

Verbing - At the same time - Contemporaneous Action

- Edward studies at ISB, graduating with distinction.

Since the act of graduation didn't happen at the time of studying - this is not viable.

- Neurologist **have amassed a wealth of knowledge** over the past 25 years, now drawing conclusions about how the human brain grows.

Now drawing - Neurologist → Implying → Neurologists are now drawing conclusion at the same time as action of amassing knowledge took place in the past.

- Emily Dickinson's letters to B were written over a period X to Y, outnumbering her letters to anyone

"Emily Dickinson's letters to Susan Huntington Dickinson WERE WRITTEN over a period beginning a few years before Susan's marriage to Emily's brother and ending shortly before Emily's death in 1886, OUTNUMBERING her letters to anyone else."

Years must have massed between - "writing a letter to B" and "outnumbering letters to all other"

This is not contemporaneous action. Not viable.

- Arctic terns are true long distance migrants, nesting in coastal wetlands of northern Europe.

Implies that Arctic terns are "nesting" at the same time they are migrants - not viable

"Nesting in coastal wetlands of northern Europe, arctic terns are true long distant migrants."

This rule valid for "Verbing + Comma" - Action at the same time

- To cross gypsy moths with adult silkworms, **in attempting the development of a strong strain of silk-producing insects, a French scientist** in 1869 **imported the gypsy** moth into Massachusetts from Europe.

While attempting the development the french scientist imported the gypsy into Europe.

Both action of "attempting" and "importing" happened at the same time.

Clearly scientist would have imported before attempting - Not viable construction.

- By 1940, the pilot **Jacqueline Cochran held** seventeen official national and international speed records, **earning them at a time that** aviation was still so new for many of the planes she flew to be of dangerously experimental design.

“Earning” is not the action brought by verb - “held”

Implies - Jack held the record and that this action in turn brought her about “earning them”

- The **woolly adelgid retards** tree growth, **causing** needles to change color from deep green to grayish green and to drop

Action of “causing” is result of action of “retard” by woolly adelgid, and both happen at the same time. This is correct usage.

- The **city has proposed a number of water treatment and conservation project** at a **cost raising water bills** so high that even environmentalists are beginning to raise alarms.

Since the act are proposed - cost are raising doesn't make sense.

“whose cost will raise water bills so high that” - Future tense required

- Most of Portugal's 250,000 university **students** boycotted classes in a one-day strike to protest a law that requires **them to contribute \$330** a year toward the cost of higher education, previously **paying** \$7 per year.

Action of “to + verb” can also be associated with verbing

→ Require student to pay USD 330, while at the same time pay USD 7 per year

- Women are expected to be the majority of student entering law school this fall, a trend ultimately placing more women in leadership position in politics and business.
 - Women are expected to be the majority of student entering law school this fall, a trend ultimately placing
 - The majority of students entering law school this fall are expected to be women, a trend that will ultimately place
 - The majority of students entering law school this fall are expected to be women, which will ultimately place
 - It is expected that the majority of students entering law school this fall will be women, a trend ultimately placing
 - It is expected for the women to be the majority of students entering law school this fall, which will ultimately place

Here B and D are close. Two points to note: Majority of students could be used as plural.

Second in D: It **is expected** that the majority of students entering law school this fall will be women, a trend **ultimately placing**

Verb-ing phrase will take the tense of main clause. But both action are not happening at the same time. Second action “placing in leadership position” happens way into the future

Hence, B is better because of better display of sequence of tense.

It was only after Katharine Graham became publisher of The Washington Post in 1963 that it moved into the first rank of American newspapers, and it was under her command that the paper won high praise for its unrelenting reporting of the Watergate scandal.

- It was only after Katharine Graham became publisher of The Washington Post in 1963 that it moved into the first rank of American newspapers, and it was under her command that the paper won high praise for its unrelenting reporting of the Watergate scandal.
- It was only after Katharin Graham's becoming publisher of The Wasington Post in 1963 that it moved into the first rank of American newspaper, and under her command it **had won** high praise
- Katharine Graham became publisher of The Washington Post in 1963, and only after **that** did it move into the first rank of American newspapers, **having won high praise under her command**

(Won the award even before becoming first rank newspaper) - Nonsensical

- Moving into the first rank of American newspaper only after Katharine Graham became its publisher in 1963, The Washington Post, **winning high praise under** her command
- Moving into the first rank of American newspapers only after Katharine Graham's becoming its publisher in 1963, The Washington Post **won high praise** under her command

Moving into, The Washington Post high praise under her command

Action of “moving” and “won high” didn’t happen at the same time.

if that's the case, then that implies that "moving" is *contemporaneous* with the main clause. it isn't, though; the modifier takes place distinctly *before* the action of the main clause.

Noun + Verbing

So dogged were Frances Perkins’ investigations of the garment industry, so persistent **her lobbying** for wage and hour reform, that, Alfred E. Smith and Franklin D. Roosevelt recruited Perkins to work within the government, rather than as a social worker.

Here Verbing - Lobbying is action done by her.

Noun-Verbing and Noun-Verbed

Noun +Verbing - Active voice modifier. Noun is actual person/thing that actually does the action by verb.

Noun + Verbed - Passive voice modifier. Person/thing whom action is done

- Rules regulating(Correct) - rules regulated (not viable - rules can't regulate themselves)
- Rules intending(Incorrect) (Rules don't have intention) --Rules intended

Here verbing works adjective, so this phrase can't play the role of verb.

Noun Verbing and Noun Who Verb

- People talking about politics - People who are talking about the politics at the very moment. (Even if they haven't talked ever)
- People who talk about politics - People who regularly and habitually talk about politics.

"Despite the growing number of people who purchase plane tickets online, airline executives" - Permanent or habitual action

"growing number of people purchasing plane tickets online, airline executives" - Something happening during timeframe of sentence, but doesn't imply it's permanence.

Generally - Noun + Who +Verb better in GMAT

Common Noun + Verbed Error

Based on his experience in law school, John recommended that his friend take the GMAT instead of the LSAT.

→ *John cannot be based on anything, so this is incorrect*

On the basis of his high GMAT score, John has decided to apply to Harvard.

In the previous example, "based on" is a participial construction and must modify the noun that follows. Because this is a prepositional phrase, it can modify the verb and can be positioned at the beginning of the sentence.

Verbed - Reference Error

Originally developed for detecting air pollutants, a technique called proton-induced x-ray emission, which can quickly analyze the chemical elements in almost any substance without destroying it, is finding uses in medicine, archaeology, and criminology.

- Originally developed for detecting air pollutants, a technique called proton-induced x-ray emission, which can quickly analyze the chemical elements in almost any substance without destroying it,

As essential modifier "called proton.." has priority over non-essential "which..", and so placed closer to noun - technique

- Originally developed for detecting air pollutants, having the ability to analyze the chemical elements in almost any substance without destroying it, a technique called proton induced x-ray emission (M1, M2, Noun - Further “Having the ability” has no implication on a technique)
- A technique originally developed for detecting air pollutants, called proton-induced x-ray emission, which can quickly analyze the chemical elements in almost any substance without destroying it, (Called refers to nearest noun - air pollutants instead of “a technique originally developed”)
- A technique originally developed for detecting air pollutants, called proton-induced x-ray emission, which has the ability to analyze the chemical elements in almost any substance quickly and without destroying it, (Called refers to nearest noun - air pollutants instead of “a technique originally developed”)
- A technique that was originally developed for detecting air pollutants and has the ability to analyze the chemical elements in almost any substance quickly and without destroying the substance, called proton-induced x-ray emission (Called refers to nearest noun - substance instead of “a technique originally developed”)

Noun - Verbing Elimination because of not conveying associated action

- In 1852 Robert Angus Smith published a detailed report of the chemistry of rain in a large area around the city of Manchester, England, noting **the city air becoming increasingly acidic as** one would come closer to town (Phrase in red is modifier)

Conveyed meaning - ...published a report, noting the city air (implies- he was noting the air)

This is recurring error pattern - noun whose action is not conveyed properly.

- A study of food resources in the North Pacific between 1989 and 1996 revealed that creatures of the seabed were suffering from **dwindling** food supplies, possibly resulting from increasing sea surface temperatures during the same period.

Here dwindling is adjective. **Implied meaning** - Creatures of seabed were suffering from food supplies. You can suffer from madness but not food supplies.

“creatures of the **seabed that were suffering from food supplies** that were dwindling, possibly resulting from an increase in”

That clause is just a modifier. **Implied meaning** - Creatures of seabed were suffering from food supplies.

- Possible long-term consequences of the “greenhouse effect,” the gradual warming of the Earth’s climate, may include **polar ice caps that are melting** and **sea levels that are rising**.

What’s in red is modifier. Implies meaning consequence of action of “greenhouse effect” is polar ice caps and sea levels.

Intended meaning - melting of the polar ice caps and a rise in sea level

“may include melting the polar ice caps and a rising sea level” This again conveys similar meaning. But even has blatant parallelism error.

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

After neglecting modifiers → brain and neurons are example of neurogenesis (non sensical)

OA - “Recently documented examples of neurogenesis, the production of new brain cells, include brain growth in mice that are placed in a stimulating environment or an increase in neurons in canaries that”

Qualifying the noun to make meaning - illogical

Minivans, carrying as many as seven passengers, compared with most sport utility vehicles, cost less

Comparison is not between Minivans and Sports Utility Vehicles, but rather between “Minivans, carrying as many as seven passengers” and sports utility vehicles.

Preposition + Noun + Verbing

Already detailed out in notes.

While at the same time

It's not redundant.

“They denounce big government, saying government is doing too much and has become too powerful, while at the same time supporting many government programs.”

While verbing is verbless clause where subject and are omitted but implied.

“John ate while watching television.”

“Space shuttle astronauts retrieved an orbiting satellite while simultaneously avoiding.”

“Industrialization and modern methods have improved the standard of living while at the same time introducing some 100,000 pollutants.”

Nonsensical Action associated with doer (part -1)

- The city has **proposed a number of water treatment and conservation projects the cost of which raises water bills high enough** so that even environmentalists are beginning to raise alarms.

How can proposed plan raise the cost at the same time.

The **city has proposed a number of water treatment and conservation project at a cost raising water bills** so high that even environmentalists are beginning to raise alarms. Since the act are proposed - cost are raising doesn't make sense.

"whose cost will raise water bills so high that" - Future tense required

Nonsensical Action associated with doer (part -2)

Noun resulting in action is always wrong.

As the honeybee's stinger is heavily barbed, staying where it is inserted, this results in the act of stinging causing the bee to sustain a fatal injury.

