

Until 1868 and Disraeli, Great Britain had no prime ministers not coming from landed family.

- A) Until 1868 and Disraeli, Great Britain had no prime ministers not coming
- B) Until 1868 and Disraeli, Great Britain had had no prime ministers who have not come
- C) Until Disraeli in 1868, there were no prime ministers in Great Britain who have not come
- D) It was not until 1868 that Great Britain had a prime minister - Disraeli - who did not come
- E) It was only in 1868 and Disraeli that Great Britain had one of its prime ministers not coming

<http://www.beatthemat.com/great-britain-t289192.html>

DAAGH: The point of this warped official question is to expound the use of double negatives. The core theme is that all PMs prior to Disraeli, who became the PM in 1868, came from landed gentry; Disraeli was the first one whose family did not own lands.

History aside, it is the dubious introductory remarks 'Until 1868 from Disraeli' that unseat A, B and C; it is not clear what the term 'from' stands for. It also may lead to an absurd meaning that all the PMs that GB had were from Disraeli.

We have to fall back on D and E now, but E is outright loser because of the murky structure

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

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

"Each Other" is used when the whole group performs an act mutually.

The attendants shook hands with each other..... "The attendants" is a group.

"Another" is used when an individual/individuals of the group is/are referred to.

The captain shook hands with another (captain)... "The captain" is an individual.

Here you would notice that an individual is referred to, not a group: "their chief" is an individual. Hence "another" is correct. The intended meaning is:

The dance teams represented their own chief in the court of another chief.

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.

- (A) 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
- (B) Dickinson were written over a period that begins a few years before Susan's marriage to Emily's brother and ended shortly before Emily's death in 1886, outnumber
- (C) Dickinson, written over a period beginning a few years before Susan's marriage to Emily's brother and that ends shortly before Emily's death in 1886 and outnumbering
- (D) Dickinson, which were written over a period beginning a few years before Susan's marriage to Emily's brother, ending shortly before Emily's death in 1886, and outnumbering

(E) Dickinson, which 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, outnumber

RON: your post here is sort of like the riddle of the sphinx: the answer is actually hidden inside your *own* writing.

let me show you: (the blue highlight is mine)

hmgmat wrote: Some people say that using a present participle phrase **to express the (direct/indirect) result of the preceding clause** is not allowed when the preceding clause is in a passive voice.

this is exactly the problem: the phrase in question, "outnumbering ...", is NOT, in any way whatsoever, a "(direct/indirect) result" of the time period over which the letters were written. these are two completely independent and unrelated observations about the letters, and so they can't be placed into the sort of construction that appears in choice (a). this is thus not a grammatical problem so much as a problem of clarity, but it's still a problem.

examples:

my brother, who ate bagel bites for breakfast every single day of his high school career, graduated in 1994. --> correct; his eating bagel bites had no impact on his graduation date.

my brother ate bagel bites for breakfast every single day of his high school career, graduating in 1994. --> incorrect; these are two unrelated observations, but this construction erroneously implies some sort of relationship.

At the end of 2001, motion picture industry representatives said that there were about a million copies of Hollywood movies available online and expected piracy to increase with high-speed Internet connections that become more widely available.

A) online and expected piracy to increase with high-speed Internet connections that become more widely available

B) online and expect the increase of piracy with the wider availability of high-speed Internet connections

C) online, and they expect more piracy to increase with the wider availability of high-speed Internet connections

D) online, and that they expected the increase of piracy as high-speed Internet connections would become more widely available

E) online, and that they expected piracy to increase as high-speed Internet connections became more widely available

richachampion wrote:

Why is Option E preferred over D?

An error in D that does not rely on idiomatic knowledge:

Generally, an *as*-clause must serve to modify an ACTION.

It cannot serve to modify a noun or noun phrase.

D: *the increase of piracy as high-speed Internet connections would become*

Here, the *as*-clause in red incorrectly serves to modify not an action but a NOUN phrase (*the increase of piracy*).

Eliminate D.

OA: *to increase as high-speed Internet connections became more widely available*

Here, the *as*-clause in green correctly serves to modify an action (*to increase*).

To refer to a percentage, we use *increase OF*: *an increase OF ten percent*

To refer to something becoming larger or more prevalent, we use *increase IN*:
an increase IN the crime rate

D: *they expected the increase of piracy*

Here, *increase OF* incorrectly serves to refer to *piracy* (something expected to become more prevalent).

Correct: *they expected an increase IN piracy.*

Eliminate D.

Mitch Hunt

[savantanc2k](#)

The correct usages are as follows:

Statement/ expectation in present: I expect that prices **will** increase as high-speed Internet **becomes** more available.

Statement/ expectation in past: I expected that prices **would** increase as high-speed Internet **became** more available.

The use of lie detectors is based on the assumption that lying produces emotional reactions in an individual that in turn, create unconscious physiological responses.

(A) that, in turn, create unconscious physiological responses

(B) that creates unconscious physiological responses in turn

(C) creating, in turn, unconscious physiological responses

(D) to create, in turn, physiological responses that are unconscious

(E) who creates unconscious physiological responses in turn

B: *an individual that...creates unconscious physiological responses*

C: *an individual creating...unconscious physiological responses*

E: *an individual who...creates unconscious physiological responses*

In each of these options, the modifier in red implies that AN INDIVIDUAL CREATES/IS CREATING unconscious physiological responses in himself.

This meaning is nonsensical.

An individual cannot create UNCONSCIOUS physiological responses in himself.

The physiological responses are deemed UNCONSCIOUS because an individual is UNAWARE of them.

The intended meaning is that EMOTIONAL REACTIONS CREATE unconscious physiological responses IN AN INDIVIDUAL.

Eliminate B, C and E.

D: *lying produces emotional reactions...to create unconscious physiological responses*

Here, the modifier in red implies that lying INTENDS *to create* unconscious physiological responses when it produces emotional reactions.

Not the intended meaning.

Lying cannot have an intent.

RBBmba@2014 wrote:

Mitch - in the OA, the immediate preceded NOUN of *that* here is *an individual*. So, how *that* CORRECTLY refers to *emotional reactions*, BUT NOT to *an individual*?

Can you please clarify?

The referent for *that* + PLURAL VERB must be a PLURAL NOUN.

In the OA, the referent for *that create* (*that* + PLURAL VERB) cannot be *individual* (singular).

As a result, it is clear that the intended referent for *that create* is *emotional reactions* (the nearest preceding plural noun).

Note:

As the OA illustrates, a *that*-modifier does NOT have to touch the noun that it serves to modify.

Quote:

P.S: It seems that the PLURAL Verb *CREATE* forces *that* to point to PLURAL Noun *emotional reactions* and as *that* can't modify any PERSON, hence it points to the head of the prepositional NOUN PHRASE - *emotional reactions*.

Correct.

To date, the GMAT has not used a *that*-modifier to refer to a PERSON -- another reason to conclude that the intended referent for *that-create* must be *emotional reactions* (the nearest preceding non-person noun).

RON: When you use the above, take care not to confuse "that" *at the beginning of a modifier* with "that" *as a pronoun in a comparison*.

Starting a modifier, "that" can describe either singular or plural things.

I have the phone that you left on the table.

I have the coins that you left on the table.

If it's a pronoun in a comparison, "that" can only be singular, and must be changed to "those" for plural.

The sales tax rate in Nevada is lower than that in California.

Residents of Seattle are, on average, taller than those of New York.

Rock samples taken from the remains of an asteroid about twice the size of the 6-mile-wide asteroid that eradicated the dinosaurs has been dated to be 3.47 billion years old and thus is evidence of the earliest known asteroid impact on Earth.

(A) has been dated to be 3.47 billion years old and thus is

(B) has been dated at 3.47 billion years old and thus

(C) have been dated to be 3.47 billion years old and thus are

(D) have been dated as being 3.47 billion years old and thus

(E) have been dated at 3.47 billion years old and thus are

The intricate structure of the compound insect eye, having hundreds of miniature eyes called ommatidia, help explain why scientists have assumed that it evolved independently of the vertebrate eye.

A: having hundreds of miniature eyes called ommatidia, help explain why scientists have assumed that it

B: having hundreds of miniature eyes that are called ommatidia, helps explain why scientists have assumed that they

C: with its hundreds of miniature eyes that are called ommatidia, helps explain scientists' assuming that they

D: with its hundreds of miniature eyes called ommatidia, help explain scientists' assuming that it

E: with its hundreds of miniature eyes called ommatidia, helps explain why scientists have assumed that it

Written early in the French Revolution, Mary Wollstonecraft's A Vindication of the Rights of Man (1790) and A Vindication of the Rights of Woman (1792) attributed Europe's social and political ills to be the result of the dominance of aristocratic values and patriarchal hereditary privilege.

- A) Mary Wollstonecraft's A Vindication of the Rights of Man (1790) and A Vindication of the Rights of Woman (1792) attributed Europe's social and political ills to be the result of
- B) Mary Wollstonecraft's A Vindication of the Rights of Man (1790) and A Vindication of the Rights of Woman (1792) attributed Europe's social and political ills to result from
- C) Mary Wollstonecraft's A Vindication of the Rights of Man (1790) and A Vindication of the Rights of Woman (1792) attributed Europe's social and political ills to
- D) in A Vindication of the Rights of Man (1790) and A Vindication of the Rights of Woman (1792), Mary Wollstonecraft attributed Europe's social and political ills to have been the result of
- E) Mary Wollstonecraft, in A Vindication of the Rights of Man (1790) and A Vindication of the Rights of Woman (1792), attributed Europe's social and political ills to

Digging in sediments in northern China, evidence has been gathered by scientists suggesting that complex life-forms emerged much earlier than they had previously thought.

- (A) evidence has been gathered by scientists suggesting that complex life-forms emerged much earlier than they had
- (B) evidence gathered by scientists suggests a much earlier emergence of complex life-forms than had been
- (C) scientists have gathered evidence suggesting that complex life-forms emerged much earlier than
- (D) scientists have gathered evidence that suggests a much earlier emergence of complex life-forms than that which was
- (E) scientists have gathered evidence which suggests a much earlier emergence of complex life-forms than that

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.

- A) a thick layer of needles protects the buds from which new growth proceeds; consequently they are able to withstand forest fires relatively well
- B) a thick needle layer protects buds from where new growth proceeds, so that they can withstand forest fires relatively well
- C) a thick layer of needles protect the buds from which new growth proceeds; thus, they are able to withstand relatively well any forest fires
- D) 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
- E) because the buds where new growth happens are protected by a thick layer of needles, they are able to withstand forest fires relatively easily as a result

OG 2017 New Question(Book Question: 739)

The results of the company's cost-cutting measures are evident in its profits, which increased five percent during the first three months of this year after it fell over the last two years.

- A. which increased five percent during the first three months of this year after it fell
- B. which had increased five percent during the first three months of this year after it had fallen
- C. which have increased five percent during the first three months of this year after falling

- D. with a five percent increase during the first three months of this year after falling
- E. with a five percent increase during the first three months of this year after having fallen

The stars, some of them at tremendous speeds, are in motion just as the planets are, yet being so far away

from Earth that their apparent positions in the sky do not change enough for their movement to be observed during a single human lifetime.

- (A) Same
- (B) Like the planets, the stars are in motion, some of them at tremendous speeds, but they are
- (C) Although like the planets the stars are in motion, some of them at tremendous speeds, yet
- (D) As the planets, the stars are in motion, some of them at tremendous speeds, but they are
- (E) The stars are in motion like the planets, some of which at tremendous speeds are in motion but

Beatrix Potter, in her book illustrations, carefully coordinating them with her narratives, capitalized on her keen observation and love of the natural world.

- (A) Beatrix Potter, in her book illustrations, carefully coordinating them with her narratives,
- (B) In her book illustrations, carefully coordinating them with her narratives, Beatrix Potter
- (C) In her book illustrations, which she carefully coordinated with her narratives, Beatrix Potter
- (D) Carefully coordinated with her narratives, Beatrix Potter, in her book illustrations
- (E) Beatrix Potter, in her book illustrations, carefully coordinated them with her narratives and

(D) This implies that Beatrix Potter herself, not her illustrations, was coordinated with the narratives. Nonsensical.

(E) We should be able to remove any nonessential prepositional phrase and still maintain the intended meaning of the sentence. Here, if we said "Beatrix Potter... carefully coordinated them..." we would have no idea what "them" is.

In the major cities of industrialized countries at the end of the 19th century. important public places such as theaters, restaurants, shops and banks had installed electric lighting, but electricity was in less than one percent of homes, where lighting was still provided mainly by candles or gas.

1. electricity was in less than one percent of homes, where lighting was still
2. electricity was in less than one percent of homes and lighting still
3. there were less than one percent of homes with electricity, where lighting was still being
4. there was less than one percent of homes that had electricity, having lighting that was still
5. less than one percent of homes had electricity, where lighting had still been

(C) is bad because of the 'there were' construction. That construction is used, generally, in one of two ways:

- (1) You're postulating the general existence of something: 'There are only two ways to solve this problem.'
- (2) You're pointing out what is in a particular location: 'There are four cars in the street.'

(D) is wrong because of the same reason as (C) and: - 'having' is used incorrectly. if you use a participle like this, you're introducing an *adverb modifier*, which modifies the *action* of the preceding clause. unfortunately, the main action word of the preceding clause is 'was' (from 'there was'), so the modifier doesn't make sense. even if you are generous enough to let the modifier modify 'had electricity', it still doesn't make sense (as the modifier doesn't give the way in which the houses had electricity)

Although appearing less appetizing than most of their round and red supermarket cousins, heirloom tomatoes, grown from seeds saved during the previous year- they are often green and striped, or have plenty of bumps and bruises-heirlooms are more flavorful and thus in increasing demand.

- (A) Although appearing less appetizing than most of their round and red supermarket cousins, heirloom tomatoes, grown from seeds saved during the previous year
(B) Although heirloom tomatoes, grown from seeds saved during the previous year, appear less appetizing than most of their round and red supermarket cousins
(C) Although they appear less appetizing than most of their round and red supermarket cousins, heirloom tomatoes, grown from seeds saved during the previous year
(D) Grown from seeds saved during the previous year, heirloom tomatoes appear less appetizing than most of their round and red supermarket cousins
(E) Heirloom tomatoes, grown from seeds saved during the previous year, although they appear less appetizing than most of their round and red supermarket cousins

Heavy commitment by an executive to a course of action, especially if it has worked well in the past, makes it likely to miss signs of incipient trouble or misinterpret them when they do appear.

- a) same
b) An executive who is heavily committed to a course of action, especially one that has worked well in past, makes missing signs of incipient trouble or misinterpreting ones likely when they do appear.
c) An executive who is heavily committed to a course of action is likely to miss or misinterpret sign of incipient trouble when they do appear, especially if it has worked well in past.
d) Executives' being heavily committed to a course of action, especially if it has worked well in past, makes them likely to miss signs of incipient trouble or misinterpreting them when they do appear.
e) Being heavily committed to a course of action, especially one that has worked well in past, is likely to make an executive miss signs of incipient trouble or misinterpret them when they do appear.

In A, *it* could refer to *commitment* or to *course of action*. Eliminate A.

In C, *it* lacks a clear antecedent. The nearest preceding singular noun is *trouble*, but the desired antecedent is *course of action*, which is placed too far from *it*. Eliminate C.

In D, *them* cannot be used to refer to *executives'*, which is not a noun but an adjective. Eliminate

D.

In B, *an executive...makes missing signs of incipient trouble...likely* does not convey the intended meaning. It is not the EXECUTIVE himself but the COMMITMENT TO A COURSE OF ACTION that is causing the problems discussed in this SC. Eliminate B.

Nidhi4mba wrote:

Mitch,

I have a doubt with answer E. "Being heavily committed" is a modifier & should be modifying the executives or an executive. But this is not the case with E. Can you please elaborate??

In E, *being* is not a modifier but a GERUND -- a verb functioning as a noun -- and is the subject of the verb *is*:

BEING heavily committed...IS likely to make an executive miss signs...

According to recent studies comparing the nutritional value of meat from wild animals and meat from domesticated animals, wild animals have less total fat than do livestock fed on grain and more of a kind of fat they think is good for cardiac health.

- A. wild animals have less total fat than do livestock fed on grain and more of a kind of fat they think is
- B. wild animals have less total fat than livestock fed on grain and more of a kind of fat thought to be
- C. wild animals have less total fat than that of livestock fed on grain and have more fat of a kind thought to be
- D. total fat of wild animals is less than livestock fed on grain and they have more fat of a kind thought to be
- E. total fat is less in wild animals than that of livestock fed on grain and more of their fat is of a kind they think is

Especially in the early years, new entrepreneurs may need to find resourceful ways, like renting temporary office space or using answering services, that make their company seem large and more firmly established than they may actually be.

- A) that make their company seem large
- B) to make their companies seem larger
- C) thus making their companies seem larger
- D) so that the companies seem larger
- E) of making their company seem large

In the early part of the twentieth century, many vacationers found that driving automobiles and sleeping in tents allowed them to enjoy nature close at hand and tour at their own pace, with none of the restrictions of passenger trains and railroad timetables or with the formalities, expenses, and impersonality of hotels.

- A. with none of the restrictions of passenger trains and railroad timetables or with the
- B. with none of the restrictions of passenger trains, railroad timetables, nor
- C. without the restrictions of passenger trains and railroad timetables nor

- D. without the restrictions of passenger trains and railroad timetables or with the
- E. without the restrictions of passenger trains and railroad timetables or the

Along the major rivers that traverse the deserts of northeast Africa, the Middle East, and northwest India, the combination of a reliable supply of water and good growing conditions both encouraged farming traditions that, in places, endure in at least 6,000 years.

