far greater respect than most Western countries.

- A) most Western countries
- B) most Western countries do
- C) most Western countries are
- D) they do in most Western countries
- E) they are in most Western countries

**Answer: E**

The sentence compares elderly people in Japan with elderly people in Western countries.

- A) Compare elderly people in Japan with Western countries → Incorrect
- B) Compare elderly people in Japan with Western countries → Incorrect
- C) Compare elderly people in Japan with Western countries → Incorrect
- D) Correctly compare elderly people in Japan with elderly people in Western countries. However, the use of “do” is not parallel to “are”. “are” in this sentence denotes a passive voice whereas “do” in this answer choice denotes active voice → Incorrect.
- E) Correctly compare elderly people in Japan with elderly people in Western countries and correctly use “are” → Correct

35. (GMAT Pill) There are hopeful signs that we are shifting away from our heavy reliance on fossil fuels: more than ten times as much energy is generated through wind power now than it was in 1990.

- (A) generated through wind power now than it was
- (B) generated through wind power now as it was
- (C) generated through wind power now as was the case
- (D) now generated through wind power as it was
- (E) now generated through wind power than was the case

**Answer: C**

The sentence compares amount of energy generated through wind power now with amount of energy generated through wind power in 1990.

Correct idiom: more than ten times **as much X as Y** → eliminated A & E

Pronoun "it" is ambiguously used to refer to wind power or energy → eliminate B & D

Correct answer: C

36. (Grokit) Records from the latter half of the 19th century show that in 1876 in Westbridge County there were 1,200 landowners, nearly 12 percent of the state landowner population, three times as many as 1852.

- A) three times as many as 1852
- B) three times as much as 1852
- C) triple what it was in 1852
- D) triple the figure for 1852
- E) thrice the number that was recorded in 1852

**Answer: D**

- A) Compare "landowner population in 1876" with "1852" → Incorrect
- B) 1) Compare "landowner population in 1876" with "1852". 2) "much" is used for uncountable noun → Incorrect
- C) Pronoun "it" is ambiguous → Incorrect
- D) Correct and concise → Correct.
- E) Same meaning as D but wordy → incorrect

37. (Knewton) A survey by the Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (BAPA) showed that in 2010 there were 20,341 high health hazardous tanneries, \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) twice as much as 2000
  - B) twice as many as 2000
  - C) double what it was in 2000
  - D) double the figure for 2000
  - E) a number double that of 2000's

**Answer: D**

The sentence compares “number of high health hazardous tanneries in 2010” with “number of high health hazardous tanneries in 2000”.

- A) 1) Compare “number of high health hazardous tanneries in 2010” with “2000”. 2) much is used for uncountable noun → Incorrect
- B) Compare “number of high health hazardous tanneries in 2010” with “2000” → Incorrect
- C) Pronoun “it” is ambiguous → Incorrect
- D) Correct and concise → Correct
- E) “that of 2000’s” – double possessive → Incorrect

38. (Knewton) The recent discovery of a red oak tree sap that is anticipated to advance experimentation with natural substances in order to create cancer medicines will be able to provide chemists with a more potent mixture to work from than other trees and at a lower cost.
- (A) The recent discovery of a red oak tree sap that is anticipated to advance experimentation with natural substances in order to create cancer medicines will be able to provide chemists with a more potent mixture to work from than other trees and at a lower cost
  - (B) The recent discovery of a red oak tree sap is anticipated to advance experimentation with natural substances in order to create cancer medicines and will be able to provide chemists with a more potent mixture to work from at a lower cost than the sap extracted from other trees
  - (C) The recent discovery of a red oak tree sap, which is anticipated to advance experimentation with natural substances in order to create cancer medicines, will be able to provide chemists with a more potent mixture to work from at a lower cost than other trees
  - (D) A recently discovered red oak tree sap, which is anticipated to advance experimentation with natural substances in order to create cancer medicines, will be able to provide chemists with a more potent mixture to work from than the sap extracted from other trees can, and at a lower cost
  - (E) A recently discovered red oak tree sap, which is anticipated to advance experimentation with natural substances in order to create cancer medicines, will be able to provide a more potent mixture to work from than other trees and to decrease the cost

