

Compilation of all the
new Sentence
Correction questions of
Official guide 2018

674. Air traffic routes over the North Pole are currently used by only two or three planes a day, but it was found by a joint Canadian–Russian study to be both feasible as well as desirable if those routes are opened to thousands more commercial planes a year.

A. Air traffic routes over the North Pole are currently used by only two or three planes a day, but it was found by a joint Canadian-Russian study to be both feasible as well as desirable if those routes are opened to thousands more commercial planes a year. --- 1. Both *as well as* is a serious error; 2. If the conditional clause is in present tense, the main clause cannot be in past tense. A is out because the phrase "desirable if those routes are opened" should read "desirable that those routes are opened. The former suggests that something is desirable only if the routes are opened.

B. Currently used by only two or three planes a day, a joint Canadian-Russian study has found that if air traffic routes over the North Pole are opened to thousands more commercial planes a year, it would be both feasible and desirable. --- Modification problem

C. A joint Canadian-Russian study, finding it to be both feasible as well as desirable to open air traffic routes over the North Pole, which are currently used by only two or three planes a day, to thousands more commercial planes a year. - A fragment

D. Although air traffic routes over the North Pole are currently used by only two or three planes a day, a joint Canadian-Russian study has found that opening those routes to thousands more commercial planes a year is both feasible and desirable. ---- Error free

E. With air traffic routes over the North Pole currently used by only two or three planes a day, opening those routes to thousands more commercial planes a year has been found by a joint Canadian–Russian study as both feasible and desirable-- The 'with' modifier clause, should be followed by the doer of the action, namely the Canadian- Russian study after the comma. As such, the modification is faulty. Also , it is in passive voice so less preferred.

680) Unlike the virginal, whose single set of strings runs parallel to the front edge of the instrument, the harpsichord's several sets of strings are placed at right angles to its front edge.

From the context of the sentence, it is absolutely clear that two kinds of string instruments have been compared. Logically, *the strings* run on the instruments in a certain way. A *set* does not run. Hence, whenever *a set of strings* is mentioned, we need a modifier to modify *the strings* and not *a set*. So apart from the comparison error, we can use this point also to arrive at the correct answer choice.

- A) whose single set of strings runs parallel to the front edge of the instrument, the harpsichord's several sets of strings are: Incorrect
- (B) with a single set of strings running parallel to the front edge of the instrument, the several sets of strings of the harpsichord are: Incorrect
- (C) which has a single set of strings that runs parallel to the front edge of the instrument, in the case of the harpsichord, several sets of strings are: Incorrect
- (D) which has a single set of strings that run parallel to the front edge of the instrument, the harpsichord has several sets of strings: Correct
- (E) in which a single set of strings run parallel to the front edge of the instrument, the harpsichord's several sets of strings are: Incorrect

A) whose single set of strings runs parallel to the front edge of the instrument, the harpsichord's several sets of strings are

Also, in this case, the prepositional phrase is the subject of the sentence, "single set" its modifier. Thus the verb "run" must be plural instead of singular.

B) with a single set of strings running parallel to the front edge of the instrument, the several sets of strings of the harpsichord are

B is wrong because the phrase between the commas begins with the preposition "with," which in this usage is meant to distinguish between one virginal and another.

C) which has a single set of strings that runs parallel to the front edge of the instrument, in the case of the harpsichord, several sets of strings are

C is wrong because if you remove the clause between the commas, the phrase "several sets of strings are" suggests the virginal also has several sets of strings. Plus, the sentence structure is awkward.

D) which has a single set of strings that run parallel to the front edge of the instrument, the harpsichord has several sets of strings

D is the best choice because it states the case with clarity, but the word "that" is required between "strings" and the verb "are."

E) in which a single set of strings run parallel to the front edge of the instrument, the harpsichord's several sets of strings are

E is incorrect because it suggests the set of strings are in the virginal, making it an awkward sentence.

684) In 1913, the largely self-taught Indian mathematician Srinivasa Ramanujan mailed 120 of his theorems to three different British mathematicians; only one, G. H. Hardy, recognized the brilliance of these theorems, but thanks to Hardy's recognition, Ramanujan was eventually elected to the Royal Society of London.

(A) only one, G. H. Hardy, recognized the brilliance of these theorems, but ----- the correct choice

(B) they were brilliant, G. H. Hardy alone recognized, but --- The flipped version of this is -- G. H. Hardy alone recognized they were brilliant, but --- However, The problem is that 'they' can ambiguously mean either the mathematicians or the theorems.