- (A) good growing conditions both encouraged farming traditions that, in places, endure in
- (B) good growing conditions encouraged farming traditions that have, in places, endured for
- (c) of good growing conditions have encouraged farming traditions that, in places, endured for
- (D) of good growing conditions both encouraged farming traditions that have, in places, endured
- (E) of good growing conditions encouraged farming traditions that have, in places, been enduring for

Combining enormous physical strength with higher intelligence, the Neanderthals appear as equipped for facing any obstacle the environment could put in their path, but their relatively sudden disappearance during the Paleolithic era indicates that an inability to adapt to some environmental change led to their extinction.

- (A) appear as equipped for facing any obstacle the environment could put in their path,
- (B) appear to have been equipped to face any obstacle the environment could put in their path,
- (C) appear as equipped to face any obstacle the environment could put in their paths,
- (D) appeared as equipped to face any obstacle the environment could put in their paths,
- (E) appeared to have been equipped for facing any obstacle the environment could put in their path,

In no other historical sighting did Halley's comet cause such a worldwide sensation as did its return in 1910-1911.

- A. did its return in 1910-1911
- B. had its 1910-1911 return
- C. in its return of 1910-1911
- D. its return of 1910-1911 did
- E. its return in 1910-1911

Most efficient approach:

To make a parallel comparison, the sentence needs to say *in X as in Y*. Only answer choice C gives us this construction:

In no other historical sighting did Halley's Comet cause such a worldwide sensation as in its return of 1910-11.

RBBmba@2014 wrote:

Mitch - a [quick](#) clarification on option A.

I understand it's a wrong choice, just want to confirm the ERROR in A - it's INCORRECT because it compares *Comet* with *Comet's return*.

A: *In no other historical sighting did Halley's Comet cause such a worldwide sensation as did its[Comet's] return in 1910-1911.* Right ?

Your reasoning is correct.

It is illogical to compare what the COMET did to what ITS RETURN did.

Only LIKE things can be compared

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

- A) and she earned them at a time when aviation was still so new for many of the planes she flew to be
- B) earning them at a time that aviation was still so new for many of the planes she flew to be
- C) earning these at a time where aviation was still so new that many of the planes she flew were
- D) earned at a time in which aviation was still so new such that many of the planes she flew were
- E) earned at a time when aviation was still so new that many of the planes she flew were

The remarkable similarity of Thule artifacts throughout a vast region can, in part, be explained as a very rapid movement of people from one end of North America to the other.

- A. The remarkable similarity of Thule artifacts throughout a vast region can, in part, be explained as
- B. Thule artifacts being remarkably similar throughout a vast region, one explanation is
- C. That Thule artifacts are remarkably similar throughout a vast region is, in part, explainable as
- D. One explanation for the remarkable similarity of Thule artifacts throughout a vast region is that there was
- E. Throughout a vast region Thule artifacts are remarkably similar, with one explanation for this being

Construction of the Roman Colosseum, which was officially known as the Flavian Amphitheater, began in A.D. 69, during the reign of Vespasian, was completed a decade later, during the reign of Titus, who opened the Colosseum with a one-hundred-day cycle of religious pageants, gladiatorial games, and spectacles.

- A. which was officially known as the Flavian Amphitheater, began in A.D. 69, during the reign of Vespasian,
- B. officially known as the Flavian Amphitheater, begun in A.D. 69, during the reign of Vespasian, and
- C. which was officially known as the Flavian Amphitheater, began in A.D. 69, during the reign of Vespasian, and
- D. officially known as the Flavian Amphitheater and begun in A.D. 69, during the reign of Vespasian it
- E. officially known as the Flavian Amphitheater, which was begun in A.D. 69, during the reign of Vespasian, and

The Olympic Games helped to keep peace among the pugnacious states of the Greek world in that a sacred truce was proclaimed during the festival's month.

- (A) world in that a sacred truce was proclaimed during the festival's month
- (B) world, proclaiming a sacred truce during the festival's month
- (C) world when they proclaimed a sacred truce for the festival month
- (D) world, for a sacred truce was proclaimed during the month of the festival
- (E) world by proclamation of a sacred truce that was for the month of the festival

While many of the dinosaur fossils found recently in northeast China seem to provide evidence of the kinship between dinosaurs and birds, the wealth of enigmatic fossils seem more likely at this stage that they will inflame debates over the origin of birds rather than settle them.

- A) seem more likely at this stage that they will inflame debates over the origin of birds rather than
- B) seem more likely that it will inflame debates over the origin of birds at this stage than
- C) seems more likely to inflame debates on the origin of birds at this stage rather than
- D) seems more likely at this stage to inflame debates over the origin of birds than to
- E) seems more likely that it will inflame debates on the origin of birds at this stage than to

As criminal activity on the Internet becomes more and more sophisticated, not only are thieves able to divert cash from company bank accounts, they can also pilfer valuable information such as business development strategies, new product specifications, and contract bidding plans, and sell the data to competitors.

- A. they can also pilfer valuable information such as business development strategies, new product specifications, and contract bidding plans, and sell
- B. they can also pilfer valuable information that includes business development strategies, new product specifications, and contract bidding plans, and selling
- C. also pilfering valuable information including business development strategies, new product

specifications, and contract bidding plans, selling

D. but also pilfer valuable information such as business development strategies, new product specifications, and contract bidding plans to sell

E. but also pilfering valuable information such as business development strategies, new product specifications, and contract bidding plans and selling

OA: *not only are thieves able to divert, they can also pilfer*

The OA indicates that the following construction is considered correct on the GMAT:

***not only* + VERB + SUBJECT + COMMA + SUBJECT + *also* + VERB.**

This construction may also include *but*, as follows:

Not only are thieves able to divert, but they can also pilfer.

As the OA indicates, the usage of *but* is OPTIONAL in this construction.

Mitch Hunt

A ruined structure found at Aqaba, Jordan, was probably a church, as indicated in its eastward orientation and by its overall plan, as well as artifacts, such as glass oil-lamp fragments, found at the site.

(A) A ruined structure found at Aqaba, Jordan, was probably a church, as indicated in its eastward orientation and by its overall plan, as well as

(B) A ruined structure found at Aqaba, Jordan, once probably being a church, was indicated by its eastward orientation, overall plan, and

(C) Indicating that a ruined structure found at Aqaba, Jordan, was probably a church were its eastward orientation and overall plan, but also the

(D) A ruined structure found at Aqaba, Jordan, was probably a church, as indicates its eastward orientation and overall plan, as well as the

(E) That a ruined structure found at Aqaba, Jordan, was probably a church is indicated by its eastward orientation and overall plan, as well as by the

Recent interdisciplinary studies advance the argument that emotions, including those deemed personal or **private is a social phenomenon, though one inseparable** from bodily temperature.

A) private is a social phenomenon, though one inseparable

B) private, are social phenomena that are inseparable

C) private are a social phenomenon but are not those inseparable

D) private –are social phenomena but are not separable

E) also as private emotions, are social phenomena not inseparable

(D) is wrong. D will only work if there is another dash (-) before ***including***.

Take Away: appositives require two commas, two dashes, or two parentheses.

A long-term study of some 1,000 physicians indicates that the more coffee these doctors drank, the **more they had a likelihood of coronary disease**.

(A) more they had a likelihood of coronary disease

(B) more was their likelihood of having coronary disease

- (C) more they would have a likelihood to have coronary disease
- (D) greater was their likelihood of having coronary disease
- (E) greater was coronary disease likely

D is the correct answer, B is wrong.

After going through various suggestions by GMAT experts at Magoosh and Manhattan, I could arrive at the following conclusion:

The positive....comparative...superlative forms of certain adjectives of quantity are as follows:

set 1. many...more...most

set 2. much...more....most

set 3. great...greater...greatest

While set 1 (many...more...most) is used for countable nouns, set 2 (much...more....most) and set 3 (great...greater...greatest) are used for uncountable nouns.

Now there could be 2 types of uncountable nouns

type a. Quantity word / numbers themselves (e.g. price, volume, weight, probability etc.) are uncountable.

type b. Other uncountable nouns (honesty, poverty, etc as you mentioned)

The set 2 (much...more....most) is used for type b (other uncountable nouns) uncountable nouns.

The set 3 (great...greater...greatest) is used for type a (Quantity word / numbers) uncountable nouns.

Therefore we see that "more" can be used for (i) countable nouns and (ii) uncountable nouns that are not quantity words/ numbers. "Greater" can be used for (iii) uncountable nouns that are quantity words/ numbers.

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

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

(E) has redundancy. B is the correct answer.

Plants are more efficient at acquiring carbon than are fungi, in the form of carbon dioxide, and converting it to energy-rich sugars.

- A. Plants are more efficient at acquiring carbon than are fungi
- B. Plants are more efficient at acquiring carbon than fungi
- C. Plants are more efficient than fungi at acquiring carbon
- D. Plants, more efficient than fungi at acquiring carbon
- E. Plants acquire carbon more efficiently than fungi

Two errors:

1. Wrong word order of carbon. In the form of carbon dioxide must modify carbon.
2. Use of 'are fungi'

Along the major rivers that traverse the deserts of northeast Africa, the Middle East, and northwest India, the combination of a reliable supply of water and **good growing conditions both encouraged farming traditions that, in places, endure in** at least 6,000 years.

- (A) good growing conditions both encouraged farming traditions that, in places, endure in
- (B) good growing conditions encouraged farming traditions that have, in places, endured for
- (C) of good growing conditions have encouraged farming traditions that, in places, endured for
- (D) of good growing conditions both encouraged farming traditions that have, in places, endured
- (E) of good growing conditions encouraged farming traditions that have, in places, been enduring for

Answer (C) is wrong because of the OF at the beginning. B is correct.

Having been named for a mythological nymph who cared for the infant Jupiter, the asteroid named Ida, in the middle of the belt of asteroids that orbit the Sun between Mars and Jupiter, was discovered in 1884.

- A. Having been named for a mythological nymph who cared for the infant Jupiter, the asteroid named Ida, in the middle of the belt of asteroids that orbit the Sun between Mars and Jupiter, was discovered in 1884.
- B. Discovered in 1884, the asteroid Ida, named for a mythological nymph who cared for the infant Jupiter, is in the middle of the belt of asteroids that orbit the Sun between Mars and Jupiter.
- C. In the middle of the belt of asteroids that orbit the Sun between Mars and Jupiter, the asteroid Ida, discovered in 1884 and named for a mythological nymph who cared for the infant Jupiter.
- D. The asteroid Ida, named for a mythological nymph who cared for the infant Jupiter and discovered in 1884, is in the middle of the belt of asteroids to orbit the Sun between Mars and Jupiter.
- E. Ida, an asteroid discovered in 1884 and which was named for a mythological nymph who cared for the infant Jupiter, is in the middle of the belt of asteroids to orbit the Sun between Mars and Jupiter.

C does not have any verb.

Foraging at all times of the day and night, but interspersing their feeding with periods of rest that last **between one and eight hours, a sperm whale could eat so** much as a ton of squid a day.

- A) between one and eight hours, a sperm whale could eat so
- B) between one and eight hours, sperm whales can eat as
- C) between one and eight hours, sperm whales could eat as
- D) from one to eight hours, sperm whales could eat so
- E) from one to eight hours, a sperm whale can eat so

A is wrong because:

1. Whale is singular vs their
2. Correct idiom is AS MUCH AS

Sound can travel through water for enormous distances, prevented from dissipating its acoustic energy as a result of boundaries in the ocean created by water layers of different temperatures and densities.

- A. prevented from dissipating its acoustic energy as a result of
- B. prevented from having its acoustic energy dissipated by
- C. its acoustic energy prevented from dissipating by
- D. its acoustic energy prevented from being dissipated as a result of
- E preventing its acoustic energy from dissipating by

RON:

What is wrong with D?
Is it because it is wordy?

"as a result of" doesn't make sense, because (as you can discern from context) the energy is actually prevented from dissipating BY the boundaries.

"as a result of" suggests indirect causation. i.e., when you write "x happened as a result of y" , the implication is that y didn't cause x directly, although y was in some way ultimately responsible for x.

e.g.

if 500 people actually died IN an explosion, you could write

*500 people were killed **by** the explosion.*

on the other hand, if some or all of these people didn't actually die in the explosion itself, but died from other causes related to the explosion -- e.g., the explosion released carbon monoxide, which ultimately killed them later -- then that sentence would be inaccurate. in this case, you could write

500 people were killed [i]as a result of the explosion[/i].

Of all the record companies involved in early jazz, the three most prominent were Columbia, Victor, and Okeh.

A. Of all the record companies involved in early jazz, the three most prominent were Columbia, Victor, and Okeh.

B. Three most prominent record companies of all the ones that were involved in early jazz were Columbia, Victor, and Okeh.

C. Columbia, Victor, and Okeh were, of all the record companies involved in early jazz, the three of them that were most prominent.

D. Columbia, Victor, and Okeh were three most prominent of all the record companies involved in early jazz.

E. Out of all the record companies that were involved in early jazz, three of them that were the most prominent were Columbia, Victor, and Okeh.

Twenty-two feet long and 10 feet in diameter, the AM-1 is one of the many new satellites that is a part of 15 years effort of subjecting the interactions of Earth's atmosphere, oceans, and land surfaces to detailed scrutiny from space.

A. satellites that is a part of 15 years effort of subjecting the interactions of Earth's atmosphere, oceans, and land surfaces

B. satellites, which is a part of a 15-year effort to subject how Earth's atmosphere, oceans, and land surfaces interact

C. satellites, part of 15 years effort of subjecting how Earth's atmosphere, oceans, and land surfaces are interacting

D. satellites that are part of an effort for 15 years that has subjected the interactions of Earth's atmosphere, oceans, and land surfaces

E. satellites that are part of a 15-year effort to subject the interactions of Earth's atmosphere, ocean, and land surfaces

On the tournament roster are listed several tennis students, most all of which play as good as their instructor

- A. most all of which play as good
- B. most all of whom play as good
- C. almost all of which play as well
- D. almost all of whom play as good
- E. almost all of whom play as well

D: *play as good*

Here, *good* (adjective) incorrectly serves to modify *play* (verb).

INCORRECT: *to play good*

CORRECT: *to play WELL*

Eliminate D.

Mitch Hunt

Many kitchens today are equipped with high-speed electrical gadgets, such as blenders and food processors, which are able to inflict as serious injuries as those caused by an industrial wood-planing machine.

- (A) which are able to inflict as serious injuries as those
- (B) which can inflict serious injuries such as those
- (C) inflicting injuries as serious as that having been
- (D) capable to inflict injuries as serious as that
- (E) capable of inflicting injuries as serious as those

<http://www.beatthegmat.com/og-verbal-2016-sc-63-t290165.html>

As a result of record low temperatures, the water pipes on the third floor froze, which caused the heads of the sprinkler system to burst, which released torrents of water into offices on the second floor.

- A) which caused the heads of the sprinkler system to burst, which released torrents of water
- B) which caused the heads of the sprinkler system to burst and which released torrents of water
- C) which caused the heads of the sprinkler system to burst, torrents of water were then released
- D) causing heads of sprinkler system to burst, then releasing torrents of water
- E) causing heads of the sprinkler system to burst and release torrents of water

COMMA + *which* must be immediately preceded by a NOUN.

In A, B and C, COMMA + *which* is preceded not by a noun but by a verb (*froze*).

Eliminate A, B and C.

The agent of a COMMA + VERBing modifier must be the PRECEDING SUBJECT.

D: *The water pipes froze, releasing torrents of water.*

Here, the agent of *releasing* seems to be *water pipes*, implying that that the FROZEN PIPES were RELEASING torrents of water.

The intended meaning is that the SPRINKLER SYSTEM THAT BURST released torrents of water.

Eliminate D.

The correct answer is **E**.

E: *The water pipes on the third floor froze, causing the heads of the sprinkler system to burst and release torrents of water.*

Here, the main verb is *froze*.

Conveyed meaning:

When the pipes FROZE, they were responsible for CAUSING the heads of the sprinkler system to burst and release torrents of water.

Mitch Hunt

Being a United States citizen since 1988 and born in Calcutta in 1940, author Bharati Mukherjee has lived in England and Canada, and first came to the United States in 1961 to study at the Iowa Writers' Workshop.

- (A) Being a United States citizen since 1988 and born in Calcutta in 1940, author Bharati Mukherjee has
- (B) Having been a United States citizen since 1988, she was born in Calcutta in 1940; author Bharati Mukherjee
- (C) Born in Calcutta in 1940, author Bharati Mukherjee became a United States citizen in 1988; she has
- (D) Being born in Calcutta in 1940 and having been a United States citizen since 1988, author Bharati Mukherjee
- (E) Having been born in Calcutta in 1940 and being a United States citizen since 1988, author Bharati Mukherjee

In A.D. 391, resulting from the destruction of the largest library of the ancient world at Alexandria, later generations lost all but the Iliad and Odyssey among Greek epics, most of the poetry of Pindar and Sappho, and dozens of plays by Aeschylus and Euripides.

- A) resulting from the destruction of the largest library of the ancient world at Alexandria
- B) the destroying of the largest library of the ancient world at Alexandria resulted and
- C) because of the result of the destruction of the library at Alexandria, the largest of the ancient world,
- D) as a result of the destruction of the library at Alexandria, the largest of the ancient world,
- E) Alexandria's largest library of the ancient world was destroyed, and the result was

The Anasazi settlements at Chaco Canyon were built on a spectacular scale with more than 75 carefully engineered structures, of up to 600 rooms each, were connected by a complex regional system of roads.