**Answer: D**

The sentence compares “red oak tree sap” and “sap extracted from other trees” (two types of sap)

- A) Compare “discovery” with “other trees” → Incorrect
- B) Compare “discovery” with “sap extracted from other trees” → Incorrect
- C) Compare “discovery” with “other trees” → Incorrect
- D) Correctly compare “red oak tree sap” and “sap extracted from other trees” → Correct.
- E) Compare “red oak tree sap” and “other trees” → Incorrect

39. (Manhattan GMAT) Studies of test scores show that watching television has a markedly positive effect on children whose parents speak English as a second language, as compared to those whose native language is English.
- A. to those whose native language is English
  - B. with children whose native language is English
  - C. with those who are native English speakers
  - D. to children whose parents do not
  - E. with children whose parents are native English speakers

**Answer: E**

The sentence compares “children whose parents speak English as a second language” with “children whose parents speak English as a native language”.

- A) “those” is ambiguous, we do not know to whom those refers to determine the two compared entities → Incorrect
- B) Compare “children whose parents speak English as a second language” with “children whose native language is English” → Incorrect
- C) “those” is ambiguous, we do not know to whom those refers to determine the two compared entities → Incorrect
- D) “children whose parents do not” is ambiguous. Parents who do not can be native English speaker or speak English as second/third/fourth language or does not speak English at all. → Incorrect.
- E) Correctly compare “children whose parents speak English as a second language” with “children whose parents speak English as a native language” → Correct

Note: GMAC never considers “compare to” and “compare with” as a solid basis to eliminate the answer choice. Thus, do not worry about distinguish between “compare to” and “compare with”. Your judgment should be based on the compared entities.

40. (GMAT Prep) Whereas in mammals the tiny tubes that convey nutrients to bone cells are arrayed in parallel lines, in birds the tubes form a random pattern.
- A. Whereas in mammals the tiny tubes that convey nutrients to bone cells are arrayed in parallel lines, in birds the tubes
  - B. Whereas the tiny tubes for the conveying of nutrients to bone cells are arrayed in mammals in parallel lines, birds have tubes that
  - C. Unlike mammals, where the tiny tubes for conveying nutrients to bone cells are arrayed in parallel lines, birds' tubes
  - D. Unlike mammals, in whom the tiny tubes that convey nutrients to bone cells are arrayed in parallel lines, the tubes in birds
  - E. Unlike the tiny tubes that convey nutrients to bone cells, which in mammals are arrayed in parallel lines, in birds the tubes

**Answer: A**

The sentence compares "tiny tubes in mammals" with "tiny tubes in birds".

- A) Compare "tiny tubes in mammals" with "tiny tubes in birds". Parallel structure: "whereas **in mammals the tiny tubes** ..., **in birds the tubes**..." → Correct as is
- B) Unparalleled structure → Incorrect
- C) Compare "mammal" with "birds' tubes" → Incorrect
- D) Compare "mammal" with "the tubes in bird" → Incorrect.
- E) Correctly compare "the tiny tubes" in mammals with "the tubes" in bird but incorrectly use modifier "which in.. lines". This modifier is far away from the noun "tiny tubes" to which it modifies → Incorrect.

41. (Others) Although many citizens enjoy spacious and well-kept state parks, some fiscally conservative State Representatives are quick to point out that maintaining state parks cost far more than other state land.

- A) maintaining state parks cost far more than other state land
- B) state parks costs far more to maintain than other state land does
- C) maintaining state parks costs far more than other state land
- D) state parks cost far more to maintain than other state land does
- E) to maintain state parks is far more expensive than other state land

**Answer: D**

The sentence compares the cost of “maintaining state parks” with that of “maintaining other state land”.

- A) 1) Compare “maintaining state parks” with “other state land”. 2) “maintaining state parks” is singular and needs singular verb “costs” → Incorrect
- B) Correctly compare the cost to maintain “state parks” with the cost to maintain “other state land” but “state parks” is plural and needs plural verb “cost” → Incorrect
- C) Compare “maintaining state parks” with “other state land” → Incorrect
- D) Correctly compare the cost to maintain “state parks” with the cost to maintain “other state land” and correct verb form “cost” is used → Correct
- E) Compare “to maintain state parks” with “other state land” → Incorrect.