(C) these theorems were brilliant, but only one, G. H. Hardy recognized; -- Yet again the flipped clause is ---- but only one, G. H. Hardy recognized these theorems were brilliant; ---Note that the fanboys 'but' is missing.

(D) but, only one G. H. Hardy, recognizing their brilliance, --

1. may wrongly imply that there were several Hardys, but only one among them recognized---
2. The middle arm is no clause and thus breaks the list parallelism.
3. The 'but' should actually appear before the last item, but is missing.

(E) only one G. H. Hardy recognized, but these theorems were brilliant --

1. same problem as in D.
2. implies that the theorems were brilliant thanks to Hardy's recognition.

A, on the contrary, keeps parallelism and meaning intact and logical.

685) Cost cutting and restructuring has allowed the manufacturing company to lower its projected losses for the second quarter, and they are forecasting a profit before the end of the year.

- A. **has** allowed the manufacturing company to lower its projected losses for the second quarter, and **they** are forecasting
- B. **has** allowed **for** the manufacturing company to lower its projected losses in the second quarter and to forecast
- C. have allowed that the manufacturing **company can lower the projected losses for the** second quarter, and **to forecast** - change in meaning and parallelism issues
- D. have allowed the manufacturing company to lower its projected second-quarter losses and to forecast- **correct**
- E. have allowed **for the manufacturing** company **to lower the projected losses** in the second quarter, as well **as forecasting**

699) Researchers now regard interferon as not a single substance, but it is rather a biological family of complex molecules that play an important, though not entirely defined, role in the immune system.

- A. as **not a single substance**, but **it is rather** a biological family of complex molecules that play
- B. **as not a single** substance but **as a biological** family of complex molecules playing
- C. not as a single substance but as a biological family of complex molecules that play- **correct**
- D. not to be a single substance but rather **a biological family of complex molecules playing**- change in meaning
- E. **not as a single** substance but **instead as** being a biological family of complex molecules that play

Correct Idiom: Not as X but as Y

702) Between 14,000 and 8,000 b.c. the ice cap that covered northern Asia, Europe, and America began to melt, uncovering vast new areas that were to be occupied by migrating peoples moving northward.

- A. began to melt, uncovering vast new areas that were to be occupied -correct
- B. began melting, to uncover vast new areas to be occupied - Change in meaning, it is not the purpose of ice cap
- C. began, by melting, to uncover vast new areas for occupation- Change in meaning, it is not the purpose of ice cap
- D. began, after melting, uncovering vast new areas which are to be occupied - Change in meaning
- E. would begin to uncover, through melting, vast new areas for occupation - change in meaning, the causal relationship is lost.

717) Employing many different techniques throughout his career, Michelangelo produced a great variety of art works, including paintings, for example, in the Sistine Chapel, to sculpture, for example, the statue of David.

- A. including paintings, for example, in the Sistine Chapel, to sculpture, for example,
- - Use of "INCLUDING" in not apt. "SUCH AS" is used for giving examples and not "FOR EXAMPLE". Additionally "THOSE" should be used before Sistine Chapel for correct comparison
- B. including paintings, for example, in the Sistine Chapel, to sculpture, like
- - Use of "INCLUDING" in not apt. "SUCH AS" is used for giving examples and not "LIKE" or "FOR EXAMPLE". Additionally "THOSE" should be used before Sistine Chapel for correct comparison
- C. including paintings, such as those in the Sistine Chapel, and sculpture, as
- Use of "INCLUDING" in not apt. "SUCH AS" is used for giving examples and not "AS".
- D. ranging from paintings, such as those in the Sistine Chapel, to sculpture, such as
- Correct
- E. ranging from paintings, such as in the Sistine Chapel, and sculpture, such as
- Correct use is "Range from X to Y", but "Range from X and Y" is used in this option. Hence Incorrect

735) The English physician Edward Jenner found that if experimental subjects were deliberately infected with cowpox, which caused only a mild illness, they are immune from smallpox.

- A. which caused only a mild illness, they are immune from
- B. causing only a mild illness, they become immune from
- C. which causes only a mild illness, they are immune to
- D. causing only a mild illness, they became immune from
- E. which caused only a mild illness, they would become immune to

Split #1: verb form

The first action, "if experimental subjects were . . . infected" is in the subjunctive. We have to match this in the second clause. The present "they are" or "they become" are out. The past tense "they became" is a little closer, but the only one that is correct, also in the subjunctive, is "they would become."

Split #2: idiom

The correct idiom is "immune to," whereas "immune from" is 100% incorrect.

Because of both of these splits, the only possible answer is (E).