- A. with more than 75 carefully engineered structures, of up to 600 rooms each, were
- B. with more than 75 carefully engineered structures, of up to 600 rooms each,
- C. of more than 75 carefully engineered structures of up to 600 rooms, each that had been
- D. of more than 75 carefully engineered structures of up to 600 rooms and with each
- E. of more than 75 carefully engineered structures of up to 600 rooms each had been

<https://www.manhattanprep.com/gmat/forums/the-anasazi-settlements-at-chaco-canyon-were-built-t2236.html>

the settlements were built with structures connected:- it uses a nonessential modifier set off by commas ('of up to 600 rooms each'), which, if eliminated, yields the intact and legitimate sentence ...*carefully engineered structures, connected by...* (with another nonessential modifier).

- it doesn't make sense to use 'each' AFTER the comma, because it's not true that *each* structure was connected with a road system. instead, the road system connected *all* of the structures *with each other*, which is nowhere close to the same thing. (having 'each' BEFORE the comma makes sense, because it's actually true that each of the structures comprised up to 600 rooms.)

Although various eighteenth and nineteenth-century American poets had professed an interest in Native American poetry and had pretended to imitate Native American forms in their own works, until almost 1900, scholars and critics did not begin seriously to study traditional Native American poetry in native languages.

- A) until almost 1900, scholars and critics did not begin seriously to study
- B) until almost 1900 scholars and critics had not begun seriously studying
- C) not until almost 1900 were scholars and critics to begin seriously to study
- D) it was not almost until 1900 when scholars and critics began to seriously study
- E) it was not until almost 1900 that scholars and critics seriously began studying

RBBmba@2014 wrote:

Hi Mitch - I think the followings are two ERRORS option D.

1. As *IT* is used as expletive in this SC, *IT* must be followed by THAT-clause or WHETHER-clause or an infinitive. But option D uses WHEN-clause after expletive *IT*. So, this construction is INCORRECT.

2. The PHRASE *almost until 1900* is AWKWARD.

Am I correct ?

These lines of reasoning are sound.

Mitch Hunt

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

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

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

GMATPrep

Practice Exam 1 3 of 41

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In the mid-1920s the Hawthorne Works of the Western Electric Company was the scene of an intensive series of experiments that would investigate changes in working conditions as to their effects on workers' performance.

- that would investigate changes in working conditions as to their effects on workers' performance
- investigating the effects that changes in working conditions would have on workers' performance
- for investigating what the effects on workers' performance are that changes in working conditions would cause
- that investigated changes in working conditions' effects on workers' performance
- to investigate what the effects changes in working conditions would have on workers' performance

Practice Exam 1 10 of 41

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

- minority graduates are nearly four times more likely than are other graduates in planning to practice
- minority graduates are nearly four times more likely than other graduates who plan on practicing
- minority graduates are nearly four times as likely as other graduates to plan on practicing
- it is nearly four times more likely that minority graduates rather than other graduates will plan to practice
- it is nearly four times as likely for minority graduates than other graduates to plan to practice

Practice Exam 1 21 of 41

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With surface temperatures estimated at minus 230 degrees Fahrenheit, Jupiter's moon Europa has long been considered far too cold to support life, and with 60 square miles of water thought to be frozen from top to bottom.

- Europa has long been considered far too cold to support life, and with
- Europa has long been considered far too cold to support life, its
- Europa has long been considered as far too cold to support life and has
- Europa, long considered as far too cold to support life, and its
- Europa, long considered to be far too cold to support life, and to have

[Check Answer](#)
[Show Answer](#)
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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.

- the brain growing in mice when placed in a stimulating environment or neurons increasing in canaries that
- mice whose brains grow when they are placed in a stimulating environment or canaries whose neurons increase when they
- mice's brains that grow when they are placed in a stimulating environment or canaries' neurons that increase when they
- the brain growth in mice when placed in a stimulating environment or the increase in canaries' neurons when they
- brain growth in mice that are placed in a stimulating environment or an increase in neurons in canaries that

Mice and Canaries cannot be example of neurogenesis.

(C) THEY cannot refer to mice and canaries as both are possessive here.

(D) RON SAYS:

if you say "when + PAST PARTICIPLE", then this *automatically applies to the SUBJECT* of the clause to which it's attached.

if i say

iron accumulates rust when submerged in water

then it's the iron, not the rust, that's submerged in water.

this strikes choice (d), since the SUBJECT is "recently documented examples", not "mice" as required.

My observation: They cannot refer to canaries'

[Check Answer](#)
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Today's technology allows manufacturers to make small cars more fuel-efficient now than at any time in their production history.

- small cars more fuel-efficient now than at any time in their
- small cars that are more fuel-efficient than they were at any time in their
- small cars that are more fuel-efficient than those at any other time in
- more fuel-efficient small cars than those at any other time in their
- more fuel-efficient small cars now than at any time in

RON SAYS:

yeah. i don't think that pronoun ambiguity is the criterion here.

the sentence is supposed to say that today's small cars are more fuel-efficient than *previous small cars* -- i.e., OTHER small cars.

this is important, because you can't use a "they"/"their" construction (which would illogically imply that you're talking about the *same* small cars mentioned in the first part of the sentence).

the use of "those" in (c), on the other hand, accomplishes this distinction nicely.

analogy:

sprinters in texas can run faster than they can in north dakota.

--> illogical; in this sentence, "they" would be taken to mean "sprinters in texas" (i.e., not just *sprinters*).

sprinters in texas can run faster than those in north dakota.

--> makes sense; "those" = sprinters, in this case.

same thing with "they/their" vs. "those" in these instances.

 Check Answer

 Show Answer

 Flag for Review

Only seven people this century have been killed by the great white shark, the man-eater of the movies—less than those killed by bee stings.

- movies—less than those
- movies—fewer than have been
- movies, which is less than those
- movies, a number lower than the people
- movies, fewer than the ones

RON: it's not a hyphen, actually; it's a dash. hyphens are shorter, and are used within two-part words (such as "two-part").

in this context, the dash essentially serves the same purpose as a comma. the only difference is that you don't use dashes at random; you use them when there is some special emphasis or irony (or both) in what you're saying.

example:

Joe, who is from Miami, complained about the cold of the Las Vegas winter. --> no irony; this makes perfect sense, since las vegas is much colder than miami in winter. therefore, no reason to use dashes.

Joe -- who is from Duluth -- complained about the cold of the Las Vegas winter. --> extreme irony, since duluth is about 70 degrees colder than las vegas in the winter.

same sort of deal here: there's considerable irony in the fact that the formidable shark has fewer kills under its belt than does the cute lil yellow fuzzy bee.

as a bonus, the dash also adds a degree of clarity, since "the great white shark" is already followed by one comma + appositive modifier; adding *another* modifier after *another* comma would muddy the waters a bit too much for my liking (and, apparently, for the test writers' liking as well).

 Check Answer

 Show Answer

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When drive-ins were at the height of their popularity in the late 1950s, some 4,000 existed in the United States, but today there are less than one-quarter that many.

- there are less than one-quarter that many
- there are fewer than one-quarter as many
- there are fewer than one-quarter of that amount
- the number is less than one-quarter the amount
- it is less than one-quarter of that amount

RON: you can rule these choices out in a single stroke, because they contain "amount".

recall that "amount" is a construction that can only be used to refer to UNCOUNTABLE quantities -- i.e., *continuous* quantities / mass nouns, which are not divided into distinctly countable units. for instance, you can have an "amount" of water, furniture, etc., but you CANNOT have an "amount" of people, items, etc.

this sentence is very clearly speaking about a countable quantity -- the **number** (not "amount") of

drive-in theaters. Since that is countable, any choice with "amount" can be eliminated immediately.

Practice Exam 1 20 of 41

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With a new park, stadium, and entertainment complex along the Delaware River, Trenton, New Jersey, is but one of a large number of communities that is looking to use its waterfront as a way for it to improve the quality of urban life and attract new businesses.

- is looking to use its waterfront as a way for it to improve the quality of urban life and attract
- is looking at the use of its waterfront to improve the quality of urban life and attract
- are looking to use their waterfronts to improve the quality of urban life and attract
- are looking to use its waterfront as a way of improving the quality of urban life and attracting
- are looking at using their waterfronts as a way of improving the quality of urban life and attract

Practice Exam 1 24 of 41

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

Mo2men wrote:

what does 'with the result that the..' modify? which sentence?

Generally, COMMA + *with the result that* serves to introduce the RESULT of the preceding clause.

The stinger stays where it is inserted, with the result that the act of stinging causes the bee to sustain a fatal injury.

Here, the portion in red is the result of the preceding clause in blue.

The correct answer is **B**.

In the OA, the *with* modifier serves as an adverb modifying the entire preceding clause -- particularly the ACTION of the preceding clause.

HOW does the stinger STAY where it is INSERTED?

It stays WITH THE RESULT THAT THE ACT OF STINGING CAUSES THE BEE TO SUSTAIN A FATAL INJURY.

Mitch Hunt

Must TRY

Practice Exam 1 26 of 41

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In archaeology, there must be a balance between explanation of the value and workings of archaeology, revealing the mysteries of past and present cultures, and to promote respect for archaeological sites.

- between explanation of the value and workings of archaeology, revealing the mysteries of past and present cultures, and to promote
- among explaining the value and workings of archaeology, revealing the mysteries of past and present cultures, and promoting
- between explaining the value and workings of archaeology, the revealing of the mysteries of past and present cultures, and when promoting
- among explaining the value and workings of archaeology, the revelation of the mysteries of past and present cultures, and to promote
- between explaining archaeology's value and workings, in the revealing of the mysteries of past and present cultures, and in promoting

MUST TRY

Practice Exam 1 27 of 41

[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

Unlike most severance packages, which require workers to stay until the last day scheduled to collect, workers at the automobile company are eligible for its severance package even if they find a new job before they are terminated.

- the last day scheduled to collect, workers at the automobile company are eligible for its severance package
- the last day they are scheduled to collect, workers are eligible for the automobile company's severance package
- their last scheduled day to collect, the automobile company offers its severance package to workers
- their last scheduled day in order to collect, the automobile company's severance package is available to workers
- the last day that they are scheduled to collect, the automobile company's severance package is available to workers

Mitch Hunt :

Eliminate E because 'that' is a relative pronoun meaning what follows describes what comes before it and the workers are not collecting days.

E: *the last day that they are scheduled to collect*

Here, *that* is standing in for *the last day*.

Conveyed meaning:

Workers are scheduled TO COLLECT THE LAST DAY.

In other words, THE LAST DAY is what workers will COLLECT.

Not the intended meaning.

Eliminate E.

Practice Exam 1 28 of 41

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In the mid-1920s the Hawthorne Works of the Western Electric Company was the scene of an intensive series of experiments that would investigate changes in working conditions as to their effects on workers' performance.

- that would investigate changes in working conditions as to their effects on workers' performance
- investigating the effects that changes in working conditions would have on workers' performance
- for investigating what the effects on workers' performance are that changes in working conditions would cause
- that investigated changes in working conditions' effects on workers' performance
- to investigate what the effects changes in working conditions would have on workers' performance

<http://www.beatthegmat.com/in-the-mid-1920s-the-hawthorne-works-of-the-western-electric-t282520.html>

Practice Exam 1

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[Check Answer](#)[Show Answer](#)[Flag for Review](#)

Fossils of a whale that beached on an African shore more than a million years ago and was subsequently butchered by hominids have been recovered by paleontologists.

- that beached on an African shore more than a million years ago and was subsequently butchered by hominids have
- that beached on an African shore more than a million years ago and then was subsequently butchered by hominids has
- that beached on an African shore more than a million years ago, which was subsequently butchered by hominids, has
- having been beached on an African shore more than a million years ago and subsequently butchered by hominids, have
- having beached on an African shore more than a million years ago and then subsequently were butchered by hominids have

Practice Exam 1

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[Check Answer](#)[Show Answer](#)[Flag for Review](#)

The striking differences between the semantic organization of Native American languages and that of European languages, in both grammar and vocabulary, have led scholars to think about the degree to which differences in language may be correlated with nonlinguistic differences.

- that of European languages, in both grammar and vocabulary, have
- that of European languages, including grammar and vocabulary, has
- those of European languages, which include grammar and vocabulary, have
- those of European languages, in grammar as well as vocabulary, has
- those of European languages, both in grammar and vocabulary, has

Practice Exam 1

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[Check Answer](#)[Show Answer](#)[Flag for Review](#)

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.

- Based on records from ancient Athens, each year young Athenian women collaborated to weave a new woolen robe that they used to dress
- Based on records from ancient Athens, each year young Athenian women had collaborated to weave a new woolen robe with which to dress
- According to records from ancient Athens, each year young Athenian women collaborated to weave a new woolen robe that they used to dress
- Records from ancient Athens indicate that each year young Athenian women collaborated to weave a new woolen robe with which they dressed
- Records from ancient Athens indicate each year young Athenian women had collaborated to weave a new woolen robe for dressing

Practice Exam 1

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[Check Answer](#)[Show Answer](#)[Flag for Review](#)

Currently 26 billion barrels a year, world consumption of oil is rising at a rate of 2 percent annually.

- world consumption of oil is rising at a rate of
- the world is consuming oil at an increasing rate of
- the world's oil is being consumed at the increasing rate of
- the rise in the rate of the world's oil consumption is
- oil is consumed by the world at an increasing rate of

Check Answer

Show Answer

Flag for Review

At the annual stockholders meeting, investors heard a presentation on the numerous challenges facing the company, including among them the threat from a rival's multibillion-dollar patent-infringement suit and the declining sales for the company's powerful microprocessor chip.

- including among them the threat from a rival's multibillion-dollar patent-infringement suit and the declining sales for
- which includes the threat of a rival's multibillion-dollar patent-infringement suit and declining sales of
- included among these the threat from a rival's multibillion-dollar patent-infringement suit as well as a decline in sales for
- among them the threat of a rival's multibillion-dollar patent-infringement suit and the decline in sales of
- among these the threat from a rival's multibillion-dollar patent-infringement suit as well as the decline in sales for

MUST CHECK

Check Answer

Show Answer

Flag for Review

Despite recent increases in sales and cash flow that have propelled automobile companies' common stocks to new highs, several industry analysts expect automakers, in order to conserve cash, to set dividends more conservatively than they were.

- to set dividends more conservatively than they were
- to set dividends more conservatively than they have been
- to be more conservative than they have been in setting dividends
- that they will be more conservative than they were in setting dividends
- that they will be more conservative than they have been to set dividends

bear&bull wrote: B) to set dividends more conservatively than they have been to set is the infinitive verb . there is no auxiliary verb.hence have been cannot be used

RON: this is the right idea, yes.

let me have a go at it, in simpler language:

whenever you use a parallel structure with **omitted/elided words**, the **EXACT omitted word(s) MUST be present, IN PARALLEL STRUCTURE, elsewhere in the sentence.** this means *in exactly the same form* - no alterations, no tense changes, no nothing.

this kills choice (b). that choice ends with "...than they have been", which omits a participle: in other words, it's actually "...than they have been _____", where the _____ is clearly seen to be *setting (dividends)*.

since the EXACT WORD *setting* doesn't appear anywhere else in this sentence, the sentence is incorrect.

by contrast, choice (c) is a-ok on this point. this choice also contains "...than they have been (_____)", where the parallel concept, "(more) conservative", actually appears elsewhere in the sentence.

ManhattanGMAT Staff:

We need to have a to infinitive..option D and E are not idiomatic..
The correct idiom is expect to

Here are three ways you can use *expect* as a verb.

Expect immediately before a verb: *We expect the new shoes tomorrow.*

Expect that before a clause with its own subject: *We expect that the new shoes will arrive*

tomorrow.

Expect before a noun and infinitive: *We expect the new shoes to arrive tomorrow.*

: Here are the two separate examples:

"expect" directly before a verb (actually, an infinitive):

we do not expect to arrive on time.

"expect" directly before a noun:

we do not expect the package until Sunday.

Practice Exam 1 20 of 41

[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

The health benefits of tea have been the subject of much research; in addition to its possibilities for preventing and inhibiting some forms of cancer, the brewed leaves of *Camellia sinensis* may also play a role in reducing the risk of heart disease and stroke.

- in addition to its possibilities for preventing and inhibiting
- in addition to its possibilities to prevent or inhibit
- besides the possibility that it prevents and inhibits
- besides the possible preventing and inhibiting of
- besides possibly preventing or inhibiting

MUST TRY ALONE

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[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

In contrast to ongoing trade imbalances with China and Japan, the United States trade deficit with Mexico declined by \$500 million as a result of record exports to that country.

- In contrast to ongoing trade imbalances with China and Japan, the United States trade deficit with Mexico declined by \$500 million as a result of record exports to that country.
- In contrast to ongoing trade imbalances with China and Japan, the United States sold record exports to Mexico, reducing its trade deficit by \$500 million.
- When compared with ongoing trade imbalances with China and Japan, the United States sold record exports to Mexico, reducing their trade deficit by \$500 million.
- Compared with ongoing trade imbalances with China and Japan, the United States sold record exports to Mexico, reducing the trade deficit by \$500 million.
- Compared to ongoing trade imbalances with China and Japan, the United States record exports to Mexico caused a \$500 million decline in the trade deficit with that country.

Practice Exam 2 17 of 41

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The ability of scientists to provide models of the atmosphere's complex responses to changing conditions, like seasonal and daily cycles or different planetary conjunctions, have become ever more accurate.

