
GMAT - SENTENCE CORRECTION

Questions

The following sentences have a part or all underlined. Beneath the sentence, you find five ways of phrasing the underlined part. The first of these repeats the original; the other four are different. Select Answer option that follows the requirement of standard written English in terms of grammar, word choice and sentence construction.

1. A critically acclaimed series to depict an NYC policeman and the first movie ever to use a third person point of view, it was John McTiernan's Die Hard that won the Academy Award for Best Picture, and was later made video games and comic books.
 - A. it was John McTiernan's Die Hard that won the Academy Award for Best Picture, and was later adapted to
 - B. Die Hard, by John McTiernan, won the Academy Award for Best Picture and was later adapted to
 - C. John McTiernan won the Academy Award for Die Hard for Best Picture, and it was later adapted to
 - D. John McTiernan's Die Hard won the Academy Award for Best Picture and was later adapted to
 - E. Die Hard, directed by John McTiernan, won the Academy Award for Best Picture, and later was adapted to

2. Studying promotion expenses, the digital media has had as an emphasis the increased costs and decreased integrity of the marketing department, but they have generally ignored the cost of actually operating promotional centers, which includes staffing, amenities, conveyance, publishing, and technology.
 - A. Studying promotion expenses, the digital media has had as an emphasis
 - B. Studies of promotion expenses by the digital media has been an emphasis on
 - C. In studying promotion expenses, the digital media have emphasized on
 - D. Digital media studies of promotion expenses have had as an emphasis
 - E. In their study of promotion expenses, the digital media has been emphasizing on

3. Unlike the general saying about them, the police is out in force at City Hall today.
 - A. the police is out in
 - B. the police are out in
 - C. the policeman is out in
 - D. the policeman is out by
 - E. the policemen are out by

4. The Amazon rainforest is populated with several different faunas, with each their own technique of adjusting to long phases of moisture abundance.
 - A. with several different faunas, with each their
 - B. with differently several faunas, each with its
 - C. by several different faunas, each with its
 - D. by several different faunas, having each its
 - E. by several different faunas, that each has their

5. According to the Census Commissioner of India in 2005, Mumbai became the first metropolitan city in which more women were married to men over the age of twenty-five than under it.
- A. than
 - B. than they married
 - C. than they were
 - D. than there had been
 - E. than had been married
6. A poll conducted by The Wall Street Journal suggests that automation is the most serious threat to native citizens of the US as well as to maintaining employment-to-population ratio balance, after being affected by economic factors.
- A. threat to native citizens of the US as well as to maintaining employment-to-population ratio balance, after being affected by economic factors.
 - B. threat, after economic factors, to native citizens of the US and for maintaining a balanced employment-to- population ratio.
 - C. threat, after factors affecting its economy, to native citizens of the US and also to maintenance of a balanced employment-to-population ratio.
 - D. threat to native citizens of the US and for maintaining balanced employment-to-population ratio, after economic factors.
 - E. threat, after economic factors, to native citizens of the US and to the maintenance of a balanced employment- to-population ratio.
7. Although unsatisfied with the high mortgage payment her parents were paying for their apartment, Martha recognized mortgage payment rates for apartments is as far lower than it typically is for independent houses that are located in the same region.
- A. mortgage payment rates for apartments is as far lower than it typically is for independent houses that are located in the same region.
 - B. mortgage payment rates for apartments as being far lower than what the rates typically charged in the same region had been for independent houses located there.
 - C. mortgage payment rates typically being charged for apartments to be far lower as they typically were in the same region for the independent houses there.
 - D. that mortgage payment rates for apartments were far lower than mortgage payment rates typically being charged in the same region for independent houses located there.
 - E. that mortgage payment rates for apartments were far lower than those typically charged for independent houses located in the same region.

