

Sentence Improvement Exercises

Directions (1-166): In the following questions, a sentence/part of the sentence is printed in bold. Below are given alternatives to the bold sentence/part of the sentence at (1), (2) and (3) which may improve the sentence. Choose the correct alternative. In case no improvement is needed, your answer is (4).

1. The train is running **late** time.

- (1) after (2) behind
(3) off (4) No improvement

2. When the party ended, the band **packed up** its equipment and left.

- (1) will pack up
(2) will have packed up
(3) packed up
(4) No improvement

3. I **made** a lecture.

- (1) will make (2) gave
(3) would make (4) No improvement.

4. They **prevented** me from danger.

- (1) was preventing (2) were preventing
(3) protected (4) No improvement

5. The room is **smoky**.

- (1) by smokes (2) filled with smoke
(3) with smokes (4) No improvement

6. I really enjoyed the way the fashion show was executed and I **also very much liked its theme**.

- (1) its theme conveyed
(2) and the executing of the fashion show theme
(3) I really liked its theme
(4) No improvement

7. **Ronald might fail the test, in which point he'd re-sit it next year.**

- (1) Ronald might fail the test, in which time he'd re-sit it next year.
(2) Ronald might fail the test, in which point he'd re-sit it next year.

(3) Ronald might fail the test, in which case he'd re-sit it next year.

(4) No improvement

8. **He saw looking through the window, the beggar standing right there.**

- (1) He saw the beggar looking through the window standing right down there.
(2) He, looking through the window, saw the beggar standing right down there.
(3) Looking through the window, he saw the beggar standing right there.
(4) No improvement

9. Only a **smaller number** of students participated in the 15th August celebration at school.

- (1) constricted (2) little
(3) a few (4) No improvement

10. The chairs will be **disposed** in an auction.

- (1) Disposed off (2) Disposed of
(3) Dispose towards
(4) No improvement

11. The Chief Minister has promised to commit his **department** to a renewed effort to clean up the environment

- (1) administration (2) departmental
(3) workers (4) No improvement

12. Both **himself** and his relations will be invited.

- (1) you (2) she
(3) he (4) No improvement

13. As I am suffering from fever, **so grant me** leave for two days.

- (1) and grant me (2) please grant me
(3) grant myself (4) No improvement

14. Aman's life is divided **to** four stages.

- (1) into (2) as
(3) of (4) No improvement

15. **On** saw the mother, the child smiled sweetly.

- (1) On seeing (2) On having seen
(3) On seen (4) No Improvement

16. The three daughters divided the property **between** themselves.

- (1) for (2) to
(3) among (4) No improvement

17. He did not give me **some** books.

- (1) more (2) any
(3) much (4) No improvement

18. We saw one tiger **approached to us**.

- (1) approaching to us
(2) approaching us
(3) approaching towards us
(4) No improvement

19. There were so many children at the party that it was **hardly impossible to keep** account.

- (1) hardly possible for keeping
(2) hardly impossible keeping
(3) hardly possible to keep
(4) No improvement

20. I **am** the secretary of the sports clubs since its formation five years ago.

- (1) was (2) have been
(3) had been (4) No improvement

21. Sunil was acting **strange** when I saw him.

- (1) strangely (2) stranger
(3) more strange (4) No improvement

22. I shall not go **until** I am invited.

- (1) till (2) whether
(3) unless (4) No improvement

23. The workers should have been more **meticulous**.

- (1) Committed (2) Precise
(3) No improvement (4) Punctual

24. I was angry **at** myself for making such a big mistake.

- (1) with (2) about
(3) No improvement (4) on

25. Torture and trauma has made her a **mental** patient.

- (1) No improvement (2) Lunatic
(3) Mania (4) Mad

26. She is very **eccentric** woman.

- (1) Impatient (2) No improvement
(3) Unusual (4) Generous

27. The chickens in his farm are **fatted up** nicely.

- (1) are fattened (2) are fattening
(3) are fatty (4) No improvement

28. The university asked him to **return back** the funds allotted for the project.

- (1) No improvement
(2) to bring back the funds
(3) to settle the funds
(4) to return the funds