743) To attract the most talented workers, some companies are offering a wider range of benefits, letting employees pick those most important to them

- (A) benefits, letting employees pick those most important to them - **correct**
- (B) benefits, letting employees **pick the most important of them** to themselves - **Change in meaning**
- (C) benefits and letting employees pick **the most important** to themselves
- (D) benefits **and let** employees pick the most important to them
- (E) benefits **and let** employees pick those that are most important to themselves

745) Tides typically range from three to six feet, but while some places show no tides at all, some others, such as the Bay of Fundy, have tides of at least thirty feet and more.

- A. some others, such as the Bay of Fundy, have tides of at least thirty feet and more
- B. the others, such as the Bay of Fundy, that have tides of more than thirty feet
- C. others, such as the Bay of Fundy, have tides of more than thirty feet
- D. those at the Bay of Fundy, which has tides of more than thirty feet
- E. the ones at the Bay of Fundy have tides of at least thirty feet and more

First of all, notice that "**at least thirty feet and more**" is wildly redundant. We can say either "**at least thirty feet**" or "**thirty feet and more**," but we can't combine those two. Choice (A) & (E) are automatically out.

The most natural idiom here is "**while some do X, others do Y.**" The natural contrast of "**some**" is "**others.**" The constructions "**some others**" and "**the others**" are incorrect, so (A) & (B) are wrong.

Finally, notice that (D) & (E) change the meaning. The prompt contrasts most tides to another category with big tides, and this latter category includes the Bay of Fundy as an example. Both (D) & (E) make the mistake of comparing all other tides to just the Bay of Fundy specifically, as if that were the only spot on earth with gigantic tides. These are wrong.

The only possible answer is (C), the OA

750) Next month, state wildlife officials are scheduled to take over the job of increasing the wolf population in the federally designated recovery area, the number of which will however ultimately be dictated by the number of prey in the area.

- A. area, the number of which will however - **The adverb 'however', when interrupting a clause with the adverb however, use a comma before and after the adverb --, however,**
- B. area; the size of the population, however, will-- **correctly done in this choice.**
- C. area, however the number of wolves will -- **When you are writing a compound sentence, then use a semicolon before however- and a comma after --- area; however,**
- D. area; the number of which will, however, -- **the clause after the semi-colon is not an IC. The number of which is equal to which.**

E. area, when the size of the population will, however, --- When cannot be used to refer to a place

751) About 5 million acres in the United States have been invaded by leafy spurge, a herbaceous plant from Eurasia with milky sap that gives mouth sores to cattle, displacing grasses and other cattle food and rendering rangeland worthless.

(A) States have been invaded by leafy spurge, a herbaceous plant from Eurasia with milky sap that gives mouth sores to cattle, displacing grasses and other cattle food and rendering

(B) States have been invaded by leafy spurge, a herbaceous plant from Eurasia, with milky sap, that gives mouth sores to cattle and displaces grasses and other cattle food, rendering - correct

(C) States have been invaded by leafy spurge, a herbaceous plant from Eurasia having milky sap that gives mouth sores to cattle and displacing grasses and other cattle food, rendering

(D) States, having been invaded by leafy spurge, a herbaceous plant from Eurasia with milky sap that gives mouth sores to cattle, displaces grasses and other cattle food, and renders

(E) States, having been invaded by leafy spurge, a herbaceous plant from Eurasia that has milky sap giving mouth sores to cattle and displacing grasses and other cattle food, rendering

About 5 million acres in the United States have been invaded by leafy spurge, a herbaceous plant from Eurasia with milky sap that gives mouth sores to cattle, displacing grasses and other cattle food and rendering rangeland worthless.

(Blue = subject, Green = verb, Pink = comma + verb-ing modifiers)

Let's understand what the sentence intends to convey. The sentence states that in the US, some 5 million acres of land have been invaded leafy spurge. Describing the leafy spurge, the sentence states that it's a plant from Eurasia. It has milky sap that gives mouth sores to cattle. This leafy spurge displaces grasses and other cattle food and renders rangeland worthless.

However, the way this sentence is worded, it suggests that because leafy spurge gives mouth sores to cattle, it displaces grasses and other cattle food and has rendered rangeland worthless.

We get this illogical meaning from the sentence because of the incorrect usage of the comma + verb-ing modifiers* *displacing* and *rendering*.

The comma + verb-ing modifier must modify the preceding action logically and must also make sense with the doer of the modified action.

In this official sentence, the comma + verb-ing modifiers *displacing* and *rendering* illogically modifies the preceding action *gives* by presenting the result of this action. Grasses and other cattle food are not displaced and rangeland are not rendered worthless because leafy spurge gives mouth sores to cattle.

This is the reason why Choice A is incorrect.