- As the honeybee's stinger is heavily barbed, staying where it is inserted, **this** results in the act of stinging causing

Use of two reason phrases is redundant - **Asthis results in**

- As the heavily barbed stinger of the honeybee stays where it is inserted, with the result that the act of stinging causes

(As the heavily barbed..., with the ..) **After as you need complete clause, while what we have here is sentence fragment**

As [Jane is a doctor], [she could help the boy]

[Jane could help the boy], as [she is a doctor].

- **The honeybee's stinger**, heavily barbed and staying where it is inserted, **results in the** fact that the act of stinging causes

The Honeybee's stinger (Noun) ...**results in the facts** → **Stinger doesn't results in**

- The heavily barbed stinger of the honeybee stays where it is inserted, and results in the act of stinging causing

Heavily barbed stingerstays...and **results in the** → Stinger doesn't results in

- The honeybee's stinger is heavily barbed and stays where it is inserted, with the result that the act of stinging causes

"As a result", by itself, is very similar to "thus" or "therefore". → These are generally used to show the consequence

A new study suggests that the conversational pace of everyday life may be so brisk it hampers the ability of some children for distinguishing discrete sounds and words and, the result is, to make sense of speech.

- **it** hampers the ability of some children for distinguishing discrete sounds and words and, the result is, to make
- that it hampers the ability of some children to distinguish discrete sounds and words and, as a result, to make

Conversational pace of everyday life...hampers... and, **as a result**..to make (shows the consequence of previous clause) → Verbing could also be appropriate here

- that it hampers the ability of some children to distinguish discrete sounds and words and, the result of **this**, they are unable to make
- that it hampers the ability of some children to distinguish discrete sounds and words, and results in not making
- as to hamper the ability of some children for distinguishing discrete sounds and words, resulting in being unable to make

OA - B

Whereas heat transferred between the ocean and the atmosphere occurs more rapidly when the ocean is warmer than the air, it is slow when the ocean is colder.

- Whereas **heat transferred between the ocean and the atmosphere occurs** more rapidly when the ocean is warmer than the air, it is slow when the ocean is colder.

Heat (Modifier) occurs ...→ Heat cannot occur. Heat transfer can.

- Unlike the slow process of heat transfer between the ocean and the atmosphere when the ocean is colder than the air, heat transfers more rapidly when the ocean is warmer.
- The transfer of heat between the ocean and the atmosphere is slow when the ocean is colder than the air and more rapid when the ocean is warmer.
- **Transferring heat** between the ocean and the atmosphere **occurs** slowly when the ocean is colder than the air and more rapidly when it is warmer.

Transferring...occurs (Gerund can't occur)

- When the ocean is colder than the atmosphere, heat transferred between them occurs slowly, unlike the more rapid transfer occurring when the ocean is warmer

OA - C

As sources of electrical power, windmills now account for only about 2,500 megawatts nationwide, but production is almost expected to double by the end of the year, which would provide enough electricity for 1.3 million households.

- almost expected to double by the end of the year, **which** would provide

- almost expected **that it** will double by the end of the year, thus providing
- expected **that it** will almost double by the end of the year to provide
- expected almost to double by the end of the year and thus to provide

Here, thus represents the consequence of action, and also puts in parallel with “to phrase”

- expected almost to double by the end of the year, **which** would thus be providing

OA - D

Archaeological evidence shows that Viking ships were lighter, slimmer, faster, and **thus** probably more seaworthy than the heavier vessels used by the English at that time.

Again similar meaning

As exit polls are used to project the winners of an election, sometimes appearing before all the polling stations are closed, this results in their premature release influencing voters to change their ballot.

- As exit polls are used to project the winners of an election, sometimes appearing before all the polling stations are closed, this results in their premature release influencing
- Exit polls, used for projecting an election's winners and sometimes appearing before all the polling stations are closed, result in their premature release influencing
- Used to project the winners of an election, exit polls sometimes appear before all the polling stations are closed, with the result that their premature release influences
- Exit polls used to project an election's winners sometimes appear before all the polling stations are closed and result in their premature release influencing
- As exit polls used to project an election's winner sometimes appear before all the polling stations are closed, with the result that their premature release influences

OA - C

* With phrase cannot be used with subordinating conjugation As, Because etc. and there will be no independent clause in the sentence.

Wrong Modifier - Relative Clause

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

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

Composed of X only **when viewed up close**.

Appear to be - Appears

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

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

the use and placement of the words "when viewed up close, they are . . ." illogically suggests that the rings are composed of icy ringlets as a result of being viewed up close.

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

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

The placement of "if viewed up close" illogically suggests that the rings are composed of icy ringlets as a result of being viewed up close.

The original sentence introduces the main clause with "though viewed from a distance", which establishes the expectation of a contradiction that never materializes. For example,

"**Though sleepy, the child stayed awake**" is correct, **(Both statement contradictory)**

whereas "Though sleepy, the child may have eaten soup" is not. **(Both statement not contradictory)**

Error due to restrictive clause constraining the meaning

Yellow jackets number among the 900 or so species of the world's social wasps, wasps living in a highly cooperative and organized society where they consist almost entirely of females—the queen and her sterile female workers.

- wasps living in a highly cooperative and organized society **where** they consist almost entirely of **(The society is where wasp are composed of females, outside the society they might have males) - Nonsensical - Also, society is not a physical location.**

- wasps that live in a highly cooperative and organized society consisting almost entirely of
- **which** means they live in a highly cooperative and organized society, almost all
- **which** means that their society is highly cooperative, organized, and it is almost entirely
- living in a society that is highly cooperative, organized, and it consists of almost all (**Not parallel**)

OA - B

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

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

(Whereas the intended meaning is legislation forbids for next three years, the meaning conveyed here is “connection that link X and Y for next three years”) - **Wrong modifier placement**

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

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

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

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

OA-C

Rejection of parallelism based on subject and object of verb

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

D- **Correct Answer**

Rejection of parallelism based on Verbing different role

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

- by hiring more teachers and an increase in the amount of funding for textbooks and other supplies, others insist that doing this
- by hiring more teachers and increasing funding for textbooks and other supplies, others insist that doing so
- by a hiring of more teachers and increasing the amount of funding for textbooks and other supplies, other insist that doing so

(Hiring plays the role of noun. This whole is complex gerund a Verbing of Noun. “amount of funding” is one noun. So right hand side is participial phrase)

“The phrase “a hiring of more teachers” contains a word with an –ing ending, so it might seem as if “a hiring of more teachers” is a participial phrase like “increasing the amount of funding”. However, appearances are deceptive in this case. Notice that the word “hiring” is preceded by the article “a.” This article is a signal that the word “hiring” is being used as a noun, just as “hanging” is a noun in the sentence “I witnessed a hanging this morning.” So this answer choice fails to create parallelism: the noun phrase “a hiring of more teachers” is not parallel to the participial phrase “increasing the amount of funding for textbooks and other supplies.” Another problem with this answer choice is that “amount of funding” is wordy compared to “funding.” ”

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

Correct Answer B

Rejection of Parallelism because “that” plays different role

Based on records from ancient Athens, each year young Athenian women collaborated to weave a new woolen robe **that they used to dress a statue of the goddess Athena** and that this robe depicted scenes of a battle between Zeus, Athena's father, and giants

Ultimate Parallelism Question

Research has shown that when speaking, individuals who have been blind from birth and have thus never seen anyone gesture nonetheless make hand motions just as frequently and in the same way as sighted people do, and that they will gesture even when conversing with another blind person.

A) have thus never seen anyone gesture nonetheless make hand motions just as frequently and in the same way as sighted people do, and that

B) have thus never seen anyone gesture but nonetheless make hand motions just as frequently and in the same way that sighted people do, and (That - Missing, as frequently that)

C) have thus never seen anyone gesture, that they nonetheless make hand motions just as frequently and in the same way as sighted people do, and (That - Missing, double subject - individuals and they)

D) thus they have never seen anyone gesture, but nonetheless they make hand motions just as frequently and in the same way that sighted people do, and that (Sentence fragment because of but, as frequently that)

E) thus they have never seen anyone gesture nonetheless make hand motions just as frequently and in the same way that sighted people do, and (That - Missing, as frequently than)

Meaning;

Research has shown

that when speaking, individuals who have been blind from birth and have thus never seen anyone gesture nonetheless make hand motions just as frequently and in the same way as sighted people do, and

that they will gesture even when conversing with another blind person.

OA -A

Meaning change due to modifier

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

- being one of the most significant developments of the nineteenth century, had turned cotton cloth into an affordable commodity; it was costly before that
- having been one of the most significant developments of the nineteenth century, turned cotton cloth into an affordable commodity, costly previously
- one of the most significant developments of the nineteenth century, turned cotton cloth into an affordable, however costly previously, commodity

This choice interrupts the connection between the adjective "affordable" and the noun "commodity," making the sentence hard to follow. Also, the use of "however" changes the meaning: "however costly" implies that the cotton gin would have made cotton cloth affordable no matter how costly it was previously. In contrast, the original sentence only states that cotton cloth had previously been costly."

- one of the most significant developments of the nineteenth century, turned cotton cloth into an affordable commodity, whereas it had previously been costly
- being one of the most significant developments of the nineteenth century, turned cotton cloth from a previously costly commodity to an affordable one

Correct Answer - D

Having lived in Tahiti for several years, where life was slow and relaxed, it was difficult for Paul Gauguin to readjust to the hectic pace of Paris upon returning.

- Having lived in Tahiti for several years, where life was slow and relaxed, it was difficult for Paul Gauguin to readjust to the hectic pace of Paris upon returning.
- Having lived for several years in Tahiti, where life was slow and relaxed, it was difficult for Paul Gauguin to readjust to the hectic pace of Paris upon returning.
- Having lived in Tahiti for several years, where life was slow and relaxed, Paul Gauguin had difficulty readjusting to the hectic pace of Paris upon his return.
- Having lived for several years in Tahiti, where life was slow and relaxed, Paul Gauguin had difficulty readjusting to the hectic pace of Paris upon his return.
- Having lived for several years in Tahiti, where life was slow and relaxed, Paul Gauguin had difficulty readjusting upon returning to Paris because of the hectic pace.

D- Correct Answer

E- difficulty readjusting upon returning to Paris because of the hectic pace. (Seems he was returning because of hectic pace)

The success of the program to eradicate smallpox has stimulated experts to pursue what they had not previously considered possible -- better control, if not eradication, of the other infections such as measles and yaws.

- A. what they had not previously considered possible -- better control, if not eradication, of the other infections such as

"The other infections" - so talking about particular infection, then can't use such that.

*you should do **the** exercises in the book.*

--> it wouldn't make sense to have "such as" here, because the book will actually contain a specific group of exercises.

*you should do exercises **such as** those in the book.*

--> *this means that you can basically do [i]any* exercises of the same kind, regardless of whether they actually appear in the book. since this isn't a definite set of exercises, it wouldn't make sense to use "the" here.