- The ability of scientists to provide models of the atmosphere's complex responses to changing conditions, like seasonal and daily cycles or different planetary conjunctions, have become ever more accurate.
- The ability of scientists has become ever more accurate in providing models of the atmosphere's complex responses to changing conditions, such as seasonal and daily cycles or different planetary conjunctions.
- Scientists have become able to provide ever more accurate models of the atmosphere's complex responses to such changing conditions as seasonal and daily cycles or different planetary conjunctions.
- Scientists have become ever more accurate in their ability for providing models of the atmosphere's complex responses to changing conditions, like seasonal and daily cycles or different planetary conjunctions.
- Scientists' ability to provide models of the atmosphere's complex responses to such changing conditions as seasonal and daily cycles or different planetary conjunctions have become ever more accurate.

Ability in – INCORRECT

Ability FOR - INCORRECT

Ability to – CORRECT

*Guest660 wrote:*Hi Ron,
Doesn't C change the meaning ...
A - says ability has become more accurate ??
B - more accurate models ??

well, sure, but remember that you're allowed to change the meaning of a sentence if the original "meaning" doesn't make any sense, as is the case here.

an *ability* can't be "accurate", because an ability is not something that can be compared quantitatively to a "true" or "target" mark of some sort. by contrast, models (which can approximate true quantitative phenomena), shots at a target (which can come close to the center of the target), and so on can be "accurate".

so yes, (c) changes the meaning, i guess, but it's a *desirable* change of meaning - because it takes the sentence from a nonsense phrasing to a phrasing that actually makes sense.

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

MUST CHECK

Practice Exam 2

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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.

- what they had not previously considered possible—better control, if not eradication, of the other infections such as
- what they had not previously considered a possibility—better control, if not eradication, of such infections like
- something they had not previously considered possible—better control, if not eradication, of such infections as
- something not considered a previous possibility—better control and perhaps eradication, of other infections such as
- the possibility of what they had not previously considered—better control and possibly eradication of infections like

RonPurewal
Students
Posts: 19747
Joined: Tue Aug 14, 2007 8:23 am

Tue Sep 11, 2007 5:52 am

There are 2 problems with A.

- Major problem is "THE other infections." THE is too definitive here, carrying the connotation of "every single one of the other infections."

* THE is also incompatible with "such as":

- Correct: I never read this book, but I read the other books on the shelf.

- Correct: I never read this book, but I read other books on the shelf, such as "Right Hand, Left Hand" and "The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich."

- Incorrect: I never read this book, but I read **the** other books on the shelf, such as "Right Hand, Left Hand" and "The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich."

- 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.

Last edited by RonPurewal on Thu Jan 17, 2008 7:30 pm, edited 1 time in total.

StaceyKoprince
ManhattanGMAT Staff

Posts: 8695
Joined: Wed Oct 19, 2005 9:05 am
Location: San Francisco

Thu Jan 17, 2008 8:08 pm

I'm still unable to grasp the grammar rule that makes option C better than option A
Is it wrong to have the definitive "the other" while giving examples using "such as"

Basically, yes. When you say "THE other" you imply one of two things: either certain other things (eg books) that you've previously specified (which we haven't in this case) or ALL other things of that type, which is also not what's going on here.

The implication here is that there are SOME other infections, and here are a few examples.

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A New York City ordinance of 1897 regulated the use of bicycles, mandated a maximum speed of eight miles an hour, required of cyclists to keep feet on pedals and hands on handlebars at all times, and it granted pedestrians right-of-way.

- regulated the use of bicycles, mandated a maximum speed of eight miles an hour, required of cyclists to keep feet on pedals and hands on handlebars at all times, and it granted
- regulated the use of bicycles, mandated a maximum speed of eight miles an hour, required cyclists to keep feet on pedals and hands on handlebars at all times, granting
- regulating the use of bicycles mandated a maximum speed of eight miles an hour, required cyclists that they keep feet on pedals and hands on handlebars at all times, and it granted
- regulating the use of bicycles, mandating a maximum speed of eight miles an hour, requiring of cyclists that they keep feet on pedals and hands on handlebars at all times, and granted
- regulating the use of bicycles mandated a maximum speed of eight miles an hour, required cyclists to keep feet on pedals and hands on handlebars at all times, and granted

REGULATED cannot be parallel with rest of the verbs.

'Required of cyclist' – Unidiomatic: - "Required of X to do Y" is unidiomatic.

MUSTCHECK - "required X that they do Y" – Unidiomatic.

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[Check Answer](#)

[Show Answer](#)

[Flag for Review](#)

As the former chair of the planning board for 18 consecutive years and a board member for 28 years, Joan Philkill attended more than 400 meetings and reviewed more than 700 rezoning applications.

- As the former
- The former
- Former
- She was
- As the

Meaning issue

[Check Answer](#)[Show Answer](#)[Flag for Review](#)

Despite recent increases in sales and cash flow that have propelled automobile companies' common stocks to new highs, several industry analysts expect automakers, in order to conserve cash, to set dividends more conservatively than they were.

- to set dividends more conservatively than they were
- to set dividends more conservatively than they have been
- to be more conservative than they have been in setting dividends
- that they will be more conservative than they were in setting dividends
- that they will be more conservative than they have been to set dividends

RonPurewal
Students

Posts: 19747
d: Tue Aug 14, 2007 8:23
am

Wed Jan 28, 2009 6:46 am

bear&bull wrote:

B) to set dividends more conservatively than they have been

to set is the infinitive verb . there is no auxiliary verb.hence have been cannot be used

this is the right idea, yes.

let me have a go at it, in simpler language:

whenever you use a parallel structure with **omitted/elided words**, the **EXACT omitted word(s) MUST be present, IN PARALLEL STRUCTURE, elsewhere in the sentence**. this means *in exactly the same form* - no alterations, no tense changes, no nothing.

this kills choice (b). that choice ends with "...than they have been", which omits a participle: in other words, it's actually "...than they have been _____", where the _____ is clearly seen to be *setting* (dividends).

since the EXACT WORD *setting* doesn't appear anywhere else in this sentence, the sentence is incorrect.

by contrast, choice (c) is a-ok on this point. this choice also contains "...than they have been (_____)", where the parallel concept, "(more) conservative", actually appears elsewhere in the sentence.

<https://www.manhattanprep.com/gmat/forums/despite-recent-increases-in-sales-and-cash-flow-t5893.html>

Re: Despite recent increases in sales and cash flow....

One question: In the answer choice C, we have

C. to be more conservative than they have been in setting dividends.

that is, "TO BE" and "HAVE BEEN", so we have the auxiliary have, but no auxiliary in the first term. How can it be correct?

Please, let me know if I am misguided: when we have a comparison (THAN), we must have completely parallel forms, and here I think that it is not the case.

RON Says:

you have to have parallelism insofar as parallelism is possible.

here, though, you're comparing an infinitive (as required by english idiom, following "expect") to a present perfect (as required by english diction to describe a *trend* that continues *up to the present date*).

it's not possible to substitute an infinitive for the second part, or a present perfect for the first part, without destroying the meaning or the idiomatic correctness of the sentence.

so, basically, **the parallelism is as good as it possibly can be.**

--

example:

my wife and i argue just as often and about the same topics as the couple next door.

this is not "textbook perfect parallelism" - the first part is an adverb phrase, and the second is a prepositional phrase - but you can't possibly make it any better.

i.e., there's no prepositional phrase that really means the same thing as "just as often", so you can't adjust the first half to the second one. but there's also no adverb that means "about the same things", so you can't make the second half any more parallel, either.

therefore, this isn't *perfect* parallelism, but it's *optimal* parallelism.

hope that helps.

Ellipses:

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[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

Since February, the Federal Reserve has raised its short-term interest rate target five times, and because of the economy's continued strength, analysts have been predicting for weeks that the target will be raised again in November.

- because of the economy's continued strength, analysts have been predicting for weeks that the target will
- with the economy's strength continuing, analysts predicted for weeks that the target
- because the economy continues strong, analysts predicted for weeks that the target would
- due to the economy's continued strength, analysts have been predicting for weeks that the target
- due to the fact of the economy's continued strength, analysts predicted for weeks that the target will

Can someone please comment on the grammatical rules regarding

because of/because/due to/due to the fact that

I believe **due to the fact of** is wrong ?

here's the easiest way to figure out "due to":

"due to" means "caused by".

if you can't replace "due to" with "caused by", then it's wrong.

for instance:

i was late due to the construction --> incorrect (because you can't say "i was late caused by the construction")

i was late because of the construction --> correct.

--

in general, "due to" only applies to nouns, since it means "caused by".

for instance,

the traffic jam was due to an obstruction in the left lane

or

the traffic jam due to the obstruction in the left lane caused 30-minute delays

these are correct because "caused by" works just fine - the noun modified is "the traffic".

<https://www.manhattanprep.com/gmat/forums/since-february-the-federal-reserve-has-raised-its-t3110.html>

<https://gmatclub.com/forum/since-february-the-federal-reserve-has-raised-its-short-term-interest-214954-20.html>

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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 who became the first woman and was also the first Swedish writer to win the Nobel Prize for Literature.

- 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 who became the first woman and was also the first Swedish writer to win
- She turned away from literary realism and wrote romantic stories about the peasant life and landscape of northern Sweden, and novelist Selma Lagerlöf in 1909 became the first woman as well as the first Swedish writer that won
- 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
- 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
- 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

Ron,

From your explanation, I got the answer as D, but initially I rejected D because of the redundant usage "and also". I've not seen this usage ever being correct in SC questions. Please explain when or in what reference is this "and also" usage becomes redundant. Thanks!

RON: "X and Y" is normally used to indicate two different things. (if you said "the first woman and the first Swedish writer", without the "also", that would normally imply 2 different people)

"X and also Y" is normally used to bestow two descriptions on the SAME person or thing (notice that both of these descriptions are meant to describe Selma Lagerlof).

DAAG: 'And also' is not redundant; 'both and also' is only redundant.

[Check Answer](#)
[Show Answer](#)
[Flag for Review](#)

The first detailed study of magpie attacks in Australia indicates that by the time they had reached adulthood, 98 percent of men and 75 percent of women born in the country have been attacked by the birds.

- by the time they had reached adulthood, 98 percent of men and 75 percent of women born in the country have been attacked by the birds
- by the time they reach adulthood, 98 percent of men and 75 percent of women, who were born in the country, had been attacked by the birds
- by the time they reached adulthood, 98 percent of men and 75 percent of women born in the country had been attacked by the birds
- 98 percent of men and 75 percent of women that were born in the country were attacked by the birds by the time they reach adulthood
- 98 percent of men and 75 percent of women who were born in the country, by the time they reached adulthood had been attacked by the birds

RON: hmm. well, the major problem is that choice (e) attempts to set off a modifier with a single comma (on the left, but NOT on the right).

you can't do this. if a modifier is in the middle of a sentence, then you must either

* set it off with TWO commas, one on each side; or

* not set it off with commas at all.

the man who showed up yesterday is back again --> ok (meaning = there is more than one man, and i have to clarify that it's the one who showed up yesterday)

the man, who showed up yesterday, is back again --> ok (meaning = we already know which man; i'm merely providing more detail)

the man, who showed up yesterday is back again --> not ok
the man who showed up yesterday, is back again --> not ok

the only exception to this rule occurs in the case of modifiers that are not actually blocked off by commas, but which happen to be placed next to other construction that contain commas as a matter of necessity.

for instance:

A man from Tornio, Finland, who has developed several innovative cell-phone applications will be speaking at today's meeting.

in this sentence, it *appears* that "who has developed several innovative cell-phone applications" is blocked off by only one comma, but it really isn't -- the comma belongs to the foregoing construction ("from Tornio, Finland"), since city/state and city/country are always followed by commas.

i.e., the real structure of this sentence is-

*A man **from Tornio, Finland** who has developed several innovative cell phone applications will be speaking at today's meeting.*

MUST CHECK

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[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

The 151 member governments of the World Bank are expected to increase the bank's funding by \$75 billion, though some United States legislators cite an obstacle to congressional passage being the concern that the bank's loans will help foreign producers compete with American businesses.

- an obstacle to congressional passage being the concern
- a concern as an obstacle to congressional passage
- as an obstacle to congressional passage the concern
- the concern, an obstacle to congressional passage,
- as an obstacle for Congress to pass it the concern

rfernandez(ManhattanGMAT Staff):

Sputnik, grammatically D parses out fine in that it modifies "the concern" with the appositive "an obstacle to congressional passage." But there's a change in meaning by setting "an obstacle to congressional passage" off in commas. It makes it a nonessential modifier, but this fact is necessary to the meaning of the sentence.

Another approach: consider the idiom "cite X as Y." In this case we (essentially) have "legislators cite the concern as an obstacle." What makes C tricky is that the structure is written "cite as Y X": "legislators cite as an obstacle the concern." It's a weird inversion, but it works. If you go with D, the core of that clause becomes "legislators cite the concern" and we lose the important "as an obstacle" piece.

Check Answer

Show Answer

Flag for Review

For the farmer who takes care to keep them cool, providing them with high-energy feed, and milking them regularly, Holstein cows are producing an average of 2,275 gallons of milk each per year.

- providing them with high-energy feed, and milking them regularly, Holstein cows are producing
- providing them with high-energy feed, and milked regularly, the Holstein cow produces
- provided with high-energy feed, and milking them regularly, Holstein cows are producing
- provided with high-energy feed, and milked regularly, the Holstein cow produces
- provided with high-energy feed, and milked regularly, Holstein cows will produce

Verb-ing modifier modifies preceding clause.

RON: heh. it looks like choice (a) is an "indian trap" seriously, not a joke.

if there is a single biggest issue in the grammar of second-language english speakers who happen to hail from india or pakistan, that issue is the drastic overuse of the "are ...ing" construction. (native speakers of english will recognize "are producing" at once as awkward.)

another problem with part (a) is the modifier. although "providing... and milking..." is a *grammatically* acceptable modifier, it doesn't make any sense in context, since these are not two things that farmers do WHILE or AS A CONSEQUENCE OF keeping the cows cool. (if you're going to use comma + -ing, then one of these two should hold.)

see #124 (og 12th edition) or #127 (og 11th edition), correct answer, for a sentence in which such a modifier actually *does* make sense.

in choice E, the parallel structures are

cool

provided with...

and

milked regularly

(i would have guessed "keep them cool, provide them with..., and milk them..."—but that isn't there, of course. and that's why we shouldn't try to "edit" the sentences.)

--

note that you also can't say "THE holstein cows", unless you're referencing a particular, specific, known group of holstein cows (something that you clearly aren't doing). since you're talking about holstein cows in general, you don't use the article "the".

this is another thing well known, totally subconsciously, to native speakers of english; it's hard-won wisdom for non-native speakers.

Check Answer

Show Answer

Flag for Review

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

- growing number of people who purchase plane tickets online, airline executives are convinced that, just as one-third of bank customers still prefer human tellers to automatic teller machines, many travelers will
- 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
- growing number of people purchasing plane tickets online, airline executives are convinced, just as one-third of bank customers still prefer human tellers as compared to automatic teller machines, many travelers will
- fact that the number of people purchasing plane tickets online is growing, airline executives are convinced, just as one-third of bank customers still prefer human tellers as compared to automatic teller machines, that many travelers would
- fact that the number of people who purchase plane tickets online are growing, airline executives are convinced that, just as one-third of bank customers still prefer human tellers compared with automatic teller machines, many travelers would

Practice Exam 2

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Check Answer

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Flag for Review

Between 1990 and 2000 the global economy grew more than it did during the 10,000 years from the beginning of agriculture to 1950.

- Between 1990 and 2000 the global economy grew more than it did during the 10,000 years from the beginning of agriculture
- Between 1990 and 2000 the growth of the global economy was more than that during 10,000 years, from when agriculture began
- The growth of the global economy between 1990 and 2000 exceeds that which had been for 10,000 years from the beginning of agriculture
- The growth of the global economy between 1990 and 2000 exceeds what it has been for 10,000 years, from when agriculture began
- The growth of the global economy between 1990 and 2000 exceeded what it did for the 10,000 years from the beginning of agriculture

Note: In comparisons, if you want to compare one thing another use "that," and if you want to compare something to itself, use "it": For example: "The seat of chair A is more worn than that of chair B." v.s. "The seat of chair A is more worn than it was last week."

Practice Exam 2

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Check Answer

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Flag for Review

With no natural predators and expanses of green suburban neighborhoods that allow no hunting, wildlife officials estimate the New Jersey deer population to have grown to exceed 175,000.

- With no natural predators and expanses of green suburban neighborhoods that allow no hunting, wildlife officials estimate the New Jersey deer population to have
- With no natural predators and with expanses of green suburban neighborhoods that do not allow hunting, wildlife officials' estimate of the deer population in New Jersey have
- With no natural predators and with expanses of green suburban neighborhoods where there is no hunting, the deer population in New Jersey, wildlife officials estimate, has
- Without natural predators and no hunting allowed in expanses of green suburban neighborhoods, New Jersey has a deer population that wildlife officials estimate to have
- Without natural predators and with expanses of green suburban neighborhoods where there is no hunting, wildlife officials in New Jersey estimate a deer population that has

Practice Exam 3

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Check Answer

Show Answer

Flag for Review

The artist Pierre-Auguste Renoir's last word was "flowers," spoken as a bouquet consisting of roses just picked from his garden were arranged in a vase on his bedroom windowsill.