29. He learnt the lesson **with great care**.

- (1) carefully (2) carelessly
(3) with care (4) No improvement

30. No one **cared for the boy after his father died**.

- (1) cared for the boy since his father died
(2) No improvement
(3) took the boy for care after his father's death
(4) took care of the boy after his father died

31. He **insisted to go** with me.

- (1) insisted upon going
(2) agreed to go
(3) No improvement
(4) insisted that he should go

32. The hawk said that the pigeons and doves are **meat birds**.

- (1) No improvement (2) meek birds
(3) meet birds (4) weak birds

33. The second pigeon flew just as the first **pigeon had flown**.

- (1) No improvement (2) one had done
(3) one had flown away (4) had done

34. The old man has **acquired experience** through age.

- (1) No improvement
(2) developed experience
(3) experienced
(4) got experience

35. Water and soil pollutants find their entry into the body through **ingestion of contaminated** water or food.

- (1) No improvement
(2) digestion of contaminated
(3) injection of contaminated
(4) passage of contaminated
36. He lives **far from the station**.
(1) No improvement
(2) away from the station
(3) along way from the station
(4) off the station
37. Mumbai is famous **because of its** textiles.
(1) No improvement (2) at
(3) in (4) for
38. They **spoke** about the weather.
(1) No Improvement (2) said
(3) talked (4) expressed
39. Mr. Mukherjee knows ten languages, **isn't it**?
(1) No improvement
(2) doesn't Mr. Mukherjee
(3) hasn't the
(4) doesn't the
40. It's **high** time that you **go** home.
(1) No improvement (2) are going
(3) went (4) gone
41. Drinking tea is an English **habit**.
(1) No improvement (2) tradition
(3) convention (4) custom
42. He is wanting in a little **commonsense**.
(1) No improvement (2) lacks
(3) is lacking in (4) needs some
43. We do not believe **in a dual** policy of the company.
(1) in this dual (2) in the dual
(3) on these dual (4) No Improvement
44. This news is **too good to be true**.
(1) cannot be true
(2) so good that it should be true
(3) No Improvement
(4) so good that it cannot be true
45. The notorious criminal **went to the police to go to**

- prison**.
(1) submitted to the police
(2) surrendered himself before the police
(3) No improvement
(4) gave himself up for the police
46. If he has time he **will** telephone.
(1) could (2) might
(3) would (4) No improvement
47. He met **European lady at the conference who works for an NGO**.
(1) European lady who works for an NGO at the conference
(2) No improvement
(3) a European lady who works for an NGO, at the conference
(4) an European lady at the conference who works for an NGO
48. **Idid not see** you for a long time.
(1) haven't seen (2) saw
(3) No improvement
(4) haven't been seeing
49. The glass figurine **that was being shown** in the store window **appealed** to me.
(1) No Improvement
(2) that was on display
(3) that was exhibited
(4) that was advertised
50. He is **somehow** tall for his age.
(1) No improvement (2) rather
(3) many (4) much
51. The practice of **starving the children** in order to cure diarrhoea also aggravates the situation.
(1) starving child (2) No Improvement
(3) starve children (4) starving children
52. She said that she was glad **to be here** that evening.
(1) to Come here (2) to be there
(3) to have been here (4) No improvement
53. **If I will get** an opportunity, I shall attend the seminar.
(1) get (2) got