From the context of the sentence, we can understand that because leafy spurge displaces grasses and other cattle food, rangeland are rendered useless. So we do have this logical cause-and-effect in the sentence that must be communicated in correct grammar.

Let's evaluate Choice B now:

About 5 million acres in the United States have been invaded by leafy spurge, a herbaceous plant from Eurasia, with milky sap, that gives mouth sores to cattle and displaces grasses and other cattle food, rendering rangeland worthless.

This choice correctly conveys the logical intended meaning. The comma + verb-ing modifier *displacing* has been turned to simple present tense verb *displaces*. The comma + verb-ing modifier *rendering* correctly modifies the preceding action *displaces*, presenting the result of this action. Because the leafy spurge displaces grasses and other cattle food, it renders rangeland worthless.

763) Positing an enormous volcanic explosion at the end of the Permian period would explain the presence of a buried crater, account for the presence of the element iridium (originating deep within the earth), and the presence of quartz having been shattered by high-impact shock waves.

A. **account for the presence** of the element iridium (originating deep within the earth), and the **presence** of quartz having been - Incorrect. Parallelism error.

B. **of the element iridium** (originating deep within the earth), and **of quartz** - Correct. would explain the presence of a buried crater, of the element iridium, and of quartz. - **correct**

C. the element iridium (originating deep within the earth), and explain the presence of quartz having been - Incorrect. would explain the presence of x, y and explain the presence of z **is not parallel again**.

D. the presence of the element iridium (originating deep within the earth), and explain the presence of quartz - Incorrect. **Parallelism error again**.

E. explain the element iridium (originating deep within the earth), and the presence of quartz - Incorrect. **Parallelism error**.

770) Although a number of excellent studies narrate the development of domestic technology and its impact on housewifery, these works do not discuss the contributions of the women employed by manufacturers and utility companies as product demonstrators and publicists, who initially promoted new and unfamiliar technology to female consumers

A. by manufacturers and utility companies as product demonstrators and publicists, - **correct use of 'as' to show a role being performed**.

B. to be product demonstrators and publicists by manufacturers and utility companies, - **here 'who' is wrongly referring to manufacturer and companies**

C. to demonstrate and publicize their products by manufacturers and utility companies - **same as B**

D. by manufacturers and utility companies to be demonstrators and publicists of their products - wrong- **employed to be is not the correct usage.**

E. by manufacturers and utility companies to demonstrate and publicize their products - **employed to should be employed as, as who cannot refer to products**

777) Before 1988, insurance companies in California were free to charge whatever rates the market would bear, needing no approval from regulators before raising rates.

A. needing no approval from regulators before raising
CORRECT

B. and it needed no approval by regulators before raising
"it" here is wrong since "insurance companies" is plural.

C. and needing no approval from regulators before they raised
"and needing" isn't parallel to "were"

D. with approval not needed by regulators before they raised
"they" here is ambiguous since it could refer "insurance companies" or "regulators"

Could you please explain the use of parallelism in option C? I am unable to understand the parallelism logic.

E. with no approval needed from regulators before the raising of
"the raising of" is wordy. "raising" is better

780) Unlike the automobile company, whose research was based on crashes involving sport utility vehicles, the research conducted by the insurance company took into account such factors as a driver's age, sex, and previous driving record.

- (A) company, whose research was based on
- (B) company, which researched
- (C) company, in its research of
- (D) company's research, having been based on
- (E) company's research on

Whereas A, B, and C can be dispensed with easily for using a faulty comparison, D has a problem of changing the meaning. Many a time, 'having been based' implies a causal connotation as if because the company's research had been based on some XYZ factors, the insurance company took up a different route. This is not the intention of the topic. Therefore E.

781) Gusty westerly winds will continue to usher in a seasonably cool air mass into the region, as a broad area of high pressure will build and bring fair and dry weather for several days.

- A. to usher in a seasonably cool air mass into the region, as a broad area of high pressure will build and
- B. ushering in a seasonably cool air mass into the region and a broad area of high pressure will build that
- C. to usher in a seasonably cool air mass to the region, a broad area of high pressure building, and
- D. ushering a seasonably cool air mass in the region, with a broad area of high pressure building and

E. to usher a seasonably cool air mass into the region while a broad area of high pressure builds, which will

This uses a quite idiosyncratic idiom, involving the verb "to usher." The literal use of this word is the action of the person called an "usher," the person in a theater or at a classical concern who escorts patrons to their seats. Metaphorically, it is used about anything that brings something into existence.

The basic idiom is:

I usher X in.

If I want to specify the region in which this X is introduced, I would say:

I usher X into A.