- as a bouquet consisting of roses just picked from his garden were arranged
- as a bouquet of roses, just picked from his garden, were arranged
- as a bouquet of roses just picked from his garden was being arranged
- during the arrangement of a bouquet of roses, just picked from his garden
- while they arranged a bouquet of roses that had just been picked, from his garden

[Check Answer](#)[Show Answer](#)[Flag for Review](#)

Many airline carriers are attempting to increase profitability while keeping overhead low by offering, in terms of flights, an equal amount as last year, doing so by using larger planes that fly more efficiently.

- an equal amount as last year, doing so by
- the same number offered last year
- an equal amount offered last year and
- the same number as last year but
- an equal number as were offered last year,

[Check Answer](#)[Show Answer](#)[Flag for Review](#)

At an orientation meeting, the travelers were told that a visa, a landing card, and evidence of inoculation against typhoid fever would be needed by each of them.

- a visa, a landing card, and evidence of inoculation against typhoid fever would be needed by each of them
- they would need a visa, a landing card, and evidence of their being inoculated against typhoid fever
- they would need evidence of being inoculated against typhoid fever and a visa and landing card
- they would each need a visa, a landing card, and evidence of inoculation against typhoid fever
- they would need visas, landing cards, and evidence of inoculation against typhoid fever for each of them

[Check Answer](#)[Show Answer](#)[Flag for Review](#)

The contractor and the engineer agree on the cause of the bridge failure, but both blame the other.

- both blame the other
- each blames the other
- each blame the other person
- both are blaming the other
- each blames one another

[Check Answer](#)[Show Answer](#)[Flag for Review](#)

After more than four decades of research and development, a new type of jet engine is being tested that could eventually propel aircraft anywhere in the world within two hours or help boost cargoes into space at significantly lower costs than current methods permit.

- tested that could eventually propel aircraft anywhere in the world within two hours or help
- tested that could eventually have the capability of propelling aircraft anywhere in the world within two hours or to help
- tested, eventually able to propel aircraft anywhere in the world within two hours, or helping
- tested, and it eventually could propel aircraft anywhere in the world within two hours or helping
- tested, and it could eventually have the capability to propel aircraft anywhere in the world within two hours or help

Check Answer

Show Answer

Flag for Review

A Sumatran rhinoceros was recently born in a Cincinnati zoo, the first birth in captivity of that species in more than a century, making it a landmark development for the effort to save the endangered animal.

- A Sumatran rhinoceros was recently born in a Cincinnati zoo, the first birth in captivity of that species in more than a century, making it
- A Sumatran rhinoceros was recently born in a Cincinnati zoo, and as the first birth of that species in captivity for more than a century, it is
- A Sumatran rhinoceros recently born in a Cincinnati zoo, as the first birth for that species in captivity for over a century, is
- The recent birth of a Sumatran rhinoceros in a Cincinnati zoo, the first birth in captivity for that species in over a century, is
- The recent birth of a Sumatran rhinoceros, as the first birth in over a century of that species in captivity, took place in a Cincinnati zoo,

Check Answer

Show Answer

Flag for Review

A Swiss government panel recommended that the country sell about half its gold reserves and this raised fears of other countries that do the same and inundate the market.

- reserves and this raised fears of other countries that
- reserves, which, as a result, raised fears of other countries that
- reserves; as a result, they feared that other countries would
- reserves, with fears raised that other countries would
- reserves, raising fears that other countries would

Check Answer

Show Answer

Flag for Review

Responding to the public's fascination with—and sometimes undue alarm over—possible threats from asteroids, a scale developed by astronomers rates the likelihood that a particular asteroid or comet may collide with Earth.

- a scale developed by astronomers rates the likelihood that a particular asteroid or comet may
- a scale that astronomers have developed rates how likely it is for a particular asteroid or comet to
- astronomers have developed a scale to rate how likely a particular asteroid or comet will be to
- astronomers have developed a scale for rating the likelihood that a particular asteroid or comet will
- astronomers have developed a scale that rates the likelihood of a particular asteroid or comet that may

RON: In choosing between C and D, first consider the intended meaning. We're interested in *the current likelihood* that the comet/asteroid *will strike Earth in the future*..

In other words, **How likely is it NOW** that **a comet/asteroid WILL STRIKE Earth**?

This distinction comes into play when you look at the verbs in C and D. Different verbs.

C mentions "how likely a comet/asteroid *will be*". Nope. The *likelihood* is something that exists now, not in the future. (That's the definition of "likelihood": How probable does this event seem *right now*?)

There's no "future likelihood" here. In the future, the event either happens or doesn't happen.)

D mentions the likelihood (as measured at present) that a comet/asteroid *will collide* (in the future) with Earth. That makes sense.

[Check Answer](#)[Show Answer](#)[Flag for Review](#)

Unlike the body's inflammatory response to cuts and sprains, with widespread swelling and stiffness immobilizing the injured area until it heals, the body's response to sunburn is more localized and resulting in a distinct line dividing affected and unaffected areas of the skin.

- with widespread swelling and stiffness immobilizing the injured area until it heals, the body's response to sunburn is more localized and resulting
- where the injured area is immobilized with widespread swelling and stiffness until it has healed, sunburn generates a more localized response in the body, which results instead
- with the injured area immobilized by means of widespread swelling and stiffness until healing, sunburn generates a more localized response in the body, one resulting
- in which widespread swelling and stiffness immobilize the injured area until it has healed, the body's more localized response to sunburn results
- in which widespread swelling and stiffness immobilize the injured area until healing, instead, the body's more localized response to sunburn results

[Check Answer](#)[Show Answer](#)[Flag for Review](#)

Until recently, the Inuit people led a nomadic existence, sheltering in igloos, the ice-block domes that are peculiar to north-central Canada, and in structures made of stones, bones, driftwood, and skins.

- Until recently, the Inuit people led a nomadic existence, sheltering
- During recent times, the Inuit people lead a nomadic existence, sheltering
- In the times that are recent, the Inuit people led a nomadic existence, sheltered
- Up until recently, the Inuit people, leading a nomadic existence, have sheltered
- Until recent times, leading a nomadic existence, the Inuit people were sheltered

[Check Answer](#)[Show Answer](#)[Flag for Review](#)

When an active tooth in the shark's jaws is lost or worn down, many spare teeth lie in seemingly limitless reserve, each of which are ready to slide into the appropriate position.

- When an active tooth in the shark's jaws is lost or worn down, many spare teeth lie in seemingly limitless reserve, each of which are ready to slide into the appropriate position.
- Whenever an active tooth is lost or worn down, many spare teeth lie in seemingly limitless reserve in the shark's jaws, which are each ready to slide into the appropriate position.
- Many spare teeth lie in seemingly limitless reserve in the shark's jaws, each one of which are ready to slide into the appropriate position when an active tooth is lost or worn down.
- The many spare teeth lying in seemingly limitless reserve in the shark's jaws, each one of which is ready to slide into the appropriate position whenever an active tooth is lost or worn down.
- In the shark's jaws, many spare teeth lie in seemingly limitless reserve, each one ready to slide into the appropriate position whenever an active tooth is lost or worn down.

[Check Answer](#)[Show Answer](#)[Flag for Review](#)

Giuseppe Alessi, a world-class chef whose life has been a search for the genuine and the delicious in Florentine cooking, is an accomplished scholar not only unearthing many of his recipes from medieval and Renaissance manuscripts but also a poet and philosopher who draws his inspiration from the idyllic frescoes of Etruscan tombs.

- not only unearthing many of his recipes from medieval and Renaissance manuscripts but also a poet and philosopher who draws
- unearthing many of his recipes both from medieval and Renaissance manuscripts, as well as a poet and a philosopher who draws
- who unearths many of his recipes from medieval and Renaissance manuscripts, as well as a poet and a philosopher who draws
- who unearths many of his recipes from medieval and Renaissance manuscripts, but also a poet and a philosopher drawing
- who unearths many of his recipes from medieval and Renaissance manuscripts, a poet and philosopher drawing

MUST CHECK

[Check Answer](#)[Show Answer](#)[Flag for Review](#)

Books in European libraries last longer than books in libraries in the United States because, although the climate in Europe is fairly humid, libraries there are not subjected to the extremes of temperature and humidity that damage collections in the United States.

- because, although the climate in Europe is fairly humid, libraries there are not subjected to the extremes of temperature and humidity that
- because, although the climate in Europe is fairly humid, libraries there are not subject of the extremes of temperature and humidity as those that
- because, although the climate in Europe is fairly humid, libraries there are not subjected to the extremities of temperature and humidity as
- because the climate in Europe is fairly humid, but still libraries there are not subject of the extremes of temperature and humidity as
- because the climate in Europe is fairly humid, but libraries there are not subjected to the extremities of temperature and humidity such as those that

MUST MUST CHECK

[Check Answer](#)[Show Answer](#)[Flag for Review](#)

In the mid-1970s, since birds were overcome by pollution, and routinely falling from the sky above Los Angeles freeways, this prompted officials in California to devise a plan that reduced automobile emissions.

- since birds were overcome by pollution, and routinely falling from the sky above Los Angeles freeways, this prompted officials in California to devise a plan that reduced
- since birds that had been overcome by pollution were routinely falling from the sky above Los Angeles freeways, it prompted officials in California to devise a plan that would reduce
- birds had been overcome by pollution and routinely fell from the sky above Los Angeles freeways, prompting officials in California to devise a plan that reduced
- birds overcome by pollution routinely fell from the sky above Los Angeles freeways, prompting officials in California to devise a plan to reduce
- birds overcome by pollution and routinely falling from the sky above Los Angeles freeways were prompting officials in California to devise a plan to reduce

Review Verbal :: Sentence Correction :: VSC002715

The Scandinavian assault on western Europe culminated in the early eleventh century with the Danish conquest of the English kingdom, which other Scandinavian kings attempted to repeat, unsuccessfully, later in the same century.

- which other Scandinavian kings attempted to repeat, unsuccessfully, later in the same century
- which other Scandinavian kings attempted to repeat later that same century, but not successfully
- an achievement that other Scandinavian kings attempted later in the century to repeat, but were not successful at it
- an achievement attempted later in the century by other Scandinavian kings that was not successful
- an achievement that other Scandinavian kings attempted to repeat later in the century, but without success

This is a guess.

Practice Exam 3

9 of 41

Check Answer

Show Answer

Flag for Review

Few of the corporate contributions to the earthquake relief fund, aside from Pterocom, were a significant difference from the usual amounts given by large companies for major international disasters.

- aside from Pterocom, were a significant difference from the usual amounts
- Pterocom's excepted, were a substantial departure from the usual amount of those
- Pterocom excepted, broke the usual mold of those
- notwithstanding Pterocom, veered much from the usual levels
- apart from Pterocom's, departed significantly from the usual amounts

MUST CHECK

Practice Exam 3

13 of 41

Check Answer

Show Answer

Flag for Review

Researchers hypothesize that granitic soil is the ideal construction material for the desert tortoise because it is not so hard that it makes burrowing difficult or so soft that it could cause tunnels to collapse.

- so hard that it makes burrowing difficult or so soft that it could cause
- hard enough to make burrowing difficult or soft enough as to cause
- so hard as to make burrowing difficult or soft enough so it causes
- as hard as to make burrowing difficult or as soft as to cause
- too hard, making burrowing difficult, nor too soft, so as to cause

In A i could not see parallelism between " So hard that it makes burrowing difficult" and " so soft that it could cause".

RON:they're pretty darn parallel. in fact, they're EXACTLY parallel.
so + [adjective] + that + it + [verb]

both parts have exactly the same form.

the verbs are in different tenses, but that's irrelevant to parallelism.

remember: **from the standpoint of grammar, ALL verbs are equivalent.**

verb TENSES are determined ENTIRELY by *meaning/context*, and NEVER by grammar.

here, we *want* different tenses, because one of these things is something that's permanently true (it makes burrowing difficult) while the other represents only the *potential* that something could happen (it *could* cause tunnels to collapse).

this simpler sentence, with the same construction, should be easier to understand:

Frank is extremely angry and could start yelling or punching the wall at any moment.

Why (b) is not the correct answer?

X enough to do Y implies that *to do Y* is a DESIRED OUTCOME.

John is not tall enough to play basketball.

Conveyed meaning:

To play basketball is a desired outcome for John, but he is not sufficiently tall.

B: *Granitic soil is not hard enough to make burrowing difficult.*

Conveyed meaning:

To make burrowing difficult is a desired outcome for the desert tortoise, but granitic soil is not sufficiently hard.

Here, the intended meaning is distorted.

Clearly, the desert tortoise does not WANT *to make burrowing difficult*.

Eliminate B.

Mitch Hunt

D. Compare APPLES to APPLES.

Only LIKE things can be compared.

Granitic soil is as hard as _____.

Here, the blank must be filled with something that can logically be compared to *granitic soil*:

Granitic soil is as hard as STEEL.

Granitic soil is as hard as CONCRETE.

Granitic soil is as hard as CEMENT.

The comparison in D is illogical.

D: *Granitic soil is as hard as TO MAKE BURROWING DIFFICULT.*

Here, a noun (*soil*) is illogically compared to an action (*to make burrowing difficult*).

Eliminate D.

Mitch Hunt

<http://www.beatthemat.com/sc-researchers-hypothesize-t281354.html>

MUST CHECK

Practice Exam 3 26 of 41

[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

For many revisionist historians, Christopher Columbus has come to personify devastation and enslavement in the name of progress that has decimated native peoples of the Western Hemisphere.

- devastation and enslavement in the name of progress that has decimated native peoples of the Western Hemisphere
- devastation and enslavement in the name of progress by which native peoples of the Western Hemisphere have been decimated
- devastating and enslaving in the name of progress those native peoples of the Western Hemisphere that have been decimated
- devastating and enslaving those native peoples of the Western Hemisphere which in the name of progress are decimated
- the devastation and enslavement in the name of progress that have decimated the native peoples of the Western Hemisphere

the first major difference between A and E are two "the" ---before"devastation and enslavement" and before"native peoples", any difference in meaning?

the second difference is the "have/has" used for the "that" clause, which decide what part this clause is modifying. To be honest, I see both way are OK. How can we make judgement here?

Thank you for any instructors to step in(is "step in" here right?).

RON:

the "a/an/the" difference has never been explicitly tested on the gmat -- and is almost impossibly difficult for non-native speakers to understand fully -- so you shouldn't worry about that difference.

choice (a) is incorrect because of the singular verb "has", whose only legitimate antecedent is "progress". that doesn't make sense; progress is not what decimated native peoples. the native peoples were decimated by devastation and enslavement, so you need a plural verb.

MUST CHECK

Practice Exam 3 31 of 41

[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

Medicare, the United States government's health insurance program for the elderly and disabled, covers the full cost of home health care, but not with other nonhospital services where 20 percent of the costs must be paid by beneficiaries.

- but not with other nonhospital services where 20 percent of the costs must be paid by beneficiaries
- but not of other nonhospital services, making beneficiaries pay 20 percent of the costs
- but not of other nonhospital services, for which beneficiaries must pay 20 percent of the costs
- which is unlike other nonhospital services in that 20 percent of the costs must be paid by beneficiaries
- which is unlike other nonhospital services that make beneficiaries pay 20 percent of the costs

<http://www.beatthegmat.com/expert-advice-t284384.html>

Choice B: incorrect usage of adverbial modifier. The meaning that can be derived is that the medicare covers the full cost by making beneficiaries pay, incorrect.

Medicare covers the full cost of home health care, making beneficiaries pay 20 percent of the costs.

Conveyed meaning:

As Medicare **COVERS** the full cost, it is at the same time **MAKING** beneficiaries pay

20%.

This meaning is nonsensical.

Mitch Hunt

MUST CHECK

Practice Exam 3 33 of 41

[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

The most widely known images of Yosemite National Park are those made by photographer Ansel Adams, who photographed it continually from his teenage years on.

- who photographed it continually from his teenage years on
- who photographed it starting from his teenage years and then continually
- who photographed it starting in his teenage years and continually from then on
- having photographed it continually since his teenage years
- having photographed it starting in his teenage years and then continually

I rejected A especially for that reason that it had a preposition ON at its end.

Pls confirm

MITCH: Generally, a preposition must be followed by a noun serving as the OBJECT OF THE PREPOSITION.

In most cases, *on* serves as a preposition:

The actor stood on THE STAGE.

Here, *the stage* serves as the object of the preposition *on*.

But *on* may also serve as an ADVERB.

The show must go on.

John held on.

The crowd looked on.

When *on* serves as an adverb, it does not have to be followed by a noun serving as its object.

Here, *on* serves not as a preposition but as an ADVERB.

Conveyed meaning:

Ansel Adams photographed the park continually from his teenage years until the end of his career.

In Answer A, the pronoun "who" refers to the noun that immediately precedes it (in this case, "Ansel Adams"); in Answer D, the verb "having" actually refers to the subject of the prior part of the sentence (in this case, "the most widely known images"). In context, Answer D doesn't make sense (the images did not photograph the park, Adams did).

If the word/phrase that immediately follows the comma is a noun or pronoun, then the entire phrase that precedes it is supposed to describe the noun/pronoun. If the word that immediately follows the comma is a verb, then it is implied that the subject of the prior phrase is "doing" that verb. It's one of the many quirks of English grammar.

A COMMA + VERBing modifier serves to express an action attributed to the SUBJECT OF THE PRECEDING CLAUSE.

In D and E, *having photographed* seems to refer to *images* -- the subject of the preceding clause

-- implying that the IMAGES photographed Yosemite National Park.
Not the intended meaning.
Eliminate D and E.