Minor problem is "what they had not..." vs. "something they had not..." The "what" construction is awfully strong, suggesting that this was THE ONE THING they hadn't thought possible.

* As an analogy, compare the meanings of "I want to do what I love for a living" and "I want to do something I love for a living." The first suggests that the speaker has one particular field in mind; the second doesn't.

- B. what they had not previously considered a possibility -- better control, if not eradication, of such infections like
- C. something they had not previously considered possible -- better control, if not eradication, of such infections as
- D. something not considered a previous possibility -- better control and perhaps eradication, of other infections such as

"previous possibility" isn't unidiomatic; it just means something other than what you're actually trying to say.

namely, *previous possibility* would mean that it WAS a possibility in the past, but it isn't a possibility anymore. ("all the previous possibilities have vanished.")

not previously considered a possibility means that people once didn't know that it was a possibility, but now they *do* realize that it *is* (currently) a possibility"

- the possibility of what they had not previously considered possible -- better control and possibly eradication of infections like

If verbless clause - always check what's it is modifying

Compositional analysis of red wine, brandy, gin, malted beer and even whiskey reveals that certain types of alcoholic beverages contain phytochemicals and flavonoids that can be healthy, prevent the development of cancer, and protect organ tissue, **if consumed in moderation**

This answer choice is stylistically flawed and changes the meaning of the original sentence. It ends with a modifier: (If) consumed with moderation, but the placement of the modifier makes it ambiguous because it could grammatically refer to many nouns in the sentence: analysis, certain types of alcoholic beverages, phytochemicals and flavonoids, cancer, and organ tissue. However, the only noun that this modifier can logically modify is alcoholic beverages.

In addition, this answer choice changes the meaning of the original sentence by using the relative clause that can be healthy, etc. to modify phytochemicals and flavonoids, whereas the original sentence states that certain types of alcoholic beverage... can be healthy.

Although verbless clause - always check what's it modifying

Sunspots, vortices of gas associated with strong electromagnetic activity, are visible as dark spots on the surface of the Sun but, have never been sighted on the Sun's poles or equator.

- are visible as dark spots on the surface of the Sun but have never been sighted on
- are visible as dark spots that never have been sighted on the surface of the Sun
- appear on the surface of the Sun as dark spots **although never sighted at**
- appear as dark spots on the surface of the Sun, although never having been sighted at
- appear as dark spots on the Sun's surface, which have never been sighted on

In C, although never sighted (a verbless although clause) is NOT next to sunspots (the omitted subject).

D presents the same issue.

A verbless although clause must be NEXT TO THE OMITTED SUBJECT.

From the OG for Verbal:

Although eradicated in the United states, POLIO continues elsewhere.

Here, the verbless although clause is correctly placed next to the omitted subject (polio).

Implied meaning:

Although [it has been] eradicated in the United states, Polio continues elsewhere.

The words in brackets are omitted, but their presence is understood.

Noun Verbing Example - Sir Alec Jeffreys, pioneer of DNA fingerprinting, was the first geneticist to discover from a single DNA sample that it was possible to generate a distinct genetic profile for every individual.

- from a single DNA sample that it was possible to generate
- from a single DNA sample the possibility to generating
- the possibility of generating from a single sample of DNA

“Placing the phrase from a single sample of DNA before the phrase a distinct genetic profile is awkward and confusing, because it separates the gerund generating from its object a distinct genetic profile:

... generating [from a single sample of DNA] a distinct genetic profile ...”

- that it was possible, from a single DNA sample, to generate
- it being possible, from a single DNA sample, to generate

OA - D: Expletive usage of “it” stands for “to generate”

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.

- the short flights of the shuttle and earlier spacecraft, which carried sufficient power in fuel cells and batteries
- **the shuttle and earlier spacecraft (Noun), with sufficient enough power in fuel cells and batteries for their short flights (Comma +With Modifier)**

Without Comma+ With - This would have modified the previous noun (the shuttle..)

But Comma + with..--> This is adverbial modifier. So here will have to modify the following verb - “will have to generate”

This is ambiguity - whether it modifies the preceding noun or following clause. Generally modifier modifies previous clause.

So comma can create a huge difference when it comes to modifier - do note.

- the short flights of the shuttle and earlier spacecraft, which enabled them to carry sufficient enough power in fuel cells and batteries
- the shuttle and earlier spacecraft, which were capable of carrying sufficient power in fuel cells and batteries for their short flights
- the flights of the shuttle and earlier spacecraft, whose shortness allowed them to carry sufficient power in fuel cells and batteries

OA - D

Prepositional Adverbial Modifier Not Making Sense with Action

The prepositional phrase in preceding a clause modifies the action of following clause.

- The spectacular disintegration of a comet last year in full view of ground-and space-based telescopes provided new insights into how comets form and may thus force a rethinking of the role of comets in the delivery of organic compounds to the evolving earth.
 - The spectacular disintegration of a comet last year in full view of ground- and space-based telescopes provided new insights into how comets form and thus may force
 - The spectacular disintegration of a comet last year in full view of ground- and space-based telescopes, provided new insights into how comets form and thus possibly forcing

- When a comet's spectacular disintegration occurred in full view of ground- and space-based telescopes last year, it provided new insights into how comets form and thus possibly forcing
- Last year, in full view of ground- and space-based telescopes, a comet's spectacular disintegration provided new insights into how comets form and thus possibly forcing
- Last year, in full view of ground- and space-based telescopes, the spectacular disintegration of a comet has provided new insights into how comets form and may thus force

In D and E - prepositional modifier “in full view of ground and space based telescope” modifies the action of following clause “comet has provided” or “disintegration provided”

this is illogical; the only thing here that could reasonably have been in full view of telescopes is the disintegration itself.

“And” here is coordinating conjugation - requires full verb instead of “forcing”,

OA - A

- The government predicts that, for consumers and businesses that make a large number of long - distance calls, the Federal communication's recent telephone rate cuts will greatly reduce costs, though some consumer groups disagree with the government's estimates, suggesting they are too optimistic.
 - The government predicts that, for consumers and businesses that make a large number of long-distance calls, the Federal communication's recent telephone rate cuts will greatly reduce costs,
 - The government predicts that costs will be greatly reduced for consumers and businesses that make a large number of long-distance calls by the Federal Communication Commission's telephone rate cuts,
 - The government's prediction is, for consumers and businesses making a large number of long-distance calls, costs will be greatly reduced by the recent telephone rate cuts made by the Federal Communications Commission,
 - For consumers and businesses that make large number of long-distance calls, the government prediction that the Federal Communication's recent telephone rate cuts will greatly reduce costs,
 - For consumers and businesses making a large number of long-distance calls, the government predicts that the recent telephone rate cuts that the Federal Communications Commission has made will greatly reduce costs

B- the passive voice is indeed a problem, because it's unnecessary. (remember that the passive voice should only be employed when there's a fairly compelling reason to use it.) in choice b especially, there's also an unacceptably long distance between the passive-voice action (will be greatly reduced) and the agent of that action (by the ...).

C- one thing you should definitely notice in choice c is the wordiness of 'the government's prediction is'. constructions like that, which can easily be replaced by more compact forms ('the government predicts') with no change in meaning, are ALWAYS wrong. (also, you need the word 'that' after 'is'.)

**E - "for consumer and business making a large number of long distance call" the gov predicts >>
Implies gov is making prediction for the sake of consumer and business**

The prepositional phrase is a dangling modifier: one isn't quite sure exactly what it's supposed to modify. According to the strict rules followed by the GMAT, the phrase must modify the action of following clause "gov predicts"

Defense attorneys have occasionally argued that their clients' misconduct stemmed from a reaction to something ingested, **but in attributing criminal or delinquent behavior to some food allergy**, the perpetrators are in effect told that they are not responsible for their actions.

**(Here "but" is important, without which prepositional phrase will modify previous clause)
Sentence 1, M1, Sentence 2 → In General case, M1 will modify Sentence 1. (Initial Modifier is also an exception)**

- in attributing criminal or delinquent behavior to some food allergy
- if criminal or delinquent behavior is attributed to an allergy to some food
- in attributing behavior that is criminal or delinquent to an allergy to some food
- if some food allergy is attributed as the cause of criminal or delinquent behavior
- in attributing a food allergy as the cause of criminal or delinquent behavior

Here's the core: Defense attorneys have argued that misconduct stemmed (from X), but the perpetrators are told that they are not responsible (for Y).

[Subject Verb THAT Subject Verb], but [Subject Verb THAT Subject Verb].

There are several modifiers - the most important one is the long one in the middle - the one that is underlined: "in attributing criminal or delinquent behavior to some food allergy,"

Whenever you see an -ing modifier, ask the following question:

Who or what is performing the action of the -ing word?

A, C and E each say: *...in attributing..., the perpetrators...*

The *perpetrators* are not attributing. The intended meaning of the sentence is that *the defense attorneys* are attributing the behavior to a food allergy. Eliminate A, C, and E.

In D, *attributed as the cause* is not idiomatic. The correct idiom is *attribute X to Y*. Eliminate D.

Similar modelled SC

Feminist critics of "double-bind" theory as an explanation for the etiology of schizophrenia have charged that in attributing a psychopathology to the communication of contradictory messages

in the family setting, mothers receive an unwarranted portion of blame for their children's distress.

- in attributing a psychopathology to the communication of contradictory messages in the family setting **Dangling Modifier**
- in attributing the communication of contradictory messages in the family setting as the cause of a psychopathology
- if a psychopathology is attributed to the communication of contradictory messages in the family setting
- if the communication of contradictory messages in the family setting is attributed as a cause of a psychopathology (**Attributed as a cause of - redundant**) - **Attributed as: Unidiomatic too**
- in attributing the communication of contradictory messages within the family as a cause for a psychopathology

India, like Italy and China, has no single dominant cuisine: Indian food comprises many different styles of cooking, with each a product of their regional influences, from the fiery vegetarian dishes of the south to the Portuguese-influenced Goan cooking of the west, to the more familiar Mogul food of the north.

- with each a product of their
- with each as a product of its
- each products of **their**
- each a product of
- each **products** of

A and B → Indian food comprises ...with each a product of their regional influence

COMMA + WITH generally functions as an ADVERB modifying the preceding clause.

The result in B is that *each* seems to refer to FOOD, the subject of the verb being modified:

Indian food comprises...with each [FOOD] as a product of its regional influences...

Since the intended meaning of the sentence is that each STYLE OF COOKING is a product of regional influences, eliminate B.

Also, *AS a product* implies that each style of cooking is NOT actually a product of regional influences but only serves AS a product of these influences. Since the intended meaning of the sentence is that each style of cooking actually IS a product of regional influences, AS is incorrect -- another reason to eliminate B.