42. (Magoosh) Comparing tensile strength, spider's silk is much better at holding its own weight than high-grade alloy steel, considerably lighter because the organic composition is less dense than the metallic elements.

- A) Comparing tensile strength, spider's silk is much better at holding its own weight than high-grade alloy steel
- B) Comparing tensile strength, spider's silk is much better than high-grade alloy steel at holding its own weight
- C) Comparable in tensile strength, spider's silk is much better at holding its own weight than high-grade alloy steel
- D) Comparable in tensile strength, spider's silk, much better than high-grade alloy steel at holding its own weight
- E) Comparable in tensile strength, spider's silk is much better than high-grade alloy steel at holding its own weight

**Answer: E**

The sentence compares “spider's silk” with “high-grade alloy steel”:

- They are comparable in tensile strength
- *But:* spider's silk is much better than high-grade alloy steel at holding its own weight.

Then the sentence continues to describe that spider's weight is considerably lighter because the organic composition is less dense than the metallic elements.

The non-underlined part “considerably lighter because...” modifies weight in “its own weight”.

- A) “Comparing tensile strength” gives the idea that tensile strength is being compared with other strength. 2) “considerably lighter because...” modifies “high-grade alloy steel” → Incorrect
- B) “Comparing tensile strength” gives the idea that tensile strength is being compared with other strength. → Incorrect
- C) “considerably lighter because...” modifies “high-grade alloy steel” → Incorrect
- D) This choice makes the sentence lack of the main verb → Incorrect.
- E) Correct comparison and modifier → Correct.

43. (Kaplan) Unlike the Arctic, where the winds are generally mild, warmed by an inversion layer that has its origin in the Gulf Stream, the winds in most regions of Antarctica are incredibly strong and viciously cold.
- A) Unlike the Arctic, where the winds are generally mild, warmed by an inversion layer that has its origin in the Gulf Stream, the winds in most regions of Antarctica
  - B) Unlike the Arctic winds which are generally mild, warmed by an inversion layer that has its origin in the Gulf Stream, most regions of Antarctica have winds that
  - C) In comparison with those of the Arctic, which are generally mild, warmed by an inversion layer that has its origin in the Gulf Stream, most regions of Antarctica have winds that
  - D) Dissimilar to the Arctic, where the winds are generally mild, warmed by an inversion layer that has its origin in the Gulf Stream, the winds in most regions of Antarctica
  - E) In the Arctic, the winds are generally mild, warmed by an inversion layer that has its origin in the Gulf Stream, but in most regions of Antarctica the winds

**Answer: E**

The sentence compares **the winds in Arctic** with **the winds in most regions of Antarctica**.

- A) Compare “the Arctic” with “the winds in most regions of Antarctica” → Incorrect
- B) Compare “the Arctic winds” with “most regions of Antarctica” → Incorrect
- C) 1) Compare “those of the Arctic” with “most regions of Antarctica”. 2) Using pronoun “those” is ambiguous. → Incorrect
- D) Compare “the Arctic” with “the winds in most regions of Antarctica” → Incorrect.
- E) Correctly compare **the winds in Arctic** with **the winds in most regions of Antarctica** → Correct.

44. (GMAT Prep) Unlike the short flights of the shuttle and earlier spacecraft, which carried sufficient power in fuel cells and batteries, a permanently orbiting space station will have to generate its own electricity.
- A) the short flights of the shuttle and earlier spacecraft, which carried sufficient power in fuel cells and batteries
  - B) the shuttle and earlier spacecraft, with sufficient enough power in fuel cells and batteries for their short flights
  - C) the short flights of the shuttle and earlier spacecraft, which enabled them to carry sufficient enough power in fuel cells and batteries
  - D) the shuttle and earlier spacecraft, which were capable of carrying sufficient power in fuel cells and batteries for their short flights
  - E) the flights of the shuttle and earlier spacecraft, whose shortness allowed them to carry sufficient power in fuel cells and batteries

**Answer: D**

The sentence compares “**the shuttle and earlier spacecraft**” with “**a permanently orbiting space station**”. → Eliminate A, C, and E

- B) “sufficient enough” is redundant → Incorrect
- D) Correct comparison and no redundancy → Correct.