8. Despite recent increase in profit margins that have driven oil companies' common stocks to new highs, several industry experts expect oil refineries, in order to conserve cash, to set bonuses more conservatively than they had been.
- A. to set bonuses more conservatively than they had been
 - B. to set more conservative bonuses than they have been
 - C. to be more conservative than they have been in setting bonuses
 - D. that they will be more conservative than they were in setting bonuses
 - E. that they will be more conservative than they have been to set bonuses
9. The Sales Manager of Info Tech reported average profits in its quarterly sales, not because of their sales of a year earlier being so bad as that other vendors were getting a head start on buying their annual stocks.
- A. of its sales of a year earlier being so bad as that
 - B. of their sales a year earlier having been so bad because
 - C. of its sales a year earlier being so bad but because
 - D. their sales a year earlier had been so bad because
 - E. its sales of a year earlier were as bad as that
10. The Ambrose Medal was awarded to John J. Clague for his contribution to Earth Sciences — this study that has led to improvements in investigations on Earthquakes and Tsunamis.
- A. to Earth Sciences — this study that has led
 - B. about Earth Sciences — this study which will lead
 - C. to Earth Sciences — a study that has led
 - D. of Earth Sciences — a study that has led
 - E. of Earth Sciences — a study that has been leading

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Solutions

QUESTION NO	CONCEPT TESTED	HINT FOR THE ANSWER	REASONS FOR ELIMINATION	DIFFICULTY LEVEL
1	Modifiers, Pronouns	The modifier 'The critically acclaimed.' must modify the title of the movie, 'Die Hard'.	<p>Option A: The antecedent of the pronoun 'it' is ambiguous.</p> <p>Option B: Modifier Error. The modifier 'won the Academy Award' is modifying 'John McTiernan'.</p> <p>Option C: Modifier Error. The modifier 'The critically acclaimed' is modifying 'John McTiernan'.</p> <p>Option D: No modifier or pronoun error.</p> <p>Option E: The antecedent of the pronoun 'it' is ambiguous</p> <p>Answer: D</p>	Medium

QUESTION NO	CONCEPT TESTED	HINT FOR THE ANSWER	REASONS FOR ELIMINATION	DIFFICULTY LEVEL
2	Subject- Verb Agreement	The word 'Media' is considered to be a plural noun, hence, must be used with a plural verb only.	<p>Option A: Subject-Verb Agreement Error. 'The digital media' is considered a plural subject, as 'they' is used to talk about them. Hence, the verb (has) should also be plural.</p> <p>Option B: Subject-Verb Agreement Error. Since 'studies' is a plural subject, the verb (has) should also be plural.</p> <p>Option C: Subject- Verb Agreement is maintained in the sentence.</p> <p>Option D: Changes the sense of the sentence. Not studies, but the digital media have emphasized.</p> <p>Option E: Subject-Verb Agreement Error. 'The digital media' is considered a plural subject, as 'they' is used to talk about them. Hence, the verb (has) should also be plural.</p> <p>Answer: C</p>	Easy

QUESTION NO	CONCEPT TESTED	HINT FOR THE ANSWER	REASONS FOR ELIMINATION	DIFFICULTY LEVEL
3	Subject-Verb Agreement, Pronouns, Idioms	The word 'Police' is considered to be a plural noun. 'Out in force' means 'in a large group'.	<p>Option A: Subject-Verb Agreement Error. The subject (police) is plural, hence the verb (is) should also be plural.</p> <p>Option B: No subject-verb agreement or pronoun error. It also uses the correct form of the idiom 'Out in force'.</p> <p>Option C: As a plural pronoun (them) is used, a singular antecedent (policeman) cannot be used along with it.</p> <p>Option D: 'Out by force' is an incorrect idiom.</p> <p>Option E: 'Out by force' is an incorrect idiom.</p> <p>Answer: B</p>	Medium

QUESTION NO	CONCEPT TESTED	HINT FOR THE ANSWER	REASONS FOR ELIMINATION	DIFFICULTY LEVEL
4	Pronouns, Idioms	The word 'each' is considered to be singular.	<p>Option A: Incorrect usage. 'populated with' is inappropriate. Pronoun error. 'their' (plural) cannot be used with 'each' (singular).</p> <p>Option B: Incorrect usage. 'populated with' is inappropriate.</p> <p>Option C: Populated by is the correct usage and no pronoun-antecedent errors.</p> <p>Option D: Inappropriate usage of continuous tense 'having'.</p> <p>Option E: Pronoun error. 'their' (plural) cannot be used with 'each' (singular).</p> <p>Answer: C</p>	Medium