The first commercially successful drama to depict Black family life sympathetically and the first play by a Black woman to be produced on Broadway, it was Lorraine Hansberry's A Raisin in the Sun that won the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award in 1959, and was later made into both a film and a musical.

- it was Lorraine Hansberry's A Raisin in the Sun that won the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award in 1959, and was later made
- **in 1959** A Raisin in the Sun, by Lorraine Hansberry, won the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award and was later made

This prepositional modifier will modify the entire clause. So "New York Drama Critics' Circle Award and was later made" both action happened in 1959. This timeline is nonsensical for second action.

- Lorraine Hansberry won the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award for A Raisin in the Sun in 1959, and it was later made
- Lorraine Hansberry's A Raisin in the Sun won the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award in 1959 and was later made
- A Raisin in the Sun, by Lorraine Hansberry, won the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award in 1959, and later made it

OA - D

Note: **It's incorrect for initial modifier to modify preposition phrase. It has to be doer associated with the action.**

Turning away from literary realism to write romantic stories about the peasant life and landscape of northern Sweden, **in 1909 Selma Lagerlöf** was the novelist (**This is wrong. It has to be "Selma Lagerlof"**)

When a ton of wheat was being moved from Buffalo to New York City before the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825, it took three weeks and cost \$100, but when the canal was used, it took less than eight days and cost less than \$6.

- When a ton of wheat was being moved from Buffalo to New York City before the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825, it took three weeks and cost \$100, but when the canal was used, **it**
- Moving a ton of wheat from Buffalo to New York City before the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825, it took three weeks and cost \$100; using the canal, **it**
- Before the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825, moving a ton of wheat from Buffalo to New York City took three weeks and cost \$100; on the canal the move
- In 1825, **before opening the Erie Canal, to move a ton** of wheat took three weeks from Buffalo to New York City, which cost \$100; moving it on the canal

Verbing before clause should make sense with the subject → "To move a ton" led to opening the Erie Canal → Non Sensical

- To move a ton of wheat in 1825 from Buffalo to New York City took three weeks before the opening of the Erie Canal, costing \$100, but **in using the canal, the move**
- The move was using the canal → Non Sensical

Agent of Preposition + Verbing

The Chicago and Calumet Rivers originally flowed into the St. Lawrence by way of Lake Michigan, but having been redirected by constructing canals so that the water now empties into the Mississippi by way of the Illinois River.

- Rivers originally flowed into the St. Lawrence by way of Lake Michigan, but having been redirected by constructing
- **Rivers** had originally flowed into the St. Lawrence by way of Lake Michigan, but they have been redirected **by constructing**

Rivers are constructing canals.

Subject + Verb + Preposition + Verbing → **The agent of verbing is subject of preceding clause**

I am bored by performing jazz --> this means i get bored when i PLAY the music MYSELF.
I am bored by the performance of jazz --> i don't like to sit and listen to someone else play jazz.

*"Pioneered by scientists at Los Alamos National Laboratory, BEAM robots learn to walk through trial and error **by using brainlike circuits** instead of **by programming them**"*

first, the faulty parallelism implies that the robots themselves are programming things, because "by programming..." is grammatically, and therefore logically, parallel to "by using..."

- Rivers, which originally flowed into the St. Lawrence by way of Lake Michigan but have been redirected by the construction of
- Rivers, originally flowing into the St. Lawrence by way of Lake Michigan, but having been redirected by the construction of
- Rivers, originally flowing into the St. Lawrence by way of Lake Michigan, have been redirected through the construction of

OA - E

The nephew of Pliny the Elder wrote the only eyewitness account of the great eruption of Vesuvius in two letters to the historian Tacitus.

- The nephew of Pliny the Elder wrote the only eyewitness account of the great eruption of Vesuvius **in two letters to the historian Tacitus.** (this preposition should modify "wrote")

When a modifier ENDS a sentence, there typically are many preceding nouns and verbs. In E, in two letters is at some distance from wrote, with several interceding nouns (account, eruptions, Vesuvius).

Thus, it is far less clear what is being modified. Inserting a comma before in two letters would not clarify the situation.

- **To the historian Tacitus**, the nephew of Pliny the Elder wrote two letters, being the only eyewitness accounts of the great eruption of Vesuvius. **(Should modify letter)**
- The **only eyewitness account** is in two letters by the nephew of Pliny the Elder writing **to the historian Tacitus** an account of the great eruption of Vesuvius.
- Writing the only eyewitness account, **Pliny the Elder's nephew accounted for the great eruption** of Vesuvius in two letters to the historian Tacitus.
- In two letters to the historian Tacitus, the nephew of Pliny the Elder wrote the only eyewitness account of the great eruption of Vesuvius.

Modifier getting attached to second part of "and"- Meaning Change

Selma Lagerlöf was a novelist who turned away from literary realism to write romantic stories about the peasant life and landscape of northern Sweden, and in 1909 she became the **first woman** in addition to **the first Swedish writer winning nobel prize**.

→ **She became first woman. She became first swedish writer winning nobel prize.**

OA - A novelist who turned away from literary realism to write romantic stories about the peasant life and landscape of northern Sweden, Selma Lagerlöf became in 1909 the first woman and also the first Swedish writer to win

Whenever you see "X and Y verbing" --> Check the implication on only X without modifier.

Adverbial Preposition Modifier Creating Timeline Issue

The first commercially successful drama to depict Black family life sympathetically and the first play by a Black woman to be produced on Broadway, it was Lorraine Hansberry's A Raisin in the Sun that won the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award in 1959, and was later made into both a film and a musical

- **in 1959** A Raisin in the Sun, by Lorraine Hansberry, won the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award and was later made

This prepositional modifier will modify the entire clause. So “New York Drama Critics’ Circle Award and was later made” both action happened in 1959. This timeline is nonsensical for second action.

As a novelist, Selma Lagerlöf turned away from literary realism and wrote romantic stories about the peasant life and landscape of northern Sweden, **in 1909 becoming the first woman** and also **the first Swedish writer that won the nobel prize**

In 1909 - She became first women. Moreover, she became the first swedish writer.....

“In 20XX” modifies the timeline of complete sentence and acts as adverbial modifier. Be wary of the implications.

“As” is Must - Some idiomatic usage

Though margarine was introduced as a supposedly healthful alternative to butter, recent studies suggest it is as harmful or worse than butter.

- it is as harmful or worse than butter
- it is just as harmful or even worse than butter
- that it is as harmful as or worse than butter
- it is as harmful as if not worse than butter
- that it is as harmful if not worse than butter

The original sentence incorrectly omits "that" following the verb "suggest." Moreover, it contains the incomplete construction "as . . . or worse than" (missing the second "as").

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

(B) This choice incorrectly omits "that" following the verb "suggest" and it contains the unnecessary word "just." Moreover, it contains the incomplete construction "as . . . or even worse than" (missing the second "as").

(C) CORRECT. This choice correctly uses the word "that" to introduce a clause that follows the verb "suggest." Also, it contains the complete construction "as . . .as or worse than."

(D) This choice incorrectly omits "that" following the verb "suggest."

(E) This choice contains the incomplete construction "as . . . if not worse than" (missing the second "as").

Please note the idiomatic construction - “as good as or better than butter”

Some patients who do not respond to therapies for depression may simply have received inadequate treatment, having, for example, been prescribed a drug at a dosage too low to be effective or having been taken off a drug too soon.

- having, for example, been prescribed a drug at a dosage too low to be effective or having been

- having, for example, a drug prescription that was ineffective because the dosage **was** too low, or being
- **as**, for example, having too low of a dosage of a prescribed drug for it to be effective, or being

Example presented here are examples of “treatment”, while “as” (not such as) in construction **sentence + as+ noun** describe the significance of whatever was described in the sentence.

*The restaurant owner gave free meals to veterans on Veterans' Day, **as** a token of appreciation for their service to the country.*

Also meaning error - having too low of a dosage of prescribed drug → implies - patient might be taking less, not that prescription was loo

- when they **have**, for example, been prescribed too low a drug dosage to be effective, or **were**
- for example, when they have a drug prescription with a dosage too low to be effective, or been

OA - A

Tricky Pronoun Error

Before scientists learned how to make a synthetic growth hormone, removing it painstakingly in small amounts from the pituitary glands of human cadavers.

- Scientists learned how to make a synthetic growth hormone, removing it painstakingly
- scientists had learned about making a synthetic growth hormone, they had to remove it painstakingly
- scientist learned how to synthesize the growth hormone, it had to be painstakingly removed
- learning how to make a synthetic growth hormone, scientists had to remove it painstakingly
- Learning how to synthesize the growth hormone, it have to be painstakingly removed by scientists

Now all answer choices refer to “it”. “It” is something that can be found in pituitary gland, so it can’t be “growth hormone”. So all options with “synthetic growth ...” are wrong.

Second, scientist who learned are not same as the scientist used to remove from P gland.

C - passive is correct here. Removes the need of referring to doer in second part.

Double Object Error

i am hoping to HIT it --> "it" = object of "hit"

[i]...the **ball, which** i am hoping to HIT" --> "ball, which" = object of "hit"

[i]...the **ball, which** i am hoping to HIT **it**" --> nonsense; you can't have a double object.

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

The army of terracotta warriors is more than 2000 years old and took 7000 artisans to complete **it (Redundant)**

- The Near Earth Asteroid Rendezvous (NEAR) spacecraft will orbit the asteroid Eros for a year, slowly moving closer to the surface of the object to make ever more precise measurements that scientists hope will enable them to understand how the solar system formed some four billion years ago.
 - to make ever more precise measurements that scientists hope will enable them to
 - to make ever more and more precise measurements, which scientists are hoping to enable them
 - for making ever more precise measurements, and scientists hope that they will be able to
 - with the purpose of making more precise measurements than ever, and which scientists hope will enable them to
 - in order to make more precise measurements than it ever did, and scientists are hoping they will be able to

OA -A

B - **Measurements**, which scientists are hoping to enable **them**

Enable has two different object - "**measurement, which**" and "**them**".

As and Like - Nuances

- In Hungary, **like much of Europe**, **an overwhelming proportion** of female don't work.

Like always compares with subject of following clause, so comparison here is with "overwhelming proportion" rather than Hungary

- In comparing as is used rather than "like"

In the 14th century, AS in the preceding several centuries, many wars were fought between neighboring countries

Like Europe, in Hungary an overwhelming... (Wrong usage)

- Differentiate between noun phrases and prepositional phrase - "As" can only be used with prepositional phrase

As team in other sports, a crew of rowers has to work together in order to reach a good result.
(Wrong usage)

→ As teams in other sports are required to do, a crew of rowers has to work together in order to reach a good result.

Unlike using spices for cooking, in medicinal usage they are taken in large quantities in order to treat particular maladies.