45. (Magoosh) Five-star General John Pershing had such a sweeping command in World War I as no single WWII general is a correspondence to him.

- (A) such a sweeping command in World War I as no single WWII general is a correspondence to
- (B) such a sweeping command in World War I that no single WWII general would be a correspondence with
- (C) so sweeping a command in World War I as no single WWII general would be corresponding to
- (D) so sweeping a command in World War I that no single WWII general corresponds to
- (E) such a sweeping command in World War I because no single WWII general corresponds with

**Answer: A**

The sentence compares "Five-star General John Pershing" and "WWII general".

The correct idiom:

- so + adj/adv + that... OR such + a/an + noun + that... → eliminate A & C
- correspond to → eliminate B & E

D is the correct answer

Note: As with the tense of "correspond":

(From Mike- Magoosh ) There is no rule about a "that" clause and verb tense of "correspond"--- we simply have to use the verb tense relevant to the situation. If we were talking hypothetically, say about a future war, we might use "would". WWII was a long time ago, and all the achievements of those generals is well known at this point. There is absolutely nothing hypothetical, speculative, or ambiguous about what those folks accomplished. That's why "would" is wrong. Here, we are taking about a correspondence, a pattern of matching, and this pattern is something we are perceiving in the present moment, so the present tense --- "does correspond" or simply "corresponds" is perfectly correct.

46. (Princeton) With less than thirty thousand dollars in advance ticket sales and fewer acceptances by guest-speakers than expected, the one-day symposium on art and religion was canceled for lack of interest.

- (A) less than thirty thousand dollars in advance ticket sales and fewer
- (B) fewer than thirty thousand dollars in advance ticket sales and less
- (C) fewer than thirty thousand dollars in advance ticket sales and fewer
- (D) lesser than thirty thousand dollars in advance ticket sales and fewer
- (E) less than thirty thousand dollars in advance ticket sales and as few

**Answer: E**

**Less/fewer** usage: Less used with uncountable nouns and fewer used with countable noun.

1. "Acceptances" is countable noun → "Fewer" should be used. → Eliminate B.
2. "thirty thousand dollars":

(From Mark, Manhattan) We can definitely count our money, but we actually treat "money" as an uncountable noun (e.g., "We all have less money than we would like.") What about dollars? If you actually have 30K one dollar bills, then treat it as countable (you can count the dollars out one-by-one); otherwise, "30K dollars" is acting as an amount and should be treated as uncountable.

Think about the following analogy: "dollars" is to "water" as "dollar bills" is to "water molecules". "Dollars" and "water" should both be treated as uncountable, whereas "dollar bills" and "water molecules" are clearly countable.

→ "less" should be used → Eliminate C.

3. "lesser" is incorrect form of "less" → Eliminate D
4. "as few" is used only with in the form: as few X as Y → Eliminate E

→ The sentence is correct as is.

47. (GMAT Prep) Unlike many United States cities, where a river is no longer the focal point of urban life, the river in San Antonio winds through the middle of the business district, and the River Walk, or Pasco del Rio, is the city's most popular attraction.

- A) Unlike many United States cities, where a river is no longer the focal point of urban life, the river in San Antonio
- B) Unlike the river in many cities in the United States, which is no longer the focal point of urban life, in San Antonio the river
- C) Today the river in many cities in the United States is no longer the focal point of urban life, unlike San Antonio, where it
- D) In few United States cities today, a river is the focal point of urban life, but the river in San Antonio
- E) No longer do many cities in United States have a river as the focal point of urban life, but in San Antonio the river

**Answer: E**

Sentence meaning:

The original sentence contrasts rivers in many US cities as not a focal point of urban life with the river in San Antonio as the most popular attraction (implying that the river is focal point of urban life). → Answer choice that cannot describe this contradiction is incorrect → eliminate D

Answer choice:

- A) Compare “many United States cities” with “the river” → Incorrect
- B) “the river in many cities in the United States” denotes a specific river that flows to all those cities in the US → change the intended meaning → Incorrect
- C) Compare “the river” with “San Antonio” → Incorrect
- D) Incorrect as explained above
- E) Correctly state the contradict → Correct

48. (SC1000) According to Booker T. Whatley's recent analysis, planting the same crops as are planted on large farms will lead to economic disaster for the small farmer, who should plan a succession of high-value crops that will provide a year-round cash flow.