MUST CHECK

Practice Exam 3 34 of 41

[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

The steel industry has changed radically over the last two decades, as large, integrated companies such as Bethlehem Steel 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 large, integrated companies such as Bethlehem Steel
- as large, integrated companies, such as Bethlehem Steel, that
- with large, integrated companies, such as Bethlehem Steel, that
- while large, integrated companies, such as Bethlehem Steel, that
- and large, integrated companies such as Bethlehem Steel

RON: the problem here is **overall structure**: the correct answer is a sentence, but choice C is not a sentence. if we strip off the modifiers, leaving the "skeleton" (= core structure) of each choice, here's what we get:

B/

The industry has changed, as companies have downsized or shut down.

--> this is a sentence.

C/

The industry has changed, with companies have downsized or shut down.

--> this is not a sentence ("with" can't be followed by a complete sentence).

• "with" is followed by a noun (or noun + modifiers), and NEVER by a complete sentence.

• "as", in this context, connects two complete sentences.

(there are other uses of "as" in which it can be followed by a noun-- e.g., *I dressed as Britney Spears for the costume party*-- but those uses have completely different meanings.)

'while' implies contrast; there is no contrast in this sentence.

A & E are not sentences.

those two are written like *The car **was** here earlier **is** now gone* (as opposed to the correct answer, which is written like *The car **that was** here earlier **is** now gone*).

<https://www.manhattanprep.com/gmat/forums/such-as-in-bethlehem-steel-t30965-15.html>

"with" modifiers are very versatile modifiers. They can modify either the preceding clause or the preceding nouns. What they modify actually depends on the context of the sentence and the wording of the modifier itself.

In this sentence, with modifier actually modifies the preceding noun. With modifier in this sentence has the following sense

India's poorest state, which has an annual per capita income of \$111

Notice, how "which has", can be understood to replace "with".

However, this modifier can be understood to modify the subject of the clause as well because of the nature of the verb - is. This is a linking verb, which establishes the following relationship: Bihar = India's poorest state.

So whatever modifies India's poorest state also modifies Bihar. You can notice similar behavior

of the verb-ed modifier in OG12#5 - Diabetes ranks as...

Now lets consider a scenario in which “with” modifier modifies the preceding clause.
This is a GMATPrep Question:

Visitors to the park have often looked up into the leafy canopy and seen monkeys sleeping on the branches, **with arms and legs hanging like socks on a clothesline.**

The highlighted modifier above modifies the preceding clause. In essence, this sentence can be written as two separate sentences:

1. Visitors to the park have often looked up into the leafy canopy and seen monkeys sleeping on the branches,
2. Their arms and legs are hung like socks on a clothesline.

So sentence 2 has been converted into with modifier. This modifier extends the thought of the preceding clause by providing a detail supporting it.

Now if the above sounds very complicated, then do not worry about it. As long as you know that these modifiers are versatile and hence can modify preceding clause and preceding nouns, you would be fine. Let the meaning of the sentence guide you. You should understand the meaning of the sentence and ensure that one of these roles fit well.
Hope this helps.

MUST CHECK – MUST READ THE FORUM

Practice Exam 3 35 of 41

[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

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.

- year toward the cost of higher education, previously paying \$7 per year
- year toward the cost of higher education, for which was previously paid \$7 per year
- year, compared to the previously \$7 per year, toward the cost of higher education
- year toward the cost of higher education, instead of the \$7 per year required previously
- year as opposed to the \$7 per year required previously for the cost of higher education

<http://www.beatthegmat.com/most-of-portugala-s-250-000-university-students-t278329.html>

Instead of is a preposition that means IN PLACE OF.

Generally, *instead of + noun* serves as an adverb, indicating that an action is performed upon one thing INSTEAD OF another.

In the SCs below, all of the modifiers in red serve the same basic function:

Each serves to FURTHER DEFINE A VALUE IN THE PRECEDING CLAUSE (shown below in upper case letters).

*The law requires students to contribute \$330 A YEAR toward the cost of higher education, **instead of the \$7 per year** required previously.*

*Soaring television costs accounted for MORE THAN HALF the spending in the presidential campaign of 1992, **a greater proportion** than in any previous election.*

*Companies in the United States are providing job training and general education for nearly EIGHT MILLION PEOPLE, **about as many** as are enrolled in the nation's four-year colleges and universities.*

*Siberia's Lake Baikal holds 20 PERCENT of the world's fresh water, **more than all** the North American Great Lakes combined.*

These sorts of modifiers are VERY COMMON on the GMAT.
COMMA + *instead of* + noun is simply one example of this type of modifier.

you have written that *comma + instead of + noun* serves as an adverb .but if it is adverbial then should it not modify the action in the previous clause? Also in the examples that you have demonstrated ,if these expressions (the one in RED) are further defining the VALUE IN THE PRECEDING CLAUSE then how are these expressions functioning as adverbial in nature?

Thanks

Students pay \$330 instead of \$7.

Since *instead of* serves to express what students PAY -- they no longer PAY \$7, they now PAY \$330 -- its role here seems adverbial:

The modifiers in red are not exactly the same.

Whether one is technically an adverb, while another is technically a noun modifier -- this sort of distinction is besides the point.

What matters is the PATTERN:

The main clause discusses A VALUE; the modifier in red puts this value in context.

This sort of construction is very common on the GMAT.

Quote:

also please tell me if "*semi colon + instead*" can be used to introduce new clause

Yes.

The OA to the following SC includes SEMI-COLON + *instead*.

<http://www.beatthegmat.com/semi-colon-t168198.html>

Mitch Hunt

MUST CHECK

Practice Exam 3 37 of 41

Check Answer Show Answer Flag for Review

Elk now live almost solely in the Rocky Mountains, which would make it seem that elk are mountain dwellers, while they once ranged over virtually all of the continental United States except for a small strip in the extreme Southwest.

- Elk now live almost solely in the Rocky Mountains, which would make it seem that elk are mountain dwellers, while
- The fact that elk now live almost solely in the Rocky Mountains would make it seem that they are mountain dwellers, but
- It would seem that elk would be mountain dwellers because of their living now solely almost in the Rocky Mountains, but still
- Now living almost solely in the Rocky Mountains, it would seem that elk were mountain dwellers, although
- It seems that elk would be mountain dwellers from the fact that they now live solely almost in the Rocky Mountains, since

In some cases, *it* will serve as an EXPLETIVE: a placeholder pronoun serving to DELAY THE SUBJECT.

The delayed subject will typically be an infinitive phrase or a *that*-clause.

Two examples:

IT is easy TO LOVE CHOCOLATE.

Here, *it* is standing in for *to love chocolate*.

Conveyed meaning:

TO LOVE CHOCOLATE is easy.

IT was not until last year THAT JOHN WROTE HIS FIRST BOOK.

Here, *it* is standing in for *that John wrote his first book*.

Conveyed meaning:

THAT JOHN WROTE HIS FIRST BOOK was not until last year.

One definition of *to seem* is to appear to be true.

OA above: *The fact that elk now live almost solely in the Rocky Mountains would make it seem **that they are mountain dwellers**.*

Here, *it* is standing in for the *that*-clause in red.

Conveyed meaning:

*The fact that elk now live almost solely in the Rocky Mountains would make **that they are mountain dwellers** appear to be true.*

Mitch Hunt

Practice Exam 3 41 of 41

[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

Because fish look through water, their eyes are very different from a mammal.

- from a mammal
- from a mammal's
- from that of a mammal
- than that of a mammal
- than is a mammal's

Practice Exam 3 18 of 41

[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

A Swiss government panel recommended that the country sell about half its gold reserves and this raised fears of other countries that do the same and inundate the market.

- reserves and this raised fears of other countries that
- reserves, which, as a result, raised fears of other countries that
- reserves; as a result, they feared that other countries would
- reserves, with fears raised that other countries would
- reserves, raising fears that other countries would

with construction after comma is improper and wrong modifier

fears raised is in passive voice instead of active voice as indicated in non underlined part of the sentence.

The Scandinavian assault on western Europe culminated in the early eleventh century with the Danish conquest of the English kingdom, which other Scandinavian kings attempted to repeat, unsuccessfully, later in the same century.

- which other Scandinavian kings attempted to repeat, unsuccessfully, later in the same century
- which other Scandinavian kings attempted to repeat later that same century, but not successfully
- an achievement that other Scandinavian kings attempted later in the century to repeat, but were not successful at it
- an achievement attempted later in the century by other Scandinavian kings that was not successful
- an achievement that other Scandinavian kings attempted to repeat later in the century, **but** without success

This is a guess

Next

★ Remove the bookmark

The sentence explains that *the Danish conquest of the English kingdom* was an *achievement* that other Scandinavian kings subsequently *attempted* but failed to emulate. This meaning is most effectively conveyed with an appositive phrase that names the Danish conquest as an *achievement*, positioning it as the object of *other Scandinavian kings'* attempts. Some versions of the sentence attempt to use a relative clause that introduces an ambiguous, unnamed object.

- A Because of its placement the adverb *unsuccessfully* seems to modify *repeat* rather than *attempted*.
- B The tag ending *but not successfully* is unnecessarily wordy.
- C The coordinating conjunction **but introduces a clause that requires a subject and a verb**; this version of the sentence provides the verb *were* but omits the subject.
- D The sentence provides no reasonable referent for the relative pronoun *that*.
- E **Correct.** The appositive *an achievement* is made into a direct object in the relative pronoun *that*. The noun *Scandinavian kings* is the subject of the verb *attempted to repeat*, which is modified by the adverbial phrase at the end of the sentence, *but without success*.

The correct answer is E.



Back

Next

Finish

In July 1965 *Mariner IV* passed by Mars and took the first-ever close-up photographs of another planet, which showed that the Martian surface was like that of the Moon's in that it was pockmarked by moonlike craters and was dry and apparently dead.

- which showed that the Martian surface was like that of the Moon's in that it was pockmarked by moonlike craters and was dry and apparently dead
- which showed a dry, apparently dead Martian surface, and it was pockmarked by craters like the Moon has
- which showed the Martian surface as a dry, apparently dead one, which was pockmarked with craters such as the Moon's
- photos showing the Martian surface to be like that of the Moon's, dry and apparently dead, and it was pockmarked by moonlike craters
- photos that showed a dry, apparently dead Martian surface pockmarked with craters like those on the Moon

This is a guess

Next

Show answer

★ Remove the bookmark

which + SINGULAR VERB must serve to refer to the nearest preceding SINGULAR noun.

which + PLURAL VERB must serve to refer to the nearest preceding PLURAL noun.

If the verb attributed to **which** can be SINGULAR OR PLURAL, then **which** must serve to refer to the NEAREST PRECEDING NOUN.

To my knowledge, no OA from GMAC has deviated from these rules.

A, B and C: *another planet, which showed*

Here, the verb attributed to which -- *showed*-- can be singular or plural.

As a result, **which** seems to refer to *another planet*, implying that ANOTHER PLANET showed aspects of the Martian surface.

The intended meaning is that PHOTOGRAPHS showed these aspects.

Eliminate A, B and C.

D: *the Martian surface...like that of the Moon's*

Here, *that* seems to be standing in for *the surface*.

Conveyed meaning:

the Martian surface...like the surface of the Moon's [surface]

The word in brackets is omitted but implied.

As a result, the phrase in red conveys an illogical meaning.

Eliminate D.

The correct answer is **A**.

Mitch Hunt

A resumptive modifier:

- repeats a key word in the sentence
- adds additional information about that key word
- often includes a *that*-clause
- usually appears at the end of a sentence.

Another Example:

Since the 1930's aircraft manufacturers have tried to build airplanes with frictionless wings, shaped so smoothly and perfectly that the air passing over them would not become turbulent.

- (A) wings, shaped so smoothly and perfectly
- (B) wings, wings so smooth and so perfectly shaped
- (C) wings that are shaped so smooth and perfect
- (D) wings, shaped in such a smooth and perfect manner
- (E) wings, wings having been shaped smoothly and perfectly so

MUST CHECK and READ BELOW POINTS

GMATPrep [Back](#) [Next](#) [Finish](#)

Review Verbal :: Sentence Correction :: VSC005220

Because of the Sun, which is 400 times larger than the Moon, but also 400 times farther away from Earth, so both the Sun and the Moon have the same apparent size in the sky.

- Because of the Sun, which is 400 times larger than the Moon, but also 400 times farther away from Earth, so both the Sun and the Moon have the same apparent size in the sky.
- The Sun, which is 400 times larger than the Moon, is also 400 times farther away from Earth, so the Sun and the Moon have the same apparent size in the sky.
- The Sun and the Moon have the same apparent size in the sky because the Sun, which is 400 times larger than the Moon, and also 400 times farther away from Earth.
- Four hundred times larger than the Moon and 400 times farther away from Earth, the Sun has the same apparent size in the sky as the Moon's.
- Four hundred times larger than the Moon and also 400 times farther away from Earth, so the Sun in the sky has the same apparent size as the Moon.

This is a guess

NextShow answer★ Remove the bookmark

In A and E, *so* is not preceded by an independent clause. **When *so* serves as a coordinating conjunction -- as it does here -- it must connect two independent clauses, each with its own**

subject and verb. Eliminate A and E.

In C, the subject that follows *because* -- THE SUN -- lacks a verb. Because the sun DOES WHAT EXACTLY? Eliminate C.

In D, *the Moon's* seems to be standing in for *the Moon's SIZE*, implying the following comparison:

The Sun has the same apparent size as THE MOON'S SIZE HAS.

We can't say that THE MOON'S SIZE has a SIZE. Eliminate D.

USAGE OF ALTHOUGH/THOUGH:-

RONS SAYS:

* If *Although* xxxxx comes BEFORE the main sentence, the "xxxxx" can be ...

... an adjective (*Although exhausted, Rob continued to work*);

... a modifier describing the following subject (*Although in considerable debt already, Tom spent two thousand dollars on a new designer suit*);

... an entire sentence.

* If *although* xxxxx comes AFTER the main sentence, the "xxxxx" must be another sentence in its own right.

* *Though* can do everything that *although* can do (as listed above).

* Off the top of my head, there's one extra job "though" can perform that "although" can't. Specifically, it can separate two adjectives, or other descriptions, that contrast with each other. *Dogos Argentinos are beautiful, though dangerous, dogs.*
Ray looked happy, though exhausted.

MUST MUST CHECK

Practice Exam 3 19 of 41

[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

More than fifty years after the Second World War, a number of African American soldiers were awarded—some of them posthumously—with the Congressional Medal of Honor, which was the nation's highest military award, and which was long overdue in recognition of their outstanding bravery.

- with the Congressional Medal of Honor, which was the nation's highest military award, and which was long overdue in
- with the Congressional Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military award for long-overdue
- the Congressional Medal of Honor, which was the nation's highest military award, long-overdue in
- the Congressional Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military award for long-overdue
- the Congressional Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military award, in long-overdue

X was awarded medal in (long-overdue) recognition of his bravery.

"awarded with" is idiomatically incorrect

The correct idiom here is "in recognition", not "for recognition".

MUST CHECK

Practice Exam 3

29 of 41

Check Answer

Show Answer

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In an effort to reduce the number of fires started by cigarettes, a major tobacco company is test-marketing a cigarette in which thin layers of extra paper are used to decrease the amount of oxygen entering the cigarette, thereby slowing the rate at which it burns and lowering the heat it generates.

- in which thin layers of extra paper are used to decrease the amount of oxygen entering the cigarette, thereby slowing
- in which they use thin layers of extra paper in decreasing the amount of oxygen entering the cigarette, which slows
- that uses thin layers of extra paper to decrease the amount of oxygen when it enters the cigarette, thereby slowing
- for which thin layers of extra paper are used to decrease the amount of oxygen that enters the cigarette, and thereby slowing
- using thin layers of extra paper in decreasing the amount of oxygen entering the cigarette, which slows

Hi Ron,

Rewriting the sentence with option C inserted

In an effort to reduce the number of fires started by cigarettes, a major tobacco company is test-marketing a cigarette that uses thin layers of extra paper to decrease the amount of oxygen when it enters the cigarette, thereby slowing the rate at which **it** burns and lowering the heat **it** generates.

The 'it' after the underlined portion refers to 'oxygen'.

Is my thinking correct???

RON: good observation.

in the context of the original sentence, the red "it" is the cigarette itself.

that is an actual conflict (with the immediately preceding "it", which is used to refer to something else).

notice that there's no "vagueness"; the problem is that the different "it"s are *unambiguously* meant to refer to two *precise*, but different, nouns.

Quote:

3. "thereby" vs "and thereby", both are OK. in the case of "thereby", it is a conjunction, and followed by an elliptical form of "to slow" --- "slowing"; in the case of "and thereby", "and" is conjunction and "thereby" is an adverb, which also followed by an elliptical "slowing" (I guess "slow" should be parallel to "decrease")

this is incorrect. "thereby" is an adjective, and so may be ignored in a grammatical analysis. (it can't be ignored in an analysis of the meaning of the sentence, but, like other adverbs and adjectives, it has no effect on grammar.)

therefore, *and + thereby + --ing* has the same restrictions and grammatical significance as *and + -ing*; same for the construction without "and".

"and (+ thereby) + slowing" is incorrect, because "slowing" is not parallel to anything in the earlier part of the sentence. (i don't know what "elliptical form" means, so i can't comment on that.)

comma (+ thereby) + slowing is correct -- it modifies the action of the preceding clause, as is required of COMMA + --ING modifiers.

<http://www.beatthegmat.com/post403888.html#403888>

MUST CHECK

Practice Exam 3 34 of 41

[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

Imported into Massachusetts from Europe in 1869, the gypsy moth was used by a French scientist in an attempt at developing a strong strain of silk-producing insects, crossing gypsy moths with adult silkworms.