- Unlike **using spices for cooking**, in medicinal usage **they** are taken (Not fair comparison)

"unlike x" sets up a contrast with the *subject* of the following clause. so, in this sentence, you have a contrast between *using...* (which follows "unlike") and *they* (from the following clause), which doesn't make sense.

in addition, in every official sentence i've ever seen with "unlike", the following subject comes immediately at the beginning of the clause, directly after the comma. so you've got another problem here, because there's a prepositional phrase in the way.

- Unlike **spices** that are used in cooking, in using spices for medicine, **they** are taken (In using should be followed by noun - person or company)

the left-hand part of the comparison is "spices that are used in cooking"; the right-hand part is "they" = "spices" *in general*.

for this comparison to work, you'd have to have "spices that are used in medicine" in there somewhere. you don't.

- Unlike cooking with spices, **taking spices for medicinal use** is done (**Not sensible**)
- In cooking, small quantities of spices are used, whereas in medicinal usage spices are taken
- In cooking, **the usage of spices is in small quantities**, whereas in medicinal usage they are taken

Choice e literally says that the **usage** of spices is 'in small quantities', which is not the proper message. this could mean that you don't use spices very often, but, when you do, you dump 14 kilos of allspice and 12 kilos of paprika in your pan.

the sentence needs to convey the message that the **spices** are the things of which quantities are small. choice d conveys this message well.

one could say that d isn't 100% parallel, but it's definitely more parallel than the other choices: **in cooking, (noun) is used** (*passive voice construction*); **in medicinal usage, (noun) are taken** (*passive voice construction*).

- Instead of invading the Italian peninsula by sea, like all previous aggressors, Hannibal travelled over the Alps to invade by land from the north.

Since we are talk about an action, we cannot use "like" --- we have to use "as" and a verb = "as all previous aggressors had done."

Rather than invade the Italian peninsula by sea, as all previous aggressors had done, Hannibal travelled over the Alps to invade

Tense

Christine Collins **had not been** a popular American cultural figure **until the release of the 2008** film Changeling, which tells a story that is both shocking and captivating even today.

This specific point in the past (until the release...2008), and therefore should be in the **Past Perfect** tense.

Even today is a time expression that is equivalent to still, today, or to this day. It does not mean until this day. Therefore, it indicates the **Present Simple** or **Present Progressive** tense.

Sequence of tense - Reported Speech

In addition to the great benefits mankind has enjoyed since the discovery of certain technologies, many atrocities **would have been prevented** had the scientists who made the discoveries had the wisdom to discard such power.

The conditional in this question begins with the result part (many atrocities would have been prevented) and continues with the condition part (had the scientists... power).

The result part is not underlined, so it must be correct. It is in Future Past Perfect (would have been), which indicates Conditional 3. Therefore, the condition part must also be consistent with Conditional 3, that is, must be in Past Perfect, as is the case in this answer choice (had had).

In Conditional 3 sentences, if may be omitted, in which case the condition part begins with the word had

Though trained in Sweden, the renowned doctor has spent most of her life in Africa, grew up in Kenya as the eldest of a missionary couple's six children, attended prep school in Namibia, and after college and medical school in Sweden, did graduate work in the Congo and Zimbabwe.

- grew up in Kenya as the eldest of a missionary couple's six children, attended prep school in Namibia, and after college and medical school in Sweden, did (**Verbed talks of past + refers to closest noun**)
- has grown up in Kenya as the eldest of a missionary couple's six children, has attended prep school in Namibia, and after college and medical school in Sweden, did

- having grown up in Kenya as the eldest of a missionary couple's six children, attended prep school in Namibia, and after college and medical school in Sweden, having done
- growing up in Kenya as the eldest of a missionary couple's six children, attending prep school in Namibia, and, after college and medical school in Sweden, doing
- growing up in Kenya as the eldest of a missionary couple's six children, attending prep school in Namibia, and, after college and medical school in Sweden, she did

OA - D

Though trained in Sweden, the renowned doctor **has spent most** of her life in Africa, **growing** up in Kenya as the eldest of a missionary couple's six children, **attending** prep school in Namibia, and, after college and medical school in Sweden, **doing graduate** work in the Congo and Zimbabwe.

Here we want to talk about contemptuous action. How she spent most of her life in Africa - growing..., attending... and doing...

The federal rules aimed at protecting human subjects of medical experiments were established to ensure that patients must be warned of potential risks and an independent panel would evaluate the experiment before it was conducted.

- must be warned of potential risks and an independent panel would
- must be warned of potential risks and that an independent panel
- are warned about potential risks and that an independent panel

First - present tense while, second is subjunctive → not parallel

- will be warned about potential risks and an independent panel would
- would be warned of potential risks and that an independent panel would

OA - E

A 1972 agreement between Canada and the United States reduced the amount of phosphates that municipalities had been allowed to dump into the Great Lakes.

(A) reduced the amount of phosphates that municipalities **had been allowed** to dump

You cannot retrospectively reduce the amount that had been allowed to dump

→ In 2010, I decided to reduce the number of calories that I had eaten. (prior to 2010??? How can I retroactively do this?)

→ In 2010, I decided to reduce the number of calories that I ate. (from that point forward)

(B) reduced the phosphate amount that municipalities **had been dumping**

(C) **reduces** the phosphate amount municipalities have been allowed to dump

(D) reduced the amount of phosphates that municipalities are allowed to dump

(E) **reduces** the amount of phosphates allowed for dumping by municipalities

OA - D

Recurring Error Patterns in Comparisons

In 2006, over 30 percent of Nepal's GDP came from agriculture, while in India it was merely 17 percent.

- while in India it was merely 17 percent **(17% of what? - Nepal's GDP)**
- compared with India's agriculture, which was merely 17 percent **(17% of what? - Nepal's GDP)**
- whereas agriculture accounted for a mere 17 percent in India **(17% of what in India? - Nepal's GDP)**
- compared with India, where it was a mere 17 percent
- whereas merely 17 percent of India's GDP came from agriculture

In Reported Speech, when the reporting verb is in the Past tense (announced), the following conjugated verbs should also be in the Past (would take).

“The government spokesman **announced** that the reforms **would take** place in the following months”

Comparison - Weight

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

- more as a substitute for four quarters rather than for the dollar bill because **its weight, only 8.1 grams, is far less than (“It's weight” is compared to “four quarters” - wrong comparison)**
- more as a substitute for four quarters than the dollar bill because **it** weighs only 8.1 grams, far less than (“dollar bill (it)” is compared to four quarters)
- as a substitute for four quarters more than for the dollar bill because it weighs only 8.1 grams, far less than **(“dollar bill (it)” is compared to four quarters)**
- 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 **(Weight and lighter - redundant)**
- 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 **(It refers to “weight, only 8.1 gram”)**

Adverb-verb switch: Eye to details

While German engineering undeniably maintains one of the highest standards in the world, Italian design is renowned for its creative insight as it inspires the imagination of designers in a wide range of manufacturing industries throughout the world.

- undeniably maintains one of the highest standards in the world, Italian design is renowned for its creative insight as it inspires the imagination of designers in a wide range of manufacturing industries throughout the world
- maintains undeniable one of the highest standards in the world, Italian design is renowned for its creative insight as throughout the world it inspires the imagination of designers in a wide range of manufacturing industries
- undeniably maintains one of the highest standards in the world, Italian design is renowned for its creative insight as the imaginations of designers in a wide range of manufacturing industries throughout the world are being inspired by it
- undeniably maintains one of the highest standards in the world, Italian design is renowned for its creativity insight as it inspires the imagination of designers in a wide range of manufacturing industries throughout the world
- undeniably maintains one of the highest standards in the world, Italian design is renowned for its creative insight as it inspires the imagination of designers in a widely range of manufacturing industries throughout the world

OA - A

Highlight for solution All based on switch between undeniably and undeniable & widely & wide

Always note the change in placement of “wordly”

Performing a risky maneuver that required precision flying, not only did space shuttle astronauts retrieve an orbiting satellite, it was done simultaneously while avoiding being rear-ended by a passing ultraviolet telescope.

- not only did space shuttle astronauts retrieve an orbiting satellite, it was done simultaneously while avoiding
- not only was an orbiting satellite retrieved by space shuttle astronauts, but they also simultaneously avoided
- an orbiting satellite was retrieved by space shuttle astronauts who also avoided **simultaneously**
- space shuttle astronauts retrieved an orbiting satellite, **simultaneously** while avoiding
- space shuttle astronauts retrieved an orbiting satellite and **simultaneously** avoided

OA -E

Good Meaning Question

The new mayor is certainly more progressive than her predecessor, but she is not nearly as efficient.

- but she is not nearly as efficient
- but she, however, is not nearly as efficient
- but she is nearly not as efficient

- even though she is not nearly as efficient
- despite being not as efficient

A - Nearly is modifying efficient - that's correct

B - However is an issue

C - nearly not

But: introduces an independence clause.

Though: introduces a dependent clause.

Despite: introduces a contrasting phrase.

As being progress has no bearing on being efficient - use of even though and despite is not warranted

OA - A

“And” vs “as well as”

First of all, "X and Y" is parallel structure, and both elements are regarded equally. In the construction "X as well as Y," X is the main focus and Y is an afterthought, of secondary importance: they are definitely not presented rhetorically as equals. This second structure is NOT parallelism.

Similarly, we would have "X and Y do P," plural verb, because "and" makes a plural subject even if X and Y are singular. That's called a compound subject. By contrast, we would have "X as well as Y does P," singular verb, because "as well as" creates what is called an additive phrase, a noun modifier that is not considered part of the subject. See:

[Compound Subjects & Additive Phrases](#)

We could join more than two with either, but again, several element joined by "and" are all of equal rank, equal importance. If I join some element by "and" and other by "as well as," this is a rhetorical caste system, with the elements after "as well as" of lesser importance.

Joyce, Pynchon, and Vonnegut are important novelists of the 20th century.

That sentence presents the three authors as equally important.

The bookstore sells novels by Hemingway and Fitzgerald, as well as by Erich Segal and Mickey Spillane.

There is a subtle hint of judgment in that sentence: the works of Hemingway and Fitzgerald are put on a slightly higher level than the works of Erich Segal and Mickey Spillane.

“As well as” is not strict parallelism marker

The ecosystems of barrier islands are extremely vulnerable-whether from natural processes like shoreline recession, rising sea levels, and destructive hurricanes, or the ever-increasing pressures of development.

- whether from natural processes like shoreline recession, rising sea levels, and destructive hurricanes, or
- whether from natural processes such as shoreline recession, rising sea levels, and destructive hurricanes, or also

- to processes that are natural like shoreline recession, rising sea levels, and destructive hurricanes, and also
- to processes that are natural ones like shoreline recession, rising sea levels, and destructive hurricanes, as well as to
- to natural processes such as shoreline recession, rising sea levels, and destructive hurricanes, as well as to

OA - E

The ecosystems of barrier islands are extremely vulnerable to natural processes such as shoreline recession, rising sea levels, and destructive hurricanes, as well as to the ever-increasing pressures of development.

