

SENTENCE IMPROVEMENT

SSC CGL English Preparation

Introduction to Sentence Improvement

Sentence Improvement questions test your ability to identify grammatically incorrect sentences and select the best possible correction from given options. These questions evaluate your understanding of English grammar rules, vocabulary, and sentence structure. In SSC CGL exams, you'll typically be given a sentence with an underlined part, and you need to choose the option that correctly improves that part.

Example Format:

Direction: In the following question, a part of the sentence is underlined. Below are given alternatives to the underlined part which may improve the sentence. Choose the correct alternative.

She is one of the best student in the class.

(A) one of the best student

(B) one of the best students

(C) one of best students

(D) No improvement

Common Grammatical Errors

Error Type	Incorrect	Correct
Subject-Verb Agreement	The list of items are on the table	The list of items is on the table
Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement	Each student must bring their book	Each student must bring his or her book
Incorrect Prepositions	She is good in mathematics	She is good at mathematics
Double Negatives	I don't have no money	I don't have any money
Misplaced Modifiers	Running quickly, the finish line approached	Running quickly, he approached the finish line

Common Error Patterns:

Incorrect: One of the boy is coming

Correct: One of the **boys** is coming

Incorrect: Neither of the books are interesting

Correct: Neither of the books **is** interesting

Sentence Improvement Techniques

Identify the Error

First, identify what's wrong with the underlined part - grammar, word choice, or structure.

Evaluate Options

Check each option for grammatical correctness and contextual appropriateness.

Check Conciseness

Often, the most concise correct option is the right answer.

Maintain Meaning

Ensure the improved sentence maintains the original meaning.

Key Improvement Areas:

- **Parallel Structure:** Ensure similar ideas are expressed in similar grammatical form
- **Word Order:** Place words in logical sequence for clarity
- **Appropriate Vocabulary:** Use precise words that convey the intended meaning
- **Conciseness:** Eliminate unnecessary words without losing meaning
- **Active Voice:** Prefer active voice over passive for directness

Improvement Examples:

The reason for his failure is because he didn't study

The reason for his failure is **that** he didn't study

She not only sings but also dancing

She not only **sings** but also **dances**

Practice Exercises

Exercise 1: Improve the following sentences

1. He is more better than his brother in mathematics.

(A) more better

(B) better

(C) more good

(D) No improvement

2. Each of the students have completed their assignment.

(A) Each of the students

(B) Each of the students has

(C) Each of the student have

(D) No improvement

3. She is knowing the answer to this question.

(A) is knowing

(B) knows

(C) has been knowing

(D) No improvement

Exercise 2: SSC CGL Pattern Questions

Direction: In the following question, a part of the sentence is underlined. Below are given alternatives to the underlined part which may improve the sentence. Choose the correct alternative.

1. The teacher, as well as the students, were going on the field trip.

(A) were

(B) was

(C) have been

(D) No improvement

2. He is one of the best player in the team.

(A) one of the best player

(B) one of the best players

(C) one of best players

(D) No improvement

3. She has been working here since five years.

(A) has been working

(B) has been working

(C) had been working

(D) No improvement

Exam Tips for Sentence Improvement

Time Management

Spend no more than 30-45 seconds per sentence improvement question.

Elimination Method

Eliminate obviously wrong options first to improve your chances.

Grammar Rules

Brush up on key grammar rules - subject-verb agreement, pronouns, prepositions.

"No Improvement" Option

Don't forget to consider the "No improvement" option when the sentence is already correct.

Common Pitfalls to Avoid:

- Don't choose an option just because it "sounds" right - verify grammar rules
- Avoid changing the original meaning of the sentence
- Don't select unnecessarily complex options when simpler ones are correct
- Be careful with idiomatic expressions and preposition usage
- Watch out for redundancy and wordiness in options