QUESTION NO	CONCEPT TESTED	HINT FOR THE ANSWER	REASONS FOR ELIMINATION	DIFFICULTY LEVEL
5	Pronouns, Tenses, Comparison	The comparison is between 'women married to men over the age of 25' and 'women married to men under the age of 25'.	<p>Option A: The comparison is correct.</p> <p>Option B: Ambiguous antecedent to the pronoun 'they'.</p> <p>Option C: Ambiguous antecedent to the pronoun 'they'.</p> <p>Option D: Inappropriate usage of past perfect 'had been'.</p> <p>Option E: Inappropriate usage of past perfect 'had been'.</p> <p>Answer: A</p>	Medium

QUESTION NO	CONCEPT TESTED	HINT FOR THE ANSWER	REASONS FOR ELIMINATION	DIFFICULTY LEVEL
6	Parallelism, Pronouns	<p>There is a list of elements in this sentence.</p> <p>‘Native citizens’ and ‘maintenance of employment-to-population ratio’.</p>	<p>Option A: Parallelism Error. “Threat to native citizens.. and to maintaining”.</p> <p>Option B: Parallelism Error. “Threat to native citizens.. and for maintaining”.</p> <p>Option C: Parallelism is not maintained due to the phrase “and also”. Moreover, the phrase “and also” is redundant.</p> <p>Option D: Parallelism Error. “Threat to native citizens.. and for maintaining”.</p> <p>Option E: The parallelism is maintained, and there are no pronoun errors.</p> <p>Answer: E</p>	Hard

QUESTION NO	CONCEPT TESTED	HINT FOR THE ANSWER	REASONS FOR ELIMINATION	DIFFICULTY LEVEL
7	Tenses, Conjunctions, Comparison	Two elements are compared in the sentence. 'The mortgage payment rates of apartments' and 'the mortgage payment rates of individual houses'.	<p>Option A: Absence of 'that' after 'recognized'. Incorrect usage of present tense.</p> <p>Option B: Absence of 'that' after 'recognized'. Superfluous usage of 'being'.</p> <p>Option C: Absence of 'that' after 'recognized'. Superfluous usage of 'being'.</p> <p>Option D: Superfluous usage of 'being'.</p> <p>Option E: The tense used is correct. There is a 'that' used after 'recognized' and the elements of comparison are also right.</p> <p>Answer: E</p>	Hard

QUESTION NO	CONCEPT TESTED	HINT FOR THE ANSWER	REASONS FOR ELIMINATION	DIFFICULTY LEVEL
8	Tenses, Idioms, Comparison	Two elements are compared in the sentence: 'Bonuses set now' and 'bonuses set before'.	<p>Option A: Unnecessary usage of past perfect tense.</p> <p>Option B: Conservative is an adverb for 'set' and not an adjective for 'bonuses'.</p> <p>Option C: There are no errors with the usage of tenses and idioms. The comparison done is also correct.</p> <p>Option D: 'Expect that' is an incorrect usage of the idiom.</p> <p>Option E: 'Expect that' is an incorrect usage of the idiom.</p> <p>Answer: C</p>	Medium

QUESTION NO	CONCEPT TESTED	HINT FOR THE ANSWER	REASONS FOR ELIMINATION	DIFFICULTY LEVEL
9	Parallelism, Idioms	The reasons for the average profits are compared in the sentence.	<p>Option A: The phrase “so bad as” is incorrect syntactically.</p> <p>Option B: Incorrect usage of the pronoun “their” to refer to the company Infotech.</p> <p>Option C: This is the right answer because it uses the parallel phrase and also makes sense meaning wise.</p> <p>Option D: Incorrect usage of the pronoun “their”</p> <p>Option E: Parallelism Error. ‘As bad as that’ is incorrect.</p> <p>Answer: C</p>	Easy

QUESTION NO	CONCEPT TESTED	HINT FOR THE ANSWER	REASONS FOR ELIMINATION	DIFFICULTY LEVEL
10	Tenses, Idioms	The em-dash used in this sentence defines 'Earth Sciences'.	<p>Option A: Inappropriate usage of 'this'.</p> <p>Option B: Usage of 'about' next to contribution is incorrect.</p> <p>Option C: 'Contribution to' is the appropriate usage of the idiom.</p> <p>Option D: Incorrect usage of the word 'of'. (contribution of)</p> <p>Option E: Incorrect usage of the word 'of'. (contribution of). Unnecessary usage of perfect continuous tense.</p> <p>Answer: C</p>	Medium