Trickiest Parallelism

In Rembrandt's The Night Watch, in the second plane of the pictorial composition, to the left of but behind the two military leaders of the company, stands a little girl, illuminated by a bright shaft of light, and suspended from her dress is a dead chicken.

- to the left of but behind the two military leaders of the company, stands a little girl, illuminated by a bright shaft of light, and suspended from her dress is a dead chicken
- behind the two military leaders of the company, but standing to their left, a bright shaft of light illuminates a little girl, and suspended from her dress is a dead chicken
- behind the two military leaders of the company but to their left, stands a brightly illuminated little girl and a dead chicken, suspended from her dress
- behind and left to the company's two military leaders, a bright shaft of light illuminates a standing little girl, and her dress has a dead chicken suspended from it
- to the left of the company's two military leaders but behind them, and illuminated by a bright shaft of light, stands a little girl with a dead chicken suspended from her dress

OA - A The first part of the underlined section to the left of but behind the two military leaders of the company contains a prepositional phrase built of the two parallel items to the left of but behind (A but B). These describe the position or location of the little girl within the pictorial composition.

The second part of the underlined section stands a little girl, illuminated by a bright shaft of light and suspended from her dress is a dead chicken contains two parallel clauses connected by and. The subject of the first clause is a little girl and the matching verb is stands. The subject of the second clause is a dead chicken and the matching verb is is suspended. The phrase illuminated by a bright shaft of light is a modifier, which is correctly placed directly after the noun it modifies: a little girl.

C- In the corrected sentence the singular verb stands does not agree with the plural subject a brightly illuminated little girl and a dead chicken.

The corrected sentence is also illogical because the act of standing is associated with the chicken, which, alas, it cannot very well do, being dead and suspended from the girl's dress.

E - The corrected sentence begins with a list of prepositional phrases In Rembrandt's,...in the second plane..., but the third item in the list, following and is a verb: illuminated.

“Not X But Y” and “X But Y”

Paleontologist Stephen Jay Gould has argued that many biological traits are not the products of natural selection, favored due to their enhancement of reproduction or survival, but that they are simply random by-products of other evolutionary developments.

- **due to** their enhancement of reproduction or survival, but that they are
- **due to** the reproduction or survival they enhance, but they are
- because they enhance reproduction or survival, but
- because they enhance reproduction or survival, but are
- because of enhancing reproduction or survival, but are

“Because of enhancing reproduction” not preferred to verb construction → “because of enhancing reproduction or survival” is NOT grammatically wrong, but it has problem in meaning. Who enhance?

Paleontologist Stephen Jay Gould has argued that many biological traits **are not the products of natural selection**, [*favored because they enhance reproduction or survival,*] **but are simply random by-products of other evolutionary developments.**

• “not X but Y”:

this construction implies that **X is what's "normal" or "expected"**, and that Y is what's **actually true**.

e.g.

*I was surprised to learn that Ella was **not** Clint's biological daughter **but** in fact his adopted daughter, since her facial features so closely resemble his.*

(here, since the girl looks so much like her dad, we EXPECT to find out that she's his biological daughter.)

• “X but Y”:

this just implies a **contrast, but NOT any expectation**.

(in THIS PARTICULAR sentence—as already explained in this thread—the “X” part includes the word “not”.)

e.g.,

*I am not a mechanic, **but** can perform basic maintenance on non-hybrid cars.*

In C, the meaning is not crystal clear:

...products of natural selection, favored...but simply random...

The construction above could imply -- incorrectly -- that both favored and random modify products.

In D, the parallel structure are not...but are makes it crystal clear that random refers not to products but to traits:

...traits that are not the products of natural selection...but are simply random by-products of other evolutionary developments...

It must be clear what a modifier is modifying. Since D makes the meaning crystal clear, eliminate C and choose D.

—

this sentence DOES describe a contrast—these things aren't products of natural selection, BUT they ARE products of essentially random selection processes.

on the other hand, it DOES NOT describe any sort of situation with an "expected" or "predictable" result.

Subjunctive Mood

Require “to verb” - Advise, Allow, Forgive, Persuade, Want

Require Subjective - Demand, Dictate, Insist, Mandate, Propose, Request, Recommend, Stipulate, Suggest

Either “to verb” or “subjunctive” - Ask, Beg, Desire, Intend, Order, Prefer, Require, Urge

Recurring Error Pattern - Singular: Plural Switch

Whenever this happens, then analyze the non-underlined part for the clue

Simply because they are genetically engineered does not make it any more likely for plants to become **an invasive** according to a decade-long study published in the journal Nature.

(Plant need to be singular to match with “an invasive”)

- because they are genetically engineered does not make it any more likely for plants to
- because it is genetically engineered does not make a plant any more likely to
- being genetically engineered does not make it any more likely that plants will
- being genetically engineered does not make a plant any more likely to
- being genetically engineered does not make a plant any more likely that it will become

Recurring Error Pattern - “fact that”

- The fact of X doing Y → Wrong

The fact of some fraternal twins resembling each other greatly and others looking quite dissimilar highlights an interesting and often overlooked feature of fraternal-twin pairs, **namely they vary considerably**

→ **The fact of some fraternal twins resembling each other**

- The fact has doubled → wrong

“That twenty-one ceramic dog figurines were discovered during the excavating of a 1,000-year-old Hohokam village in Tempe, Arizona, has nearly doubled the number of these artifacts known to exist.”

→ **[That 21 ceramic.....] has nearly doubled → the fact that X has nearly doubled**

Recurring Error Pattern in comparison question

- Mixup of as and than

“that it is as harmful as or worse than butter” - This is correct

- Modifies screwing comparison -

“. minority graduates are nearly four times more likely than other graduates who plan on practicing” → Minority graduates are more likely than graduates [Modifier] → **But in what**

“Minivans, carrying as many as seven passengers, compared with most sport utility vehicles, cost less

Comparison is not between Minivans and Sports Utility Vehicles, but rather between “Minivans, carrying as many as seven passengers” and sports utility vehicles.

“more than three times as many independent institutions of higher education charge tuition and fees of under \$8,000 a year than those [that charge over \$16,000.]” → Bracketed phrase modifier, so no verb in right hand side

Point is be suspicious of modifiers in comparison problem

- Remember to match the preposition, verb and number.

Pronoun Antecedent Not Present - Specially for the case of countries

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.

- people in France consume fatty foods at a rate comparable to the United States, **their**
- It will refer to “people in France” - require that or those**
- people in France and the United States consume fatty foods at about the same rate, the
 - fatty foods are consumed by people in France at a comparable rate to the United States’s, their
 - the rate of fatty foods consumed in France and the United States is about the same, the
 - the rate of people consuming fatty foods is about the same in France and the United States, the

OA - B

In California today, Hispanics under the age of eighteen account for more than 43 percent, compared with a decade ago, when it was about 35 percent.

- In California today, Hispanics under the age of eighteen account for more than 43 percent, compared with a decade ago, when **it** was about 35 percent.

(No referent for it - “population of Hispanics” not present)

- Of the Californians under the age of eighteen, today more than 43 percent of them are Hispanic, compared with a decade ago, when it was about 35 percent.
- Today, more than 43 percent of Californians under the age of eighteen are Hispanic, compared with about 35 percent a decade ago.
- Today, compared to a decade ago, Californians who are Hispanics under the age of eighteen account for more than 43 percent, whereas it was about 35 percent.
- Today, Hispanics under the age of eighteen in California account for more than 43 percent, unlike a decade ago, when it was about 35 percent.

OA -C

Redundancy Error Types

- Explain...because
- Sufficient enough
- Reason ...because
- Possibly may
- Since..prompted
- Seems likely...may be
- Using two transition words - However, Yet, Although
- Then...subsequently
- **“Of the californians**, under the age of eighteen, today more than **43% of them** are hispanics, compared with decade ago”
- Lag behind by....less
- Then also later
- For...Reason
- Unlike...instead

“A recently published report indicates that the salaries of teachers continue to **lag far behind** other college-educated professionals, because they make an average of nearly \$8,000 a year **less** at the start of their careers and almost \$24,000 **less** a year by the time they reach the age of 50.”

- In comparison to ... different

“were influential to generations of bluegrass artists, was also an inspiration to many musicians, that included Elvis Presley and Jerry Garcia, whose music was **different significantly** in **comparison to**”

Just to learn rules

- “Namely” must be followed by noun or noun phrase

“The fact of some fraternal twins resembling each other greatly and others looking quite dissimilar highlights an interesting and often overlooked feature of fraternal-twin pairs, **namely they vary considerably**” → “Namely that” will be preferred

I named my son John (Correct)

I names my son as John (Incorrect)

- To be “because of” is wrong

It seems likely that a number of astronomical phenomena, such as the formation of planetary nebulas, **are because of** the interaction between two stars that orbit each other.

today's delay is because of the rain --> incorrect

the train was delayed because of the rain --> ok

The only EXCEPTION of which i'm aware is the idiomatic form "IT IS because of X that Y VERB". for instance, *it is only because of luck that Jim survived the crash.*

- Enough that is wrong. Use “enough to” or “enough for”
- During recent times (wrong) During recent past (correct)
- Up Until --> Until (Correct)
- “Compared to” requires statistis in first half.
- Estimate X to have verbed → Estimate dear population to have grown to exceed (Wrong)

Estimate that X has verbed → Estimate that dear population has grown

Note: estimate has grown to exceed (also correct)

- “to investigate X” is better than “to investigate what X is”
- Comma + Resulting + from → Always wrong

“. orbits near Earth become littered more and more, often resulting from....” (**Wrong**)

- Remember inversion market - There and among (look for delayed subject)

There is a **car** in the backyard.

On earth, the surest indictaion of sunspot cyles **is** beleived to be **rate of tree growth.**

Awkward Meaning by moving “that”- Recurring Pattern

Human mortality statistics on natural deaths suggest the possibility that the normal human life span comprises an even number of days.

A. that the normal human life span comprises an even number of days

B. that an even number of days **may** be comprising the normal human life span

C. **of the normal human life span** to be comprised of an even number of days
“Possibility of normal human life span”

D. **of an even number of days** that may comprise the normal human life span

E. **of an even number of days** to comprise the normal human life span

D and E: *the possibility of an even number of days*

Conveyed meaning:

An even number of days are possible.

Not the intended meaning.

The intention is to express the possibility of the following GENERAL TRUTH:

that an even number of days comprises the normal life span.

Eliminate D and E.