- Imported into Massachusetts from Europe in 1869, the gypsy moth was used by a French scientist in an attempt at developing a strong strain of silk-producing insects, crossing gypsy moths with adult silkworms.
- Imported into Massachusetts from Europe in 1869, a French scientist was attempting to develop a strong strain of silk-producing insects by crossing gypsy moths with adult silkworms.
- 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.
- The gypsy moth was imported into Massachusetts from Europe in 1869 by a French scientist attempting to develop a strong strain of silk-producing insects by crossing gypsy moths with adult silkworms.
- In an attempt at the development of a strong strain of silk-producing insects, a French scientist, importing the gypsy moth from Europe into Massachusetts in 1869 in order to cross gypsy moths and adult silkworms.

harika.apu wrote: So, In attempting to do Y, scientist imported x sounds correct

Thanks:)

RON: no, because the importation was not PART OF the attempt.

analogy:

In eating the pasta, I cooked it in boiling water.

you see the problem here, right?

'in attempting...' has exactly the same problem.

Practice Exam 4 6 of 41

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Unlike frogs that metamorphose from tadpoles into adults within a one-year period, it takes three to four years for the mountain yellow-legged frog of the Sierra Nevada to reach adulthood, and so they are restricted to deeper bodies of water that do not dry up in summer or freeze solid in winter.

- it takes three to four years for the mountain yellow-legged frog of the Sierra Nevada to reach adulthood, and so they are
- it takes the mountain yellow-legged frog of the Sierra Nevada three to four years until it reaches adulthood, and therefore it is
- in the Sierra Nevada, mountain yellow-legged tree frogs take three to four years to reach adulthood, thus being
- mountain yellow-legged frogs of the Sierra Nevada take three to four years until they reach adulthood, thus
- mountain yellow-legged frogs of the Sierra Nevada take three to four years to reach adulthood, with the result that they are

there's an idiomatic issue with **until**

The correct idiomatic usage here is *it takes some length of time to VERB*

On the GMAT, **COMMA + VERBed --** or **COMMA + adverb + VERBed --** generally serves to modify the immediately preceding noun or noun phrase.

In D, **COMMA + *thus restricted*** seems to refer to *adulthood* (the immediately preceding noun), implying that **ADULTHOOD** is *thus restricted to deeper bodies of water*.

Not the intended meaning.

thuyduong91vnu wrote:

Hi Mitch,

Could you help to clarify this one:

So as I understand, on the GMAT, there are 2 cases in which "Clause + Comma" are used, and their differences are as below:

1. Clause + Comma + V-ing: "V-ing" is used to modify the whole preceding clause or the subject

of the preceding clause. It cannot modify the nearest noun of the preceding clause.

2. Clause + Comma + V-ed: vice versa. The "V-ed" part can modify only the nearest noun, and can not modify the whole preceding clause or the subject of the preceding clause.

Please help to correct my understandings.

Thanks for your help!

The statements in blue are correct.

COMMA + VERBing serves to modify the preceding subject and verb (and thus can be said to modify the preceding clause).

COMMA + VERBed serves to modify the preceding noun.

MUST CHECK

Practice Exam 4 7 of 41

[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

The steel industry has changed radically over the last two decades, as large, integrated companies such as Bethlehem Steel 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 large, integrated companies such as Bethlehem Steel
- as large, integrated companies, such as Bethlehem Steel, that
- with large, integrated companies, such as Bethlehem Steel, that
- while large, integrated companies, such as Bethlehem Steel, that
- and large, integrated companies such as Bethlehem Steel

C: *with large, integrated companies...have greatly downsized.*

Here, the portion in red -- an independent clause, composed of a subject (*companies*) and a verb (*have downsized*) -- serves as the object of the preposition *with*.

An independent clause cannot serve as the object of a preposition.

Eliminate C.

Practice Exam 4 10 of 41

[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

Drawing on her roots in a society that has a strong tradition of storytelling and oral renditions of the past, Indian writer Suniti Namjoshi incorporates many types of literature into her writing: including historical texts, legends, and even nursery rhymes from both Indian as well as European sources.

- writing: including historical texts, legends, and even nursery rhymes from both Indian as well as
- writing: historical texts, legends, and even nursery rhymes from both Indian and
- writing: these include historical texts, legends, and even nursery rhymes from both Indian and
- writing, which includes historical texts, legends, and even nursery rhymes both from Indian as well as
- writing that includes historical texts, legends, and even nursery rhymes both from Indian and

Silly Mistake

Practice Exam 4

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[Check Answer](#)

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[Flag for Review](#)

Some scientists contend that many species of dinosaur had a metabolism more like a warm-blooded mammal's than a cold-blooded reptile's.

- that many species of dinosaur had a metabolism more like
- that the metabolism of many dinosaur species were more like
- that the metabolisms of many species of dinosaurs were more like those of
- there were many species of dinosaurs that had metabolisms more like those of
- there were many dinosaur species that had a metabolism more like that of

MUST CHECK

Practice Exam 4

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[Check Answer](#)

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Written in ink or engraved by stylus, more than 2,000 letters and documents on wooden tablets excavated at the site of the old Roman fort at Vindolanda in northern England are yielding a historical account of the military garrison in the first and second centuries that are so vivid in their details about personal life as they are from Pompeii.

- are so vivid in their details about personal life as they are
- are as vivid in their details of personal life as those gathered
- is as vivid in their detail about personal life as that gathered
- is as vivid in its details of personal life as that gathered
- is so vivid in its details of personal life as is that

MUST CHECK

Practice Exam 4

26 of 41

[Check Answer](#)

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[Flag for Review](#)

Researchers are using computer images to help surgeons plan difficult operations and to develop programs that will work for doctors and nurses in the same way that flight simulators do for pilots, letting medical personnel practice their techniques and test their reflexes before they ever see a patient.

- plan difficult operations and to develop programs that will work for doctors and nurses in the same way that flight simulators do
- plan difficult operations and develop programs to work for doctors and nurses the same way as with flight simulators
- to plan difficult operations and to develop programs that will work for doctors and nurses like flight simulators
- plan difficult operations and in developing programs to work for doctors and nurses the same way as flight simulators
- to plan difficult operations and developing programs that will work for doctors and nurses like flight simulators do

Practice Exam 4

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[Check Answer](#)

[Show Answer](#)

[Flag for Review](#)

For many revisionist historians, Christopher Columbus has come to personify devastation and enslavement in the name of progress that has decimated native peoples of the Western Hemisphere.

- devastation and enslavement in the name of progress that has decimated native peoples of the Western Hemisphere
- devastation and enslavement in the name of progress by which native peoples of the Western Hemisphere have been decimated
- devastating and enslaving in the name of progress those native peoples of the Western Hemisphere that have been decimated
- devastating and enslaving those native peoples of the Western Hemisphere which in the name of progress are decimated
- the devastation and enslavement in the name of progress that have decimated the native peoples of the Western Hemisphere

 Check Answer

 Show Answer

 Flag for Review

According to findings derived from functional magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), the area of the brain in which a second or third language is stored depends on the age of the language learner; whereas each language occupies a distinct area of the brain in an adult learner, language areas overlap in a young child.

- whereas each language occupies a distinct area of the brain in an adult learner,
- whereas for adults each language occupies a distinct area of the brain and
- each language occupies a distinct area of the brain when they are learned by an adult, while
- each language in adults occupied a distinct area of the brain, while
- each language occupying a distinct area of the brain for an adult learner, and

A semi-colon must serve to connect two complete sentences.

In B, the *whereas*-clause serves as a long introductory modifier.

Since a complete sentence does not follow the semi-colon, eliminate B.

In C, *they* lacks a clear referent.

Eliminate C.

In D, *occupied* (past) should be in the same tense as *depends* and *overlap* (both present).

Eliminate D.

A conjunction such as *and* must serve to connect PARALLEL FORMS.

In E, *each language occupying* (noun phrase + modifier) and *language areas overlap* (noun phrase + verb) are not parallel forms.

Eliminate E.

The correct answer is **A**.

Mitch Hunt

MUST CHECK

 Check Answer

 Show Answer

 Flag for Review

According to a 1996 survey by the National Association of College and University Business Officers, 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.

- than those that charge
- than are charging
- than to charge
- as charge
- as those charging

RON: There are 2 ways to figure this one out. Make sure you can do both.

1/

Use context.

The comparison is between different numbers of schools. The first part of that comparison is "three times as many...", and you're supposed to fill in the second half.

2/

Just notice what's there and what isn't there.

You already have "more" and "than".

You have "three times as many...", but you don't have the other "as" unless you include it in the underline.

MUST CHECK

Practice Exam 4

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Check Answer

Show Answer

Flag for Review

Whereas lines of competition are clearly defined in the more established industries, in the Internet industry they are blurred and indistinct, as companies that compete one day may be partners the next.

- Whereas lines of competition are clearly defined in the more established industries, in the Internet industry they are blurred and indistinct, as companies that compete
- Although the lines of competition are clearly defined in industries that are more established, they are blurred and indistinct in the Internet industry, as competing companies
- The lines of competition are clearly defined in the more established industries, unlike the Internet where they are blurred and indistinct, as companies that compete
- Unlike more established industries, where the lines of competition are clearly defined, they are blurred and indistinct in the Internet industry, as companies that compete
- Unlike more established industries, with clearly defined lines of competition, those of the Internet industry are blurred and indistinct, as competing companies

Practice Exam 4

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Check Answer

Show Answer

Flag for Review

The discovery that Earth's inner core rotates independently of and more quickly than Earth's outer layers is responsible for advancing studies of the flow of heat from the inner through the outer planet and of the formation and periodic reversal in direction of Earth's magnetic field.

- core rotates independently of and more quickly than Earth's outer layers is responsible for advancing studies of the flow of heat from the inner through the outer planet and of the formation and periodic reversal in direction of Earth's magnetic field
- core rotates independently of and more quickly than Earth's outer layers is responsible for advancing studies of how heat from the inner core flows through the outer planet, and the formation and periodic reversal in direction of Earth's magnetic field
- core rotates independently and more quickly than Earth's outer layers are responsible for advancing studies of how heat from the inner core flows through the outer planet, and how Earth's magnetic field forms and the periodic reversal of its direction
- core, rotating independently and more quickly than Earth's outer layers, are responsible for advancing studies of the flow of heat from the inner through the outer planet, and the formation and periodic reversal in direction of Earth's magnetic field
- core, rotating independently of and more quickly than Earth's outer layers, is responsible for advancing studies of the flow of heat from the inner through the outer planet and of how Earth's magnetic field forms and the periodic reversal of its direction

MUST CHECK

The results of the company's cost-cutting measures are evident in its profits, which increased five percent during the first three months of this year after it fell over the last two years.

- (A) which increased five percent during the first three months of this year after it fell
- (B) which had increased five percent during the first three months of this year after it had fallen
- (C) which have increased five percent during the first three months of this year after falling
- (D) with a five percent increase during the first three months of this year after falling
- (E) with a five percent increase during the first three months of this year after having fallen

Please explain why E is wrong . i chose E.

is it wrong because there is no parallel structure on both sides of after
or it is wrong because of use of 'with'

in general, "COMMA + prep phrase modifier" is an adverbial modifier, meaning that it modifies the entirety of the preceding clause.

in this sentence, we don't want an adverbial modifier, since it doesn't make any sense for this

modifier to apply to the entire preceding clause.

rather, we want a modifier that will only modify the noun at the end of the preceding clause (i.e., "profits"). since this is the exact function of a "which" modifier, that's the modifier we want here.

Because there are provisions of the new maritime code that provide that even tiny islets can be the basis for claims to the fisheries and oil fields of large sea areas, they have already stimulated international disputes over uninhabited islands.

(A) Because there are provisions of the new maritime code that provide that even tiny islets can be the basis for claims to the fisheries and oil fields of large sea areas, they have already stimulated

(B) Because the new maritime code provides that even tiny islets can be the basis for claims to the fisheries and oil fields of large sea areas, it has already stimulated

(C) Even tiny islets can be the basis for claims to the fisheries and oil fields of large sea areas under provisions of the new maritime code, already stimulating

(D) Because even tiny islets can be the basis for claims to the fisheries and oil fields of large sea areas under provisions of the new maritime code, this has already stimulated

(E) Because even tiny islets can be the basis for claims to the fisheries and oil fields of large sea areas under provisions of the new maritime code, which is already stimulating

RON: choice (d) uses "this" as a standalone pronoun. that's pretty much never acceptable in a formal written sentence.

if you're going to use "this", you should use it as an adjective: this thing, this finding, this statistic, etc.

also, here's some "extra credit" knowledge:

there ARE constructions that can stand for the abstract information in an entire clause (unlike pronouns, which are limited to standing for actual nouns). chief among these are the COMMA + NOUN modifiers.

however, the presence of "because" at the beginning of choice (d) would preclude the use of those modifiers as well.

here's an example:

studies have shown that X is 60 percent of Y, a finding that has shocked most observers.

*studies have shown that X is 60 percent of Y; **this finding** has shocked most observers.*

--> both correct. note that "a finding", following the comma, or "this finding", standing alone after the semicolon, stands for the entirety of the clause that comes before it; you couldn't use "which" here, because "which" would automatically refer to Y.

***because** studies have shown that X is 60 percent of Y, **this finding** has shocked most observers.*

--> incorrect. the presence of "because" at the beginning of the first clause means you can't use "this finding" anymore.

i don't have any idea what the actual rule is here, but i do know with 100% certainty that these constructions are allowed and disallowed respectively.

Antipoverty initiatives have had to contend with two decades of economic shifts that have depressed wages of workers with little or no technical skills.

- (A) that have depressed wages of workers with little or no technical skills
- (B) having depressed wages of workers with little or no technical skills
- (C) that have depressed the wages of workers with few or no technical skills
- (D) in which the workers' wages with few or no technical skills have been depressed
- (E) in that workers with few or no technical skills have wages that are depressed

Quote:

NOUN + having + VERBed is ALWAYS WRONG.

this is gem of a statement. Can u please elaborate a bit more on this. some example would be of some great help. also what exactly makes it so wrong?

Thanks

A *having* + VERBED modifier cannot serve to modify only a noun.

Like a COMMA + VERBing modifier, a *having* + VERBed modifier must serve to modify an ENTIRE CLAUSE.

Both types of modifiers serve the same purpose: to express an action directly LINKED to the main verb.

Two key differences:

1:

A COMMA + VERBing modifier serves to express an action happening AT THE SAME TIME as the main verb.

A *having* + VERBed modifier serves to express an action that happened BEFORE the main verb.

2:

A COMMA + VERBing modifier usually appears AFTER the main verb.

A *having* + VERBed modifier usually appears BEFORE the main verb.

SC21 in the OG12: *Neuroscientists, having amassed a wealth of knowledge, are now drawing solid conclusions.*

Here, *having amassed* serves to express a PAST ACTION that is directly linked to a CURRENT ACTION (*now drawing*).

The following would also be correct:

Having amassed a wealth of knowledge, neuroscientists are now drawing solid conclusions.

Since a *having* + VERBed modifier must serve to modify an entire clause, NOUN + *having* + VERBed is always WRONG.

Mitch Hunt

His studies of ice-polished rocks in his Alpine homeland, far outside the range of present-day

glaciers, led Louis Agassiz in 1837 to propose the concept of an age in which great ice sheets had

existed in now currently temperate areas.

- (A) in which great ice sheets had existed in now currently temperate areas
- (B) in which great ice sheets existed in what are now temperate areas
- (C) when great ice sheets existed where there were areas now temperate

- (D) when great ice sheets had existed in current temperate areas
- (E) when great ice sheets existed in areas now that are temperate

vijay19839 wrote:Ron

Can u please explain what is wrong with Option C & Option E?

I am little confused with OG Explanations. In Option E, 'now' acts as an adverb but an adverb doesn't need to be close to verb. Why is E being discarded for this reason? Is there any ambiguity associated with placement of 'now'?

Option C -> Is it wrong because 'where' doesn't have any antecedent?

I also need to understand the right option B - '**What are now temperate areas**'- Can what introduce a relative clause?

Thanks
Vijay

Adverbs get some leeway, but when there are more than 1 verb (or other item it should be modifying) in a sentence, the sentence can be unclear. In this case it is wrong because:

(E) when great ice sheets existed in areas now (that are temperate)

"that are temperate" is a clause describing the areas. Since now is left out of that clause, it is modifying when the ice sheets existed. They existed now is absurd, but structurally, this is the meaning of the sentence.

As for (C), let's strip away some fluff and see what happens:

(C) when great ice sheets existed where there were areas (now temperate)

The problem isn't that "where" is misplaced, it's that the word is illogical. Ice sheets existed where there were areas? Nope.

In the correct answer "what are now X" is a lesser-used expression that expresses the same meaning as "that are now X". The difference is whether they go before or after the modifier. "that" is much more versatile (and common) in life and on the GMAT:

great ice sheets existed in (what are now temperate) areas
is the same as:

ice sheets existed in areas that are now temperate

Joe Lucero

Manhattan GMAT Instructor

If usage of both 'in which and when' is right and if option 'E' is modified to - 'when great ice sheets existed in areas that are now temperate', then between 'B' and the modified 'E', which is a better option?

RON: if you made those changes at the end of choice (e), then it would become another correct version of the sentence. in that case, each of (b) and (e) would be just as good as the other.

Check Answer

Show Answer

Flag for Review

Discussion of greenhouse effects has usually focused on whether the Earth would warm and by how much, but climatologists have indicated all along that the most obvious effects, and those that would have the largest impact on people, would be extremes of temperature, precipitation, and storminess.