The "in . . . into" is redundant and wrong: choice (A) & (B) have this, and the "in . . . to" in (C) is far from ideal. Choices (D) & (E) get the idiom completely correct.

This is not a strict rule, but "continue" + [infinitive] sounds formal and sophisticated, whereas "continue" + [gerund] sounds casual and colloquial.

Choice (D) also makes a mistake with "with" + [noun] + [participle]. That's very subtle.

This leave (E), the OA.

782 . With the patience of its customers and with its network strained to the breaking point, the on-line service company announced a series of new initiatives trying to relieve the congestion that has led to at least four class-action lawsuits and thousands of complaints from frustrated customers.

- A. the patience of its customers and with its network strained to the breaking point, the on-line service company announced a series of new initiatives trying to relieve
- B. the patience of its customers and its network strained to the breaking point, the on-line service company announced a series of new initiatives that try to relieve
- C. its network and the patience of its customers strained to the breaking point, the on-line service company announced a series of new initiatives to try to relieve
- D. its network and with the patience of its customers strained to the breaking point, the on-line service company announced a series of initiatives to try relieving
- E. its network and its customers' patience strained to the breaking point, the on-line service company announced a series of new initiatives to try relieving

The verb "try" most naturally takes the infinitive; "try" + [gerund] sounds casual. Also, the infinitive of purpose sounds more natural than a participle or a "that" clause. Therefore, (C) seems like the best choice.

Also, notice that we don't have to repeat the word "with," so (A) & (D) are out.

The phrase "its customers' patience" in (E) is very awkward.

Rhetorically, when we have a preposition and then two elements, one long and one short, it often makes more sense to have the shorter one first so that we can see the relationship that both elements have to the preposition. Thus:

With its network and the patience of its customers = more preferable

With the patience of its customers and its network = less preferable

All of these work together to make (C) the best answer.

784) Most of the country's biggest daily newspapers had lower circulation in the six months from October 1995 through March 1996 than a similar period a year earlier.

- (A) a similar period
- (B) a similar period's
- (C) in a similar period - correct
- (D) that in a similar period
- (E) that of a similar period

The correct comparisons are as follows:

Structure 1:

Comparing "circulation" with "circulation" - The circulation in period X is more than the circulation in period Y. OR The circulation in period X is more than that in period Y.

Structure 2:

Comparing 2 periods - The circulation is more in period X than in period Y. In this case the use of "that" to replace "circulation" would be incorrect.

The subject sentence has the structure 2.

796) Among the Tsonga, a Bantu-speaking group of tribes in southeastern Africa, dance teams represent their own chief at the court of each other, providing entertainment in return for food, drink, and lodging.

- A) the court of each other, providing entertainment in return for
- (B) the court of another and provide entertainment in return for
- (C) the court of the other, so as to provide entertainment as a return on
- (D) each other's court, entertainment being provided in return for
- (E) another's court and provide entertainment as a return on

This was pretty tricky. B is the best answer.

C and E contain the unidiomatic "as a return on."

A and D contain "each other," which is awkward in this sentence. Why? Well, we don't know how many chiefs are involved here. When there are multiple entities, I believe it's better to use "one another." In either case, you would need to use "courts," though, instead of the singular "court." For instance, you would say, "Ginger and Mary Ann wore each other's hats" rather than "Ginger and Mary Ann wore each other's hat," because there would be at least two hats involved.

B uses "the court of another [chief]," making it clear that only 2 chiefs are being referred to, and is pretty straightforward.

799) While most of the earliest known ball courts in Mesoamerica date to 900–400 b.c., waterlogged latex balls found at El Manati and representations of ballplayers painted on ceramics found at San Lorenzo attest to the fact that the Mesoamerican ballgame was well established by the mid-thirteenth century b.c.

(A) waterlogged latex balls found at El Manati and representations of ballplayers painted on ceramics found at San Lorenzo attest

(B) waterlogged latex balls found at El Manati and the painting of representations of ballplayers on ceramics found at San Lorenzo attests

(C) waterlogged latex balls found at El Manati and ceramics painted with representations of ballplayers found at San Lorenzo attests

(D) the finding of waterlogged latex balls at El Manati and the painting of representations of ballplayers on ceramics found at San Lorenzo attests

(E) the finding of waterlogged latex balls at El Manati and of representations of ballplayers painted on ceramics at San Lorenzo attest

sentence is correct as is.

The two items of the list, waterlogged latex balls.... and representations of ballplayers.....

Attest(Plural verb)

In Option B,C and D, the singular verb 'attests' makes the answer choices incorrect.

The other option E, which uses plural verb has an imperfect list(items in the list are not grammatically parallel) and has awkward formation.