“Despite the growing number of people who purchase plane tickets online, airline executives are convinced, just as one-third of bank customers still prefer human tellers to automatic teller machines, **that** many travelers would still use travel agents”

Implies → airline executives are convinced, just as one-third of bank customers still prefer human tellers to automatic teller machines

Intended meaning - “airline executives are convinced that, just as one-third of bank customers still prefer human tellers to automatic teller machines, many travelers will use travel agents”

One of the ...

- Twenty-two feet long and 10 feet in diameter, the AM-1 is **one of the many new satellites** that **are part** of a 15-year effort to subject the interactions of Earth’s atmosphere, ocean, and land surfaces to detailed scrutiny from space

Note - there is no “the” in one of the here

Iceland is one of the places that are most likely to benefit from global warming.

- **Not one of the potential investors** is expected to make an offer to buy First Interstate Bank until a merger agreement is signed that includes a provision for penalties if the deal were not to be concluded..

One of the ethnic group was disappointed with the facility. (Without “that” singular verb)

- This instructor is one of the MGMAT instructors who are really helping the students achieve their dream score. (as no the before “one”)

The presence or absence of the word *the*. that makes all the difference.

Remember, if you're going to consider a prepositional phrase disposable, then *the sentence WITHOUT the prepositional phrase has to make sense*. let's try that with the first one:

- Punjab is **the** only one of the 33 contiguous states that still **has** a sizeable wheat production.

punjab is the only one ... that still has a sizable wheat production.

ok, that works - perfectly logical, even if we eliminate the prepositional phrase. therefore, 'only one' is the subject of 'has'.

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

a higher interest rate is only one ... that keeps the housing market from spiraling out of control.

that doesn't make grammatical sense without *the* before 'only one'. therefore, we MUST consider all those words at the end to be part of the prepositional phrase starting with 'of the factors', so that 'factors' is the subject of the verb 'keep'.

- The effect of ocean white caps on global warming is **one of the many aspects** of the ocean environment **that are** not yet incorporated in any detail into the computer models used to predict how rising greenhouse gas concentrations could affect climate.

Rule: So the question is what noun to match with what verb:

- In a sentence in which you have a straight **"one of the noun verb," one is going to match with that verb.**
- In a sentence in which you have **"noun verb one of the noun THAT verb" the verb is going to go with the noun immediately preceding the word "that."** Unless there is **"the", in that case singular verb.**

Remember these example:

The proportion of filipinos living in milpitas has increased --> **it's the actual proportion that has increased (filipinos can't "increase")**

A large proportion of the filipinos in milpitas work in san jose --> **x**

Subject Verb Inversion

Out of a growing pride in the region's pre-automotive achievements have developed a committee for the preservation of Detroit's landmarks and artifacts that are creating monuments and museums across the city.

(A) have developed a committee for the preservation of Detroit's landmarks and artifacts that are creating

(B) has developed a committee for the preservation of Detroit's landmarks and artifacts that is creating

(C) has developed a committee for the preservation of Detroit's landmarks and artifacts that create

(D) have developed a committee for the preservation of Detroit's landmarks and artifacts that are creating

(E) have developed a committee for the preservation of Detroit's landmarks and artifacts that create

OA - B

“Out of a growing pride” leads with a preposition (“out of”) and therefore functions as a modifying phrase. It describes why the committee has developed. You could just as easily flip the sentence around:

A committee has developed out of a growing pride in the region’s pre-automotive achievements.... So the main subject in this sentence is “a committee.” This allows you to eliminate answer choices A, D, and E, as you cannot say “a committee have developed....”

For answer choices B and C, the only remaining decision point is between “create,” which is a plural verb in the present tense, and “is creating,” which is a singular verb in the present continuous tense.

To make that decision, you must decide what noun is commanding that verb and whether it is singular. The best way to answer that question is with simple logic.

What is doing the creating? The committee. Since committee is singular, the correct answer choice is B, which contains the proper “is creating.”

As vs when split

Birds known as honey guides exhibit a unique pattern of behavior: the bird leads another animal, such as a honey-badger or human, to a bees’ nest with their chattering when they fly ahead; after the larger animal takes honey, the bird eats the wasp and bee larvae.

- with their chattering when they fly
- with chattering and its flying
- by chattering as it flies
- by chattering and its flying
- by chattering as they are flying

OA -C

Bird leads by chattering as it when flies. (Correct - as two situations developed together)

- As I get older, I get more optimistic.
- As I was driving down the street, I saw Peter.

When - “at the time that”

- When I was young, there was no house there.
- Nobody spoke when she came in the room.

The steel industry has changed radically over the last two decades, **as** large, integrated companies, such as Bethlehem Steel, that once conducted operations from mining at one end of the process to shipping at the other have greatly downsized, or in some cases shut down altogether.

As with can be used together - “As with earlier movie, special effects of the latest movie is brilliant.”

Infinitive of Purpose

“Finally reaching a decision on an issue that has long been politically charged in the Pacific Northwest, politicians decided to postpone by at least five years an ambitious plan **for protecting** wild salmon and other endangered fish, and instead they proposed a series of smaller steps, intending to protect the fish. ”

to postpone the plan...to protect

Subject can't be in prepositional phrase

- Citing the recent increase in earnings by several computer companies, economists feel that there is a cycle beginning **for personal computer users**, especially corporate consumers, **are replacing** their PC's with more powerful models.

“Personal Computers” can't be subject of “are replacing”

OA - “Citing the recent increase in earnings by several computer companies, economists feel that a cycle has begun in which personal computer users, especially corporate consumers, are replacing their PC's with more powerful models.”

Same preposition in a row - Awkward

they really go out of their way to avoid repeated-word constructions such as X THAT Y THAT Z or X OF Y OF Z.

in fact, if you see one of these constructions, you can pretty much trust that it's wrong. they'll switch to lesser idioms, which they wouldn't normally use, in order to avoid these constructions.

here are a couple of examples (taken from official problems, so they are authentic):

* normally, you'd say "evidence that suggests...".

however, in order to avoid "evidence THAT suggests THAT...", one official problem contains the idiom "evidence TO suggest THAT..."

* normally, you'd say "it was said that..."

however, in this problem, you don't want "...so prevalent THAT it was said THAT..." so you can get around this by killing the second "that".

* if you see something like "extent OF the shift OF light...", you can be 99.9% sure that it's incorrect.

the normally preferred form would be "societies *in which*..."

BUT,

in this sentence, if you write that, then you have

"...IN societies IN which..."

...which is bad.

Use of “In That”

Thirteen states from all regions of the country announced a plan to impose new controls on pollution from truck and bus engines in that they will jointly adopt emission limits that would be far stricter than the federal rules.

- to impose new controls on pollution from truck and bus engines **in that** they will jointly adopt

“in that” is generally use to limit.

the function of 'in that' here is to say, 'hey reader, this is the *only* way in which i'm asserting that we are similar.'

that's not the purpose of the sentence in this problem.

as far as your question about meaning: context makes it clear that 'in that' is incorrect - the sentence is explaining *how* the states are going to accomplish the stated goal, not making a limiting statement - so it's ok to pick a different construction that encapsulates the idea better.

- to impose new controls on truck and bus engines' pollution by the joint adoption of

"the joint adoption..." doesn't sufficiently indicate who is going to adopt the new regulations.

in general, ACTION NOUNS (*adoption, destruction, etc.*) *don't* imply that the subject of the sentence is performing the action; they usually refer to the *general notion* of that action.

by contrast, -ING forms *do* usually imply that the subject of the sentence is the actor.

here are two simpler sentences to illustrate:

i want to learn about adopting dogs --> implies that i actually want to adopt dogs myself.

i want to learn about the adoption of dogs --> i want to learn about dog adoption in general, but there is no implication that i actually want to adopt any canines into my own home.

- to impose new controls on pollution from truck and bus engines by jointly adopting
- for imposing new controls on pollution from truck and bus engines, and jointly adopting
- for imposing new controls on truck and bus engine pollution in the joint adoption of

OA - C

Although - Rules

- if "(a)though xxxx" PRECEDES the sentence, then "xxxx" can be either a complete sentence or an adjective/modifier.

(A)though James has never been formally trained in medicine, he is able to identify a wide variety of maladies.

(A)though not formally trained in medicine, James is able to identify a wide variety of maladies.

- if "(a)though xxxx" INTERRUPTS the sentence, then "xxxx" should be only a modifier. in this case, "xxxx" should NOT be a complete sentence.

Paula, though exhausted, managed to stay awake through her son's entire piano recital.

Audrey just admitted, though inadvertently, how she really feels about her mother-in-law.

- if "although xxxx" FOLLOWS the sentence, then "xxxx" should be a complete sentence. in this case, "xxxx" should not be a modifier/adjective.

I wear swimsuits often, though never for actual swimming; I just lie out in the sun.

the basic meaning of "xxxx, although yyyy" / "although yyyy, xxxx" is...

"yyyy" is something *that makes "xxxx" seem unlikely* (or, at the very least, *less likely* than it would otherwise seem), but, nevertheless, "xxxx" is true.

the way those answer choices are written, they don't make literal sense:

Sunspots are visible as dark spots ..., (al)though ... never sighted at the Sun's poles or equator

--> this sentence doesn't fit the template above. i.e., the fact that sunspots have never been sighted at the sun's poles or equator doesn't reduce the likelihood that they appear as dark spots.

importantly, the main clause DOES NOT just say that the sunspots *appear on the surface* of the sun. that, by contrast, would actually make sense here.

the problem is that the main clause describes the specific physical appearance of the spots ("as dark spots"), and thus doesn't create a proper contrast anymore.

Australian embryologists have found evidence that suggests that the elephant is descended from an aquatic animal, and its trunk originally evolved as a kind of snorkel.

- that suggests that the elephant is descended from an aquatic animal, and its trunk originally evolved
- that has suggested the elephant descended from an aquatic animal, its trunk originally evolving
- suggesting that the elephant had descended from an aquatic animal with its trunk originally evolving
- to suggest that the elephant has descended from an aquatic animal and its trunk originally evolved (**has descended is wrong - it implies literal downward motion**)
- to suggest that the elephant is descended from an aquatic animal and that its trunk originally evolved

OA - E

if you have a comma before a coordinating conjunction - as in "X, and Y" - then X and Y MUST be parallel clauses.

with this in mind, let's turn to (a):

Australian embryologists have found evidence that suggests that the elephant is descended from an aquatic animal,

and

its trunk originally evolved as a kind of snorkel.

in other words, the embryologists have found evidence regarding the elephant's ancestry - but NOT about the trunk (this is just stated as a standalone fact).

if you remove the comma, then (a) becomes a viable answer.

Less, Lower, Greater, and More

If you are talking about increase in single statistics, you use greater.