- (A) planting the same crops as are planted on large farms will lead to economic disaster for the small farmer, who
- (B) it will lead to economic disaster for the small farmer to plant the same crops as on the large farms; they
- (C) economic disaster will result from planting the same crops as large farms to the small farmer, who
- (D) economic disaster for the small farmer will result from planting the same crops as on the large farms; they
- (E) the small farmer planting the same crops as are planted on large farms will lead to economic disaster; they

**Answer: A**

The 'small farmer' is singular. So we can cancel out all options which uses 'they' to refer to the farmer → Eliminate B, D, E

- C) "economic disaster will result from planting the same crops as large farms to the small farmer, who": "planting the same crops as large farms to the small farmer ": wrong comparison → Incorrect

Answer: A

49. (SC1000) According to Interstudy, a nonprofit organization that studies health maintenance organizations (HMO's), they estimate that, in comparison to last year, when only 36 percent of the nation's 607 HMO's was profitable, this year 73 percent will be.
- (A) they estimate that, in comparison to last year, when only 36 percent of the nation's 607 HMO's was profitable, this year 73 percent will be
  - (B) compared to only 36 percent of the nation's 607 HMO's being profitable last year, they estimate 73 percent would be this year
  - (C) only 36 percent of the nation's 607 HMO's were profitable last year; it estimates that this year 73 percent will be
  - (D) it estimates 73 percent of the nation's 607 HMO's would be profitable this year; last year that was only 36 percent
  - (E) only 36 percent of the nation's 607 HMO's last year were profitable, whereas they estimate it this year to be 73 percent

**Answer: C**

A pronoun is not needed at all immediately following the introductory prepositional phrase followed by the appositive. Try taking out the appositive, "a nonprofit organization that studies health maintenance organizations (HMO's)," and read it that way. Since the pronoun is not needed, that means that neither A nor D is the answer. That leaves B, C, and E. Since both B and E use a plural pronoun to refer to a singular antecedent, that leaves C as the answer.

50. (Manhattan GMAT) Studies of test scores show that watching television has a markedly positive effect on children whose parents speak English as a second language, as compared to those whose native language is English.
- A. to those whose native language is English
  - B. with children whose native language is English
  - C. with those who are native English speakers
  - D. to children whose parents do not
  - E. with children whose parents are native English speakers

**Answer: E**

The sentence compares “children whose parents speak English as a second language” with “children whose parents speak English as a native language”.

- A) “those” is ambiguous, we do not know to whom those refers to determine the two compared entities → Incorrect
- B) Compare “children whose parents speak English as a second language” with “children whose native language is English” → Incorrect
- C) “those” is ambiguous, we do not know to whom those refers to determine the two compared entities → Incorrect
- D) “children whose parents do not” is ambiguous. Parents who do not can be native English speaker or speak English as second/third/fourth language or does not speak English at all. → Incorrect.
- E) Correctly compare “children whose parents speak English as a second language” with “children whose parents speak English as a native language” → Correct

Note: GMAC never considers “compare to” and “compare with” as a solid basis to eliminate the answer choice. Thus, do not worry about distinguish between “compare to” and “compare with”. Your judgment should be based on the compared entities.

51. (SC1000) According to surveys by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, about 20 percent of young adults used cocaine in 1979, doubling those reported in the 1977 survey.

- (A) doubling those reported in the 1977 survey
- (B) to double the number the 1977 survey reported
- (C) twice those the 1977 survey reported
- (D) twice as much as those reported in the 1977 survey
- (E) twice the number reported in the 1977 survey

**Answer: E**

The sentence compares “20 percent of young adults in 1979” with number of adults in 1977.