- the most obvious effects, and those that would have the largest impact on people, would be extremes of temperature, precipitation, and storminess
- the effects that are the most obvious ones, extremes of temperature, precipitation, and storminess, would be those impacting the most on people
- those effects to have the largest impact on people, extremes of temperature, precipitation, and storminess, are what are the most obvious effects
- extremes of temperature, precipitation, and storminess, the most obvious effects, that they would have the largest impact on people
- extremes of temperature, precipitation, and storminess, which are the most obvious effects, are those to impact the most on people

Check Answer

Show Answer

Flag for Review

The principal feature of the redesigned checks is a series of printed instructions that the company hopes will help merchants confirm a check's authenticity, which includes reminders to watch the endorsement, compare signatures, and view the watermark while holding the check to the light.

- which includes reminders to watch the endorsement, compare signatures, and view
- which include reminders for watching the endorsement, to compare signatures and view
- by including reminders for watching the endorsement, comparing signatures, and viewing
- including reminders to watch the endorsement, comparing signatures and viewing
- including reminders to watch the endorsement, compare signatures, and view

The referent for COMMA + *including* cannot be a general category.
Generally, COMMA + *including* must serve to refer to a SPECIFIC SET.

Official examples:

A study urged states to undertake a number of remedies to reverse a decline in the shark population, including establishing size limits for shark catches, closing state waters for shark fishing during pupping season, and requiring commercial fishers to have federal shark permits.

Here, the referent for COMMA + *including* is a specific set of remedies (the phrase in blue).

The new image of Stone Age people has emerged from the examination of tools found in Germany, including three wooden spears.

Here, the referent for COMMA + *including* is a specific set of tools (the phrase in blue).

The principal feature of the redesigned checks is a series of printed instructions that the company hopes will help merchants confirm a check's authenticity, including reminders to watch the endorsement, compare signatures, and view the watermark while holding the check to the light.

Here, the referent for COMMA + *including* cannot be *merchants* (a general category).

The only viable referent for COMMA + *including* is the portion in blue (a specific set of instructions).

gmatguru,

what are the errors in D ?

D: *printed instructions, including reminders to watch, comparing signatures*

Here, the function of *comparing* is unclear.

Option 1: *reminders to watch, reminders comparing signatures*

This option implies that the REMINDERS are *comparing signatures* -- a nonsensical meaning. In this option, an additional error is that *to watch* and *comparing* lack parallelism.

Option 2: *printed instructions...including comparing signatures*

This option implies that *comparing signatures* is an instruction -- not the intended meaning. The intended meaning is that one of the instructions is a REMINDER to compare signatures. In this option, an additional error is that the apparent list of instructions -- *reminders to watch, comparing signatures, viewing the watermark* -- is not parallel. Since neither option is viable, eliminate D.

Mitch Hunt

Practice Exam 5 18 of 41

[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

During the eighteenth century, widespread changes in agriculture, known as the agrarian revolution, involving the large-scale introduction of enclosed fields, of new farming techniques and crops, and the substitution of commercial for subsistence farming.

- revolution, involving the large-scale introduction of enclosed fields, of new farming techniques and crops, and
- revolution, involved the large-scale introduction of enclosed fields and of new farming techniques and crops, and
- revolution, which involved the large-scale introduction of enclosed fields and of new farming techniques and crops, and
- revolution involved the large-scale introduction of enclosed fields, new farming techniques and crops, and of
- revolution that involved the large-scale introduction of enclosed fields and new farming techniques and crops, and of

MUST CHECK

Practice Exam 5 21 of 41

[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

With California expected to see severe electricity shortfalls and perhaps blackouts on as many as 30 days this summer, the administration has grown increasingly concerned about public health and safety there.

- With California expected to see severe electricity shortfalls and perhaps blackouts on as many as 30 days this summer, the administration has grown increasingly concerned about
- With California expecting to see severe electricity shortfalls this summer, and there will possibly be blackouts for as much as 30 days, the administration's concern has grown increasingly about
- As California is expected to be seeing severe electricity shortfalls and perhaps blackouts on as much as 30 days this summer, the administration's concern is increasing for
- Insofar as California is expected to see severe electricity shortfalls this summer, and there will possibly be blackouts on as many as 30 days, the administration has increasing concern about
- Insofar as California expects to see severe electricity shortfalls and the possibility of blackouts for as much as 30 days this summer, the administration has grown increasingly concerned about

and must serve to connect PARALLEL FORMS.

D: *Insofar as California is expected...and there will possibly be*

Here, the portions in red are not parallel.

Eliminate D.

E: *California expects to see...the possibility*

This meaning is nonsensical.

The intended meaning is that California is expected to see BLACKOUTS.

Eliminate E.

The correct answer is **A**.

insofar as means TO THE EXTENT THAT.

D and E imply the following:

The administration is concerned insofar as California is expected to see severe shortfalls.

The portions in color contradict each other.

Whereas the red portion implies that the administration is concerned only TO AN EXTENT, the blue portion expresses a problem that is SEVERE.

The result is a nonsensical meaning.

Eliminate D and E.

Practice Exam 5 26 of 41

[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

By the same techniques used for genetically enhancing plants, making them disease- or pest-resistant, researchers have been able to increase the amount of protein in potatoes, sweet potatoes, and tobacco.

- By the same techniques used for genetically enhancing plants, making them
- With the same techniques to genetically enhance plants, so that they are
- Employing the same techniques used to genetically enhance plants so that they are
- Employing the same techniques to genetically enhance plants, which makes them
- Employing the same techniques for genetically enhancing plants that make them

sayantanc2k

A. The present participle modifier "making them..." needs a complete clause to refer to - it would then refer to the effect of the whole clause or just to the subject of the clause. However "By the same techniques used for genetically enhancing plants" is a prepositional phrase, not a clause, and therefore the present participle "making them..." cannot refer to this prepositional phrase. Moreover "used for enhancing" is not correct. Since an intension is expressed, the correct usage is the infinitive "used to enhance".

B. The omission of "used" makes it unclear whether the technique has already been used. The intended meaning is that researchers are employing an already used technique.

Practice Exam 5 29 of 41

[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

Biologists working in Spain say that their discovery of teeming life in a highly acidic river may not only broaden the search for life, or for evidence of past life, on other planets but also show that a number of forms of microscopic life can adapt to conditions that scientists have long thought hostile to all but the hardiest bacteria.

- show that a number of forms of microscopic life can adapt to conditions that scientists have long thought hostile to all but the hardiest bacteria
- may show that a number of forms of microscopic life is capable of adapting to conditions that scientists have long thought hostile to all bacteria but the hardiest ones
- shows a number of forms of microscopic life to be capable to adapt to conditions that scientists have long thought had been hostile to all but the hardiest bacteria
- showing that a number of forms of microscopic life is capable of adapting to conditions that scientists have long thought had been hostile to all but the hardiest bacteria
- showing that a number of forms of microscopic life can adapt to conditions that scientists have long thought hostile to all bacteria but the hardiest

Practice Exam 5 30 of 41

[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

Like the Dreyfus affair at the turn of the century and the Sacco-Vanzetti trial in 1921, the Hiss case became the political cause of an era, the more so because it was the first time a congressional hearing was shown on television.

- the more so because it was
- more for its being
- more for the reason that it was
- the more so for the reason because it was
- the reason of it being more so is that it was

sayantanc2k

Since this is NOT a typical comparative adjective that requires a mandatory "than", it would probably be better to memorize it as an idiom.

This usage may be considered as stating an action and then providing an additional reason for taking the action - a reason that made someone take the action with stronger justification.

I went to the party, more so because she was there.

Fact: I went to the party

Additional reason that provided stronger justification for my action: because she was there.

Removign "more so" would not convey the sense of this *additional* justification for my action.

Practice Exam 5 31 of 41

[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

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

- that the normal human life span comprises an even number of days
- that an even number of days may be comprising the normal human life span
- of the normal human life span to be comprised of an even number of days
- of an even number of days that may comprise the normal human life span
- of an even number of days to comprise the normal human life span

chetan2u

the two points raised -

1) possiblity that or possiblity of- Both are correct and depend on the context they are used
Possiblity of should be followed by a noun-
there is a high possiblity of rain today...
possiblity that should be followed by a clause
there is a high possiblity that the rains will bring respite to drought hit areas..

2) comprises vs comprise of-

comprises is almost always used without 'of' - comprise itself means 'consist of'
of used in "comprised of"

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Critical-thinking instruction is predicated on two assumptions: that there are clearly identifiable thinking skills that students can be taught to recognize and apply appropriately, and if recognized and applied, students will become more effective thinkers.

- if recognized and applied, students
- if these skills are recognized and applied, that students
- if students recognize and apply them, that they
- that if recognized and applied, students
- that if students recognize and apply these skills, they

The original sentence contains two errors:I) Parallelism & II) modifier.

I) Critical-thinking instruction is predicted on two assumptions: **that** there are clearly identifiable thinking skills that students can be taught to recognize and apply appropriately, **and (That required)** if recognized and applied, students will become more effective thinkers.

II) Critical-thinking instruction is predicted on two assumptions: that there are clearly identifiable thinking skills that students can be taught to recognize and apply appropriately, **and if recognized and applied, students** will become more effective thinkers. - **implies students are recognized and applied.**

- B. **if** these skills are recognized and applied, that students - **out due to error I**
- C. **if** students recognize and apply them, that they- **out due to error I**
- D. that **if recognized and applied, students** - **out due to error II**
- E. **that** if students recognize and apply **these skills**, they

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In 1981 children in the United States spent an average of slightly less than two and a half hours a week doing household chores; by 1997 they had spent nearly six hours a week.

- chores; by 1997 they had spent nearly six hours a week
- chores; by 1997 that figure had grown to nearly six hours a week
- chores, whereas nearly six hours a week were spent in 1997
- chores, compared with a figure of nearly six hours a week in 1997
- chores, that figure growing to nearly six hours a week in 1997

As you mentioned 'they' in A is clear and correct, then what's wrong with A? Could you please explain? Thanks!

RON:hmm.

well, the meaning of the problem (which is clear to me - and, apparently according to the great people, clear to everyone else too) is that the kids *were spending* that many hours per week by 1997.

if you say "they had spent six hours a week by 1997", all this means is that they had gotten to 6 hrs/wk AT SOME POINT before 1997. it doesn't mean that they're still working that much.

--

analogy:

in 1980 forty percent of East High School class graduated; 67% of the class had graduated by 1997.

--> wrong. this would mean that half of the 1980 class had graduated *at any time* prior to 1997.

in 1980 forty percent of East High School class graduated; by 1997 the figure had grown to 67%.

--> correct. this would mean that 67% of the '97 class graduated (which is what we mean).

MITCH: The past perfect (*had*+ VERBed) serves to express an action COMPLETED before another past event.

had+ VERBed cannot serve to express an ONGOING action.

A: *by 1997 they had spent nearly six hours a week*

Here, *had spent* (past perfect) incorrectly serves to express an ONGOING action that is performed SIX HOURS A WEEK.

Eliminate A.

<http://www.beatthegmat.com/post796812.html#796812>

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The quality of early pieces of blown glass excavated in Italy and Western Europe by far surpass those of pieces from the eastern Mediterranean, when regarded not only in terms of the variety of shapes represented, but also in terms of decorative techniques and functionality.

- by far surpass those of pieces from the eastern Mediterranean, when regarded not only in terms of
- surpasses by far those from the eastern Mediterranean, with regard not only to
- far surpass that of pieces from the eastern Mediterranean, not only regarding
- far surpasses that of the eastern Mediterranean, with regard to not only
- far surpasses that of pieces from the eastern Mediterranean, not only with regard to

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The continental United States receives an average of 30 inches of precipitation a year; transpiration from soil and from plants returns approximately 21 of the 30 inches to the atmosphere, while the balance of 9 inches contributes to the flow of streams and rivers.

- transpiration from soil and from plants returns approximately 21 of the 30 inches to the atmosphere, while the balance of 9 inches contributes to the flow
- transpiration from soil and from plants returns approximately 21 of the 30 inches to the atmosphere, and the remainder of 9 inches contribute to the flowing
- transpiration from soil and from plants return approximately 21 of the 30 inches to the atmosphere, and the balance of 9 inches contribute to the flowing
- with transpiration from soil and from plants to return approximately 21 inches to the atmosphere, the rest of the 9 inches contributes to the flow
- as transpiration from soil and from plants return approximately 21 of the 30 inches to the atmosphere, the rest of the 9 inches contribute to the flow

Practice Exam 6

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As a trophy property, the price offered for the office building may say more about the continuing robust financial health of wealthy buyers than incremental changes in demand for office space in New York.

- As a trophy property, the price offered for the office building may say more about the continuing robust financial health of wealthy buyers than
- The price offered for the office building, a trophy property, may say more about continuing wealthy buyers' robust financial health than
- As a trophy property, the office building and the price offered may say more about the continuing robust financial health of wealthy buyers as it does
- The price offered for the office building, a trophy property, may say more about the continuing robust financial health of wealthy buyers than about
- The office building is a trophy property, the price offered for it perhaps saying more about the robust financial health of wealthy buyers than

Practice Exam 6

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Cash flows to stock and bond mutual funds have gained strength in the last two months, but fund managers have not been eager to invest the new money, instead of preferring to raise the cash levels in their portfolios at the highest level in six months.

- have not been eager to invest the new money, instead of preferring to raise the cash levels in their portfolios at
- have not been eager to invest the new money, instead preferring to raise the cash levels in their portfolios to
- have not been eager at investing the new money, instead of preferring to raise the cash levels in their portfolios to
- were not eager to invest the new money, instead of preferring to raise the cash levels in their portfolios at
- were not eager at investing the new money, instead preferring to raise the cash levels in their portfolios to

MUST CHECK

Practice Exam 6 11 of 41

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Located at the very coal mines that provided them with fuel, the use of steam engines in eighteenth-century England increased coal production by allowing for mines to be drained of water and permitting extraction of deeper layers of coal.

- the use of steam engines in eighteenth-century England increased coal production by allowing for mines to be drained of water and permitting
- steam engines increased coal production in eighteenth-century England by permitting the drainage of mines and the
- steam engines in eighteenth-century England allowed an increase in coal production by permitting the drainage of mine water and permitting
- steam engines increased coal production in eighteenth-century England by allowing water to be drained out of mines and
- eighteenth-century use of steam engines increased English coal production by draining mines and

Comparison

Practice Exam 6 12 of 41

[Check Answer](#) [Show Answer](#) [Flag for Review](#)

Unlike mainstream American businesses, more than half of which fail, the failure rate for businesses in the Amish community hovers around 5 percent.

- Unlike mainstream American businesses, more than half of which fail,
- Unlike mainstream American businesses, in which the failure rate is more than half,
- Unlike mainstream American businesses, where more than half of them fail,
- While the rate of mainstream American businesses failing is more than half,
- While more than half of mainstream American businesses fail,

RON: the major problem with (d) is the incorrect construction "of + NOUN + VERBing".

i wrote extensively about this topic here:

post18293.html#p18293

also, **it's unidiomatic to say that a RATE is "half" (or "more/less than half"). you could say that a rate is 50%, but not "half".**

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NASA's methodical approach to the exploration of Mars has not yet answered the questions of whether biological life forms ever emerged on Mars and whether, presuming such life forms having left fossil traces to begin with, those traces can still exist in some moist recesses of the cold and arid planet.

- and whether, presuming such life forms having left fossil traces to begin with, those traces can
- and whether, if it is presumed that such life forms left some fossil traces to begin with, can those traces
- and whether, presuming such life forms left fossil traces to begin with, those traces
- and, presuming such life forms did leave some fossil traces to begin with, if they can
- and, presuming such life forms to have left fossil traces to begin with, if they

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Bumblebees live in colonies of several hundred that often have many queens as well as a large number of workers.

- of several hundred that often have many queens as well as
- of several hundred, often with many of them being queens as well as having
- having several hundred, and often many of them are queens as well as
- that have several hundred of them, often with many queens as well as
- with several hundred that often have many queens as well as having

In an America steeped in romanticism, cemeteries were laid out beyond the city as places for a transcendental contemplation of nature, death, and duty.

- In an America steeped in romanticism, cemeteries were laid out
- In America steeped in romanticism, cemeteries were laid out
- In an America steeped in romanticism, cemeteries laid
- Cemeteries, in America steeped in romanticism, were laid
- Cemeteries in an America steeped in romanticism laid

Though the law will require emissions testing of all diesel vehicles, from tractor trailers to excursion buses, it will have no effect on sport utility vehicles, almost all of which are gasoline powered, and will not be subjected to emissions-control standards as stringent as they are for diesel-powered vehicles.

- A. powered, and will not be subjected to emissions-control standards as stringent as they are for
- B. powered, and therefore not subjected to emissions-control standards that are as stringent as those of
- C. powered and therefore not subject to emissions-control standards as stringent as those for
- D. powered, which are not subject to emissions-control standards as stringent as they are for
- E. powered and therefore they are not subject to emissions-control standards as stringent as those of

Diesel engines burn as much as 30% less fuel than gasoline engines of comparable size, as well as emitting far less carbon dioxide gas and far fewer of the other gasses that have been implicated in global warming.

(A) of comparable size, as well as emitting far less carbon dioxide gas and far fewer of the other gasses that have

(B) of comparable size, as well as emit far less carbon dioxide gas and far fewer of the other gasses having

(C) of comparable size, and also they emit far fewer carbon dioxide and other gasses that have

(D) that have a comparable size, and also they emit far fewer of the other gasses having

(E) that have a comparable size, as well as emitting far fewer of the other gasses having