→ The population of India is greater than it was 10 years ago

If you are counting things, and NOT referring to the “the number” or “the population” or any other single statistics, you use more - as an adjective or adverb

→ There are more Indians than there were 10 years ago.

Less - is used for something not countable

→ John has less ice cream than Mary has.

But word such as amount, sum, and total require an -er word.

→ John has a smaller amount of ice-cream than Mary has

Unit nouns are countable - one dollar, two dollar etc.

But the underlying quantity - money, volume → isn't countable | So you use “less” with unit nouns when you really want to indicate something about the underlying quantity.

Right → We have less than 20 dollars

Higher and lower (as well as high and low) should only be used as adjectives:

→ My bills are lower than they were last year (Right)

→ I spend lower than I did last year (wrong)

→ I spend less than I did last year (Right)

"Less" compares amounts or extents:

I am paid less for editing than for writing.

There is less wine in my glass than in yours.

I find smokers less attractive than non-smokers.

"Lower" compares two numbers or measurements:

I am paid at a lower rate for editing than for writing. (Here, we're comparing my rate of pay, as opposed to the amount of money I get.)

The level of wine in the bottle got steadily lower.
The number of smokers is lower than the number of non-smokers.

Subject Change Error

Note the error which is caused when subject is changes, as illogical action gets associated with the subject.

Neanderthals had a vocal tract that resembled those of the apes and so were probably without language, a shortcoming that may explain why they were supplanted by our own species.

- Neanderthals had a vocal tract that resembled **those** of the apes
- Neanderthals had a vocal tract resembling an ape's
- **The vocal tracts** of Neanderthals resembled an ape's (**Vocals tracts were not without language**) **Vocal tracts resembles....and so werewithout language**
- The **Neanderthal's** vocal tracts resembled the apes' (again illogical subject)
- The **vocal tracts** of the Neanderthals resembled those of the apes

Thirteen states from all regions of the country announced a plan to impose new controls on pollution from truck and bus engines in that they will jointly adopt emission limits that would be far stricter than the federal rules.

- to impose new controls on pollution from truck and bus engines in that **they** will jointly adopt
- to impose new controls on truck and bus engines' pollution by the **joint adoption of**
- to impose new controls on pollution from truck and bus engines by jointly adopting
- **for imposing** new controls on pollution from truck and bus engines, and jointly adopting
- **for imposing** new controls on truck and bus engine pollution in the joint adoption of

In general, ACTION NOUNS (*adoption, destruction, etc.*) don't imply that the subject of the sentence is performing the action; they usually refer to the *general notion* of that action.

by contrast, -ING forms *do* usually imply that the subject of the sentence is the actor.

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For Verbing and To Verbing

for + VERBing serves as an ADJECTIVE modifying the preceding noun.

to + VERB serves as an ADVERB modifying the preceding action.

To express WHY an ACTION is taken, we use a to-modifier rather than a for-modifier.

Incorrect: John drove to the store for buying milk.

Here, for buying milk seems to serves as an adjective describing the store.

What TYPE of store?

a STORE FOR BUYING MILK.

Not the intended meaning.

Correct: John DROVE to the store TO BUY milk.

WHY did John DRIVE to the store?

TO BUY milk.

John got acclaim **for writing** the book. (**acclaim what for - for writing the book**)

John wrote **the book** to share his experience. (**Purpose of writing the book**)

Warning that computers in the United States are not secure, the National Academy of Sciences has urged the nation to revamp computer security procedures, institute new emergency response teams, create a special nongovernment organization **to take charge or for taking charge** of computer security planning.

OA - To take charge

New genetic evidence - together with recent studies of elephants' skeletons, tusks, and other anatomical features - provides compelling support **for classifying or to classify** Africa's forest elephants and its savanna elephants as separate species.

OA - for classifying (support for what)

Concerns about public health led to the construction between 1876 and 1904 of three separate sewer systems **to serve or for serving** metropolitan Boston.

OA - To Serve

Two key things to remember:

- "for" is a preposition and therefore cannot have a true verb in its prepositional phrase
- Any modifier (including prepositional phrases) must refer to the right item. Consider your examples:

A **pen** is **for writing** ('for writing' tells us what a pen is used for)

I picked up the pen **for writing** a letter ('for writing a letter' is fine as a modifier, but it incorrectly modifies the word pen- I have five pens on my desk, but I picked up the one that I use for writing letters)

For + Verbing - Used for express function or reason

I need something **for storing** CDs.(function)

The PC is still the most popular tool **for developing** software systems. (function).

You should talk to Jane about it. You know, she's famous **for being** a good listener. (reason)

Clara was paid \$600 for working 20 hours of overtime.

i bought a new walking foot for working with leather.

--> indirect purpose. i.e., the purchase itself is not directly involved with leatherworking, although the two are indirectly (though rather closely) related.

Trick of the Non-underline

- Sometime pronoun similarity or plurality based on non-underlined part
- Some time tense of verb and modifier parallelism is based on non-underlined part

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.

- **their natural growth rate**, cutting their feed allotment
- **their natural growth rate**, their feed allotment cut
- **growing them naturally**, cutting their feed allotment
- they grow naturally, cutting their feed allotment
- they grow naturally, with their feed allotment **cut** (not parallel)

The deer, despite having traveled hundreds of miles to reach the Canadian wilderness and being free to roam without fear of highway traffic or other man-made dangers, has struggled to acclimate to the habitat that wildlife biologists had predicted would enable **them** to thrive. (Let the highlighted portion guide you) - **Extremely good trick for collective noun, which can be both singular and plural.**

- (A) despite having traveled hundreds of miles to reach the Canadian wilderness and being free to roam without fear of highway traffic or other man-made dangers, has struggled
- (B) in spite of having traveled hundreds of miles to reach the Canadian wilderness where it would be free to roam without fear of highway traffic or other man-made dangers, struggled
- (C) despite having traveled hundreds of miles to reach the Canadian wilderness that offered freedom to roam without fear of highway traffic or other man-made dangers, had struggled
- (D) after traveling hundreds of miles to reach the Canadian wilderness that offered freedom to roam without fear of highway traffic or other man-made dangers, struggles
- (E) which traveled hundreds of miles to reach the Canadian wilderness where they would be free to roam without fear of highway traffic or other man-made dangers, struggled

OA -E

Trick of the Non-underline - Switching Subject

Poet laureates once served as courtiers to the royal family, composing odes to preserve memories of significant occasions like coronations, but now **serve as ambassadors-at-large**, charged with bringing poetry to the masses. (Let the bolded portion determine the subject of sentence)

- Poet laureates once served as courtiers to the royal family, composing odes to preserve memories of significant occasions like
- Poet laureates once served as courtiers to the royal family, composing odes to preserve memories of such significant occasions as

- Royal family courtiers once served as poet laureates who composed odes to preserve memories of significant occasions such as
- Royal families once appointed poet laureates to serve as courtiers, composing odes to preserve memories of significant occasions such as
- Once royal families appointed poet laureates to serve as courtiers, composing odes to preserve memories of significant occasions like

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The first commercially successful drama to depict Black family life sympathetically and the first play by a Black woman to be produced on Broadway, it was Lorraine Hansberry's A Raisin in the Sun that won the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award in 1959, and was later made into both a film and a musical.

- it was Lorraine Hansberry's A Raisin in the Sun that won the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award in 1959, and was later made
- in 1959 A Raisin in the Sun, by Lorraine Hansberry, won the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award and was later made
- Lorraine Hansberry won the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award for A Raisin in the Sun in 1959, and it was later made
- Lorraine Hansberry's A Raisin in the Sun won the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award in 1959 and was later made (**Passive conveys the right meaning - as Movie didn't made itself**)
- **A Raisin in the Sun**, by Lorraine Hansberry, won the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award in 1959, and later **made it (Movie - A Raisin in the Sun made itself)**

General Error Type in Comparison Question

- Check the idiom associated with “less than”, “higher than”, as, compared etc.
- Compare the compared entities:
 - Use of That and those
 - Use of modifier
 - Lower and Higher cannot be used as adverb (I spend lower that I did last year - Wrong)
 - If comparison item along with prepositional phrase is before the verb then that or those is required
- Helping verb -
 - are paying**were** → **state (similar to “were rising”)**
 - pay.....**do** → **action (similar to “did rise”)**
- Usage of “they” and “it” → **Generally wrong, as they refer to exact same e.g. “Income of USA” rather than “income”**

It refers to the complete noun phrase.

for instance, the following is an improper sentence: *last year's attendance was ten thousand greater than it was this year*

in the above sentence, the pronoun 'it' must necessarily refer to *last year's attendance*, not just *attendance*.

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 as **it** was in 1990.

it → **more than 10 times as much energy**

- Words that cannot be dropped - Other and else
- “When compared to” is almost always wrong

Verb Form > Noun Form > Verbing Form

Marconi’s conception of the radio was as a substitute for the telephone, a tool for private conversation; instead, it is precisely the opposite, a tool for communicating with a large, public audience.

- Marconi’s **conception** of the radio was as a substitute for the telephone, a tool for private conversation; instead, it is **(Noun form)**
- Marconi **conceived** of the radio as a substitute for the telephone, a tool for private conversation, but **which** is **(Verb Form; Not parallel)**
- Marconi conceived of the radio as a tool for private conversation that could substitute for the telephone; instead, it has become **(verb form)**
- Marconi conceived of the radio to be a tool for private conversation, a substitute for the telephone, **which has** become
- Marconi conceived of the radio to be a substitute for the telephone, a tool for private conversation, **other than what** it is,

OA -C

Initial Modifier Needs an Independent Clause

In some types of pine tree, **since** the buds from which new growth proceeds are protected by a thick layer needle layer, consequently they can therefore withstand forest fires relatively well.

(Wrong)

In some types of pine tree, a thick layer of needles protects the buds from which new growth proceeds; consequently they are able to withstand forest fires relatively well. **(Right)**

Tricky use of Verbing for result of previous clause

The number of people flying first class on domestic flights rose sharply in 1990, doubling the increase of the previous year.

- doubling the increase of
- doubling **that** of the increase in
- double as much as the increase of
- twice as **many** as the increase in
- twice as **many** as the increase of

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“Double as much” and “twice as many” need statistics for comparison, but there is none. They modify the nearby noun - 1990.

“in this case, you can't use "..., twice as many as...", because that's an appositive modifier. appositives must modify some noun that comes IMMEDIATELY before the comma, which in this case would have to be whatever figure is twice whatever other figure. since no such figure is given, you can't use this construction. ”

“X times Y” → Can also be used as appositive

The number of people doubling the increase of the previous year.

Always Check These Stuff

- **Opening modifier:** Focus on meaning and subtle aspect, but don't ignore this basic check in all sentences. These are the few words you are reading in sentence, if error in this part can be identified it will save a lot of time.
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