Pronoun “those” refers to “young adults” → wrong comparison → eliminate A, C, D

- B) using “to” indicate the purpose → Incorrect
- E) Correct comparison

52. (SC1000) According to the Better Business Bureau, if you fail to advertise the highest price in a range of prices for a service or product as prominently as that of the lowest, it violates the New York Consumer Protection Law.
- (A) if you fail to advertise the highest price in a range of prices for a service or product as prominently as that of the lowest, it
  - (B) if one fails to advertise the highest price in a range of prices for a service or product as prominently as the lowest price, it
  - (C) failure to advertise the highest price in a range of prices for a service or product as prominently as the lowest
  - (D) failure to advertise as prominently the highest price in a range of prices for a service or product as the lowest
  - (E) failing to advertise as prominently the highest price in a range of prices for a service or products as that of the lowest

**Answer: E**

To eliminate the confusion caused by the modifier “in a range of...” when you try to figure out the compared entities, you can base on the word “prominently”. “Prominently” = adverb → “prominently” describes the verb “advertise” → The sentence compares “advertise the highest price in a range of...” with “advertise the lowest price (in a range of...)”.

- A) “it” is ambiguous, we do not know to which “it” refers → Incorrect
- B) “it” is ambiguous, we do not know to which “it” refers → Incorrect
- C) Correct: The ellipsis “failure to advertise the highest price in a range of prices for a service or product as prominently as the lowest” is derived from:  
According to the Better Business Bureau, failure to advertise the highest price in a range of prices for a service or product as prominently as to advertise the lowest violates the New York Consumer Protection
- D) Compare “to advertise” with “the lowest” → Incorrect
- E) “That” is ambiguous

53. (OG) In 1979 lack of rain reduced India's rice production to about 41 million tons, nearly 25 percent less than those of the 1978 harvest.

- A) less than those of the 1978 harvest
- B) less than the 1978 harvest
- C) less than 1978
- D) fewer than 1978
- E) fewer than that of India's 1978 harvest

**Answer: B**

The sentence compares "rice production in 1979" with "the 1978 harvest". Basically, production and harvest have the same meaning. Since rice production and harvest are measurement, not countable nouns → less should be used. → Eliminate D & E.

- A) "41 million tons" is a number → if we want to compare number of tons harvested in 1978 with number of tons produced in 1979, that, rather than those, should be used. → Incorrect
- B) Compare "rice production in 1979" with "the 1978 harvest" → Correct
- C) Compare "rice production in 1979" with "1978" → Incorrect

**Notes:**

The difficulty of this sentence is to define what the two compared entities are.

This sentence compares object-object:

In 1979 lack of rain reduced India's rice production to about 41 million tons, nearly 25 percent less than the 1978 harvest. → A is compared to B

Subject	verb	object A	comparative
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Short version if the comparison is between 1979 production and 1978 harvest:

In 1979 lack of rain reduced India's **rice production** nearly 25 percent less than **the 1978 harvest**

Short version if the comparison is between 41 million tons and that of 1978:

In 1979 lack of rain reduced India's rice production to about **41 million tons**, nearly 25 percent less than **the number/that of 1978 harvest**

54. (OG) A leading figure in the Scottish enlightenment, Adam Smith's two major books are to democratic capitalism what Marx's Das Kapital is to socialism.

- A. Adam Smith's two major books are to democratic capitalism what
- B. Adam Smith's two major books are to democratic capitalism like
- C. Adam Smith's two major books are to democratic capitalism just as
- D. Adam Smith wrote two major books that are to democratic capitalism similar to
- E. Adam Smith wrote two major books that are to democratic capitalism what

**Answer: E**

The sentence compares "two major books are to democratic capitalism" with "Marx's Das Kapital is to socialism".

**Figure** should modify people/human → *A leading figure* should modify *Adam Smith*. → eliminate A, B, & C.

The parallel structure: **A is to B what X is to Y**

- D) A is to B similar to X is to Y → unidiomatic → **Incorrect**
- E) **A is to B what X is to Y** → **Correct**.