- (3)No Improvement (4)shallget
- 54.Boththeteams**played the game fairly**.
(1)NoImprovement
(2)playedafairgame
(3)playedfairlythegame
(4)fairlyplayedthegame
- 55.She could not help **but laugh**.
(1)but laughing (2)laughter
(3)No Improvement (4)laughing
- 56.Wemetesterday,**haven't we?**
(1)didn'twe? (2)NoImprovement
(3)hadn't we? (4)isn'tit?
- 57.**I took my mother some grapes**whenshewasin hospital.
(1)Itookformymothersomegrapes.
(2)Ibroughtmymothersomegrapes
(3)Itooksomegrapesformymother
(4)NoImprovement
- 58.Theothers**shook**theirheadsandmadevague noisesof approval.
(1)hung (2)turnedaround
(3)NoImprovement (4)nodded
- 59.She**insisted on**shewasinnocent.
(1)insistedonthat (2)NoImprovement
(3)insistedthat (4)insistedwith
- 60.Theworldis**being faced with**acrisis
(1)confronted (2)infrontof
(3)NoImprovement (4)facing
- 61.Youmust**endure** whatyoucannotcure.
(1)accept (2)suffer
(3)prevail (4)NoImprovement
- 62.He does not laugh, nor he smiles.
(1)norhedoessmile
(2)neitherhedoessmile
(3)nordoeshe,smile
(4)NoImprovement
- 63.Iwas**struck by his singular appearance**.
(1)struckbyhissingleappearance
(2)struckbyhowhesingularlyappears
(3)NoImprovement
(4)hadstrickenhissingleappearance

- 64.**The blue whale was thriving in all of the world's oceans until the turn of the century, at which time they became hunted to the point of extinction.**
(1)Thebluewhalewasthrivinginalloftheworld's oceansuptiltheturnofthecentury
(2)Attheturnofthecentury,bluewhaleswerethrivinginalloftheworld'soceans.
(3)Bluewhaleswerethrivinginalloftheworld's oceansuntiltheturnofthecentury
(4)NoImprovement
- 65.We **have been retracing** our steps to the log cabin ten minutes ago.
(1)willberetracing (2)havetoretrace
(3)hadtoretrace (4)NoImprovement
- 66.Ihopeyouwillbeableto**steer ahead**oftheanti-social elements.
(1)steerclear (2)steerfree
(3)steerout (4)NoImprovement
- 67.He bowed down **at the altar**.
(1)nexttothealtar (2)NoImprovement
(3)beforethealtar (4)infrontofthealtar
- 68.They were **being commanded** towait till the signalwas given.
(1)commanded (2)command
(3)givencommand (4)NoImprovement
- 69.River Damodar in West Bengal **carry the effluents**from the Durgapur Industrial complex for miles.
(1)NoImprovement (2) carries the effluents
(3)carriestheeffluence (4) carried the effluents
- 70.TheclimateofShillongissomewhat**like Kohima**.
(1)asKohima (2)asKohima's
(3)NoImprovement (4)likeKohima's
- 71.JohndecidedtogototheAdvocateGeneralto **clear his name** oftheaccusation.
(1)tocleanhisname

- (2) to clear his name
(3) to wash his name
(4) No Improvement
72. He **could not be able** to think logically because of his illness.
(1) was not able (2) No Improvement
(3) cannot be able (4) can be unable
73. **He only married her for her money.**
(1) He married her for her money only.
(2) He married her only for her money.
(3) No improvement
(4) Only for her money he married her.
74. Please send the letter **on** the address given below.
(1) to (2) No improvement
(3) at (4) upon
75. The two thieves distributed the loot **between them selves.**
(1) with themselves
(2) amongst themselves
(3) among themselves
(4) No improvement
76. The **equipment** were faulty.
(1) equipment were (2) equipments are
(3) equipment was (4) No improvement
77. Plants **cannot grow without sunshine.**
(1) No improvement
(2) Plants can thrive in the sun.
(3) Plants cannot grow on a cloudy day.
(4) Plants do not live in darkness.
78. **The gold** is a precious metal.
(1) No improvement (2) A gold
(3) An old (4) Gold
79. Old habits **die hardly.**
(1) No improvement (2) die much hardly
(3) die hard (4) die too hard
80. He is known **by** others.
(1) for (2) among
(3) to (4) No improvement
81. They tried to **win** control of the company from