55. (OG) Digging in sediments in northern China, evidence has been gathered by scientists suggesting that complex life-forms emerged much earlier than they had previously thought.
- (A) evidence has been gathered by scientists suggesting that complex life-forms emerged much earlier than they had
  - (B) evidence gathered by scientists suggests a much earlier emergence of complex life-forms than had been
  - (C) scientists have gathered evidence suggesting that complex life-forms emerged much earlier than
  - (D) scientists have gathered evidence that suggests a much earlier emergence of complex life-forms than that which was
  - (E) scientists have gathered evidence which suggests a much earlier emergence of complex life-forms than that

**Answer: C**

**Error analysis & POE based on modifier + pronoun issues:**

Dangling modifier: *Digging in sediments...* should modify *scientists* not *evidence*. → Eliminate A & B

The uses of evidence suggesting and evidence that suggests are the similar. However, which following evidence without punctuation (comma) in option E is incorrect. GMAC always uses "that" for restrictive/vital modifiers and "which" for non-restrictive/non-vital modifiers. Moreover, 'that' is incorrect in option E and D since it is functioning as a pronoun in this option, whereas the part after 'than' should actually refer to what the scientists had previously thought. → Eliminate E and E

**Error analysis & POE based on modifier + comparison issues:**

Dangling modifier: *Digging in sediments...* should modify *scientists* not *evidence*. → Eliminate A & B

- A) Digging in sediments in northern China, scientists have gathered evidence suggesting that complex life-forms emerged much earlier than when complex life-forms were previously thought to emerge.

→ awkward and much too long. We are allowed to drop everything among those orange words that are a repeat or are obvious from context. The only piece that is truly different from the part before the word "than" is "previously thought", so that's all we need.

- B) .... than previously thought → Clear, concise, unambiguous, and grammatically correct.
- C) .... than that which was previously thought → very wordy, and it's unclear to what the word "that" refers
- D) .... than that previously thought → it's unclear to what the word "that" refers.

Think about "that previously thought" --- to what does the "that" refer? What exactly is "previously thought"? What did the scientist think at an earlier time? This really refers to **the verb**, to the action of the verb "emerged" --- previously, scientists thought that these critters emerged later, and now the evidence suggest that they emerged earlier. The entire comparison revolves around the verb --- when did they emerge. We **cannot use the pronoun "that" to refer to the action of a verb**. If we want to use "that" correctly, we would have to change around the whole sentence ----

.... gathered evidence suggesting that complex life-forms had an emergence that was much earlier than that previously thought.

Now, that version is an abominable trainwreck. Even in this version, that word "that" is entirely optional --- the phrase "than previously thought" is still 100% correct by itself, but at least in this sentence, the "that" isn't absolutely wrong when it's included, because there's a clear noun antecedent. In choices (D) & (E), the word "that" is 100% wrong, because it is trying to refer to the action of a verb, which is not allowed.

This is why (C) is not only the best answer but the only possible answer.

56. (OG) A leading figure in the Scottish enlightenment, Adam Smith's two major books are to democratic capitalism what Marx's Das Kapital is to socialism.
- A. Adam Smith's two major books are to democratic capitalism what
  - B. Adam Smith's two major books are to democratic capitalism like
  - C. Adam Smith's two major books are to democratic capitalism just as
  - D. Adam Smith wrote two major books that are to democratic capitalism similar to
  - E. Adam Smith wrote two major books that are to democratic capitalism what

**Answer: E**

The sentence compares "two major books are to democratic capitalism" with "Marx's Das Kapital is to socialism".

**Figure** should modify people/human → *A leading figure* should modify *Adam Smith*. → eliminate A, B, & C.

- F) "those" is ambiguous, we do not know to whom those refers to determine the two compared entities → Incorrect
- G) Compare "children whose parents speak English as a second language" with "children whose native language is English" → Incorrect
- H) "those" is ambiguous, we do not know to whom those refers to determine the two compared entities → Incorrect
- I) "children whose parents do not" is ambiguous. Parents who do not can be native English speaker or speak English as second/third/fourth language or does not speak English at all. → Incorrect.
- J) Correctly compare "children whose parents speak English as a second language" with "children whose parents speak English as a native language" → Correct

Note: GMAC never considers "compare to" and "compare with" as a solid basis to eliminate the answer choice. Thus, do not worry about distinguish between "compare to" and "compare with". Your judgment should be based on the compared entities.