- their step brothers.
(1) inherit (2) swindle
(3) wrest (4) No Improvement
82. Mr. Bharath was a professor whom all students **respected.**
(1) looked up to (2) looked up
(3) No improvement (4) looked over
83. The criminal must be **killed.**
(1) hanged (2) murdered
(3) hung (4) No improvement
84. My daughter is going to **take** her final examination next month.
(1) undertake (2) No improvement
(3) appear (4) give
85. My father advised me to **shun** bad peers.
(1) escape (2) leave
(3) avoid (4) No improvement
86. All these events are associated like links in a chain.
(1) attached (2) bracketed
(3) No improvement (4) concatenated
87. She is improving her pronunciation of English with a view to **become** a newsreader.
(1) No improvement (2) be becoming
(3) have become (4) becoming
88. The kingfisher is a **bird founded most** in the Eastern Hemisphere, especially in the southeast Asian countries.
(1) a bird found mostly
(2) a bird mostly founded
(3) a bird found mostly
(4) No improvement
89. **Instead of** his hard work, he did not succeed.
(1) In spite of (2) In case of
(3) In respect of (4) No improvement
90. Seeing no way to escape, the thief **sued** to the Inspector.
(1) shot (2) surrendered

- (3)supplied
(4)Noimprovement
- 91.Ifyouwanttocatchthefirstflightyou**may**leave now.
(1)must (2)oughtto
(3)Noimprovement (4)could
- 92.Manoj issoc**credible**thathheimmediatelybelieved my story.
(1)Noimprovement (2)credulous
(3)innocent (4)creditable
- 93.Thomas Caffall the gunman **killing** two persons near the Texas A & M University, asked forgiveness for shooting the officers.
(1)whokilled (2)whohaskilled
(3)Noimprovement (4)whohadkilled
- 94.Iwanttodisposeoffallmyoldfurniture Immediately
(1)dispose (2)disposedoff
(3)disposeof (4)NoImprovement
- 95.Hepartshishairin **the centre**.
(1)atthecentre (2)nearthecentre
(3)Inthemiddle (4)NoImprovement
- 96.Ican'tallowto**make**jokesinthe**class**.
(1)cut (2)crack
(3)break (4)NoImprovement
- 97.Shutthewindow.Itis**fairly**cold.
(1)quiet (2)quite
(3)rather (4)NoImprovement
- 98.She is the lady who will inaugurate rate the exhibition.
(1)declaretheexhibitionopen
(2)starttheexhibition
(3)begintheexhibition
(4)Noimprovement
- 99.Heavoidsto **speak**to me.
(1)totalk (2)speaking
(3)speech (4)Noimprovement
- 100.Amajorwaterpollutantduetothe**growth** of large cities is the **sewages**.

- (1)asewage (2)asewages
(3)thesewage (4)Noimprovement
- 101.**I have just taken my meals**.
(1)Ihavejusthadmyfood
(2)Iamdonewithmy**meals**
(3)Ifinishedmy**meals**
(4)Noimprovement
- 102.Istayedat**Henry house**foraweek.
(1)Henry'shome (2)Henry's
(3)Henryhome (4)Noimprovement
- 103.Thewardentoldtheboysto**quickly clean their rooms**.
(1) clean their rooms hastily
(2) clean their rooms quickly
(3) cleanse their rooms quickly
(4)Noimprovement
- 104.Ineedn'tgetupearlytomorrow,**shouldn't I?**
(1)don't I (2)doI
(3)needI (4)Noimprovement
- 105.Coveringthirtykilometresin**thirtyminutes**are **not a great distance**usingabrandnewcar.
(1)aren'tagreatdistance
(2)isnodistance
(3)Noimprovement
(4)isnotagreatdistance
106. Yearsago,ImetamanwhichwasPresidentand Chairmanoftheboardofa company.
(1)Whom (2)Noimprovement
(3)Who (4)Whose
- 107.Whereareyoucomingfrom?
(1)Noimprovement (2) do you come from
(3)wereyoufrom
(4) you are coming from
- 108.Journalismand**medicine**would **betwo**ofhis career options.
(1)Noimprovement (2)couldbe
(3)willbe (4)mightbe
- 109.Noeconomistcanaccurately**foresee**whethertax will goup or down.
(1)expect (2)anticipate

- (3) No improvement (4) obviate
110. One should keep **their** word.
(1) One's (2) his
(3) everyone's (4) No improvement
111. Many a man **have died of** cancer.
(1) No improvement (2) have died from
(3) have been dying of (4) has died of
112. I want to **admit** in a university in the US.
(1) go (2) enter
(3) enrol (4) No improvement
113. He was a failure at art but his last piece was so **beautiful that no one could believe he had painted it**.
(1) breath taking enough to be unreal.
(2) indeed a masterpiece I
(3) very realistic and unbelievable.
(4) No Improvement
114. This matter **admits** no excuse.
(1) admits for (2) No improvement
(3) admit of (4) admit to
115. I was greatly shocked by the most **ruthless** murder.
(1) gruesome (2) shocking
(3) loathsome (4) No Improvement
116. She is **annoying** that her father had not accepted her suggestion.
(1) was to annoy (2) had to annoy
(3) No improvement (4) was annoyed
117. **If the room had been brighter**, I would have been able to read for a while before going to bed.
(1) If the room was brighter
(2) If the room are brighter
(3) Had the room been brighter
(4) No improvement
118. He has **composed** a beautiful song.
(1) penned (2) written
(3) jotted down (4) No improvement
119. The old car **thumped** along over the stony road.
(1) creaked (2) crawled
(3) chugged (4) No Improvement

120. **No sooner had he reaching the station than the train began to move.**
(1) No sooner had he reach the station than the train began to move.
(2) No sooner did he reaching the station than the train began to move.
(3) No sooner had he reached the station than the train began to move.
(4) No Improvement
121. My father has been advised to **reduce** smoking.
(1) cut down (2) No Improvement
(3) lower down (4) reduced down
122. Sincerity is always **appreciated**.
(1) enhanced (2) enjoyed
(3) waited (4) No Improvement
123. Listen **attention** to what I say.
(1) attentively (2) attend
(3) attentive (4) No improvement
124. My sister does not know **whether tomorrow can be a holiday for her**.
(1) whether tomorrow is a holiday to her
(2) whether tomorrow will be a holiday for her
(3) No improvement
(4) whether tomorrow is a holiday for her.
125. Honesty is **more superior than** riches.
(1) far superior than (2) No improvement
(3) more superior to (4) superior to
126. A hand pump is very easy to work and it **can be fitted** in every house.
(1) No Improvement (2) can be fits
(3) could be fitting (4) can be fitting
127. The criminal was **hung to death**.
(1) hunged (2) hang
(3) No Improvement (4) hanged
128. What **does agonise me most** is not this criticism, but the trivial reason behind it.
(1) No improvement (2) most agonising me

(3)agonisesmemost (4)mostagonisedme
129.They**have not and cannot be**
inthegoodbooks
ofthecoachbecausetheylack discipline.

- (1)Noimprovement
- (2)havenotbeenandcaneverbe
- (3)havenotandcaneverbe
- (4)havenotandcaneverbeen

130.TheLouvre,**a museum known to everyone in the world**,isin Paris.

- (1)aworld-renownedmuseum
- (2)Noimprovement
- (3)agloballyknownmuseum
- (4)aworld-famousmuseum

131.Thesunwillnotrisebeforeanhour.

- (1)arise in an hour (2)risein an hour
- (3)risesforanhour (4)Noimprovement

132.HeartfeltprayerstoGodwillalways**have expected results**.

- (1)haveamazingresults
- (2)Noimprovement
- (3)havegoodresults
- (4)havedesiredresults

133.The museum's collection includesartefacts **dated**

back to prehistoric times.

- (1)datebackto (2)Noimprovement.
- (3)datingbackto (4)datebacksto

134.Hesaid,'**Let the show begins**'

- (1)'Lettheshowtobegin'
- (2)'Let'stheshow begin'
- (3)'Lettheshow begin'
- (4)Noimprovement.

135.**I'm really sorry but I haven't got much money myself.**

- (1)I'mreallysorrybutIhaveveryfewmoney myself.
- (2)Noimprovement.
- (3)I'mreally sorryIhavelessermoneymyself.

(4)I'mreallysorrybutInothavemuchmoneymyself.

136.Bothofthemaregood,butthisisthe**best** ofthe two.

- (1)NoImprovement (2)better
- (3)muchbetter (4)good

137.Howmany**country are there**inEurope?

- (1)countriesaretheirin
- (2)countryarethereon
- (3)countriesaretherein
- (4)Noimprovement

138.WestayedinMumbai**in** fivedays.

- (1)with (2)for
- (3)at (4)Noimprovement

139.Themedicinemust**take**byyou.

- (1)takes (2)taken
- (3)taking (4)Noimprovement

140.TheSutlejhaschangedits**path**.

- (1)journey (2)course
- (3)line (4)Noimprovement

141.Sheis**willing** tohelpyou.

- (1)wilful (2)willingly
- (3>wilfully (4)Noimprovement

142.**Being ill, he came to work.**

- (1)Hecametoworkandfellill
- (2)Despitecomingtowork,hewasill
- (3)Inspiteofbeingill,hecametowork
- (4)Noimprovement

143.She**had realised**thatshehadseenhimbefore.

- (1)hadbeenrealized (2)realized
- (3)hasrealized (4)Noimprovement

144.Hundredsofchildren**are deaf born every**year.

- (1)deafare born every (2) every born are deaf
- (3)are born deafevery (4) No improvement

145.Itisnotdifficulttoforgive someone**whosays sorry**.

- (1)is apologising (2)isasking sorry
- (3)No improvement (4)apologises

146.Agreedymanalways**shankers after**money.

- (1)wanted (2)greedsafter

- (3) No improvement (4) runs after
147. Ours is a **joined** family.
(1) joint (2) jointed
(3) No Improvement (4) join
148. Be quick **otherwise you would** miss the train.
(1) otherwise you could have
(2) No Improvement
(3) otherwise you will
(4) otherwise you will have
149. The terrorist as well as his accomplices **was killed** in the encounter.
(1) have been killed (2) No improvement
(3) were killed (4) was being killed
150. The Councillor behaves as if he **is** the Chief Minister.
(1) has been (2) were
(3) No improvement (4) was
151. **In spite of age he is my senior.**
(1) He is my senior, in keeping with his age.
(2) He is my senior in regard of his age.
(3) No improvement
(4) In respect of age, he is my senior.
152. Rani **has completed** her graduation from a reputed university last year.
(1) completed (2) was completed
(3) No improvement (4) had been completed
153. The President of India **administers the oath of** office to the Council of Ministers.
(1) impose the promise
(2) supervises the oath taking ceremony
(3) No improvement
(4) reads out the oath
154. **Being** a wet day, he stayed at home.
(1) Though (2) As it was
(3) No improvement (4) Since
155. We've got a **new big house.**
(1) big new house (2) house big new
(3) No improvement (4) house new big
156. I **shall write to you** when I reach Agra.

- (1) will write to you (2) would write to you
(3) No improvement (4) should write to you
157. **Either Kiran or Mala is sure to be** chosen for the school debate team.
(1) Either Kiran or Mala are sure to
(2) Either Kiran or Mala are sure to
(3) Either Kiran or Mala will
(4) No Improvement
158. Tom was **standing besides the school-house poster**, when the ball rolled towards him.
(1) standing beside the school-house poster
(2) stand beside the school-house poster
(3) stood beside the school-house poster
(4) No Improvement
159. No sane person or government can tolerate terrorist of any degree or kind.
(1) terrorism of any degree or kind
(2) terrorise of any degree or kind
(3) torture of any degree or kind
(4) No Improvement
160. Saibal has got an **extensive** to finish writing his thesis.
(1) an extended (2) an extension
(3) an extension (4) No Improvement
161. She stood by him **under all conditions and undaunted by anything.**
(1) without reserve (2) without hesitation
(3) through thick and thin (4) No Improvement
162. Sheela was reprimanded by the school Marshall for coming **lately to school.**
(1) to school lately (2) late to school
(3) to school later (4) No Improvement
163. Kunal looked very **manliness** in his police uniform.
(1) menliness (2) man-like
(3) manly (4) No Improvement

