

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- ❑ Different types of "Spotting the Error" questions
- ❑ Methods to solve these questions
- ❑ Grammar rules related to solving the questions

Spotting the Errors is an important topic in MBA entrance exam. Essence of the chapter does not lie in solving the questions only, but making yourself aware of writing correct English, and knowing where you make mistakes in writing. Though CAT has mostly refrained from asking direct questions from Spotting the errors, introduction of Written Ability Test (WAT) at 2nd stage of selection process makes it an important topic.

Other B-school exams like SNAP, CMAT, and MAT have asked the questions on this topic almost every year.

Note: You should read this chapter in conjunction with Chapter 1—Grammar and Chapter 2—Sentence Correction.

Rules Based upon Subject–Verb Agreement

1. **Subjects and verbs must agree in number.** This is the cornerstone rule that forms the background of the concept.
The *dog* **grows** when he is angry. The *dogs* **grow** when they are angry.
2. **Do not get confused by the words that come between the subject and verb; they do not affect agreement.**
The *dog*, who is chewing on my jeans, **is** usually very good.
3. **Prepositional phrases between the subject and verb usually do not affect agreement.**
The *colours* of the rainbow **are** beautiful.
4. **Subjects do not always come before verbs in questions. Make sure that you identify the subject accurately before deciding on the proper verb form to use.**
Does *Jeffy* usually **eat** grass? Where **are** the *pieces* of this puzzle?
5. **If two subjects are joined by *and*, they typically require a plural verb form.**

The cow and the pig **are jumping** over the moon.

The Secretary and the Principal **are coming**. (here secretary and principal are two different persons).

6. **The verb is singular if the two subjects separated by *and* refer to the same person or thing.**

Red beans and rice **is** my mom's favourite dish.

The Secretary and principal **is** coming. (here the same person is Secretary as well as Principal)

7. **If one of the words *each*, *every*, or *no* comes before the subject, the verb is singular.**

No *smoking or drinking* **is** allowed.

Every *man and woman* **is** required to check-in.

8. **If the subjects are both singular and are connected by the words *or*, *nor*, *neither/nor*, *either/or*, and *not only/but also* the verb is singular.**

Jessica or Christian **is** to be blamed for the accident.

Neither he nor I **was** there.

9. **The only time when the object of the preposition factors into the decision of plural or singular verb forms is when noun and pronoun subjects like *some*, *half*, *none*, *more*, *all*, etc. are followed by a prepositional phrase. In these sentences, the object of the preposition determines the form of the verb.**

All of the *chicken* **is** gone. All of the *chickens* **are** gone.

10. **The singular verb form is usually used for units of measurement.**

Four *quarts of oil* **was** required to get the car running.

11. **If the subjects are both plural and are connected by the words *or*, *nor*, *neither/nor*, *either/or*, and *not only/but also*, the verb is plural.**

Dogs and cats **are** both available at the pound.

12. **If one subject is singular and one plural and the words are connected by the words *or*, *nor*, *neither/***

nor, either/or, and not only/but also, you use the verb form of the subject that is nearest the verb.

Either the *bears* or the *lion* **has** escaped from the zoo.
Neither the *lion* nor the *bears* **have** escaped from the zoo.

Neither the *Headmaster* nor the *Assistant Masters* were present.

13. **Indefinite pronouns typically take singular verbs.**
Everybody **wants** to be loved.
- 14.* **Except for the pronouns (*few, many, several, both, all, and some*) that always take the plural form.**
Few **were** left alive after the flood.
15. **If two infinitives are separated by *and* they take the plural form of the verb.**
To walk and to chew gum **require** great skill.
16. **When gerunds are used as the subject of a sentence they take the singular verb form of the verb, but when they are linked by *and* they take the plural form. (Gerunds are *verb+ing*. They act like a noun).**
Standing in the water **was** a bad idea. *Swimming* in the ocean and *playing drums* **are** my hobbies.
17. **Collective nouns like *herd, senate, class, crowd, etc.* usually take a singular verb form.**
The *herd* **is** stampeding.
18. **Titles of books, movies, novels, etc. are treated as singular and take a singular verb.**
The Tourist **is** a movie starring Angelina Jolie.

Rules Based upon Verbs

1. **When there are two Subjects in a sentence and they are not in the same Number, then we must have to use separate Auxiliaries (*is, are, am, was, were, have, and has*) for both of them.**
Incorrect: Three passengers were killed and one were injured.
Correct: Three passengers were killed and one was injured.
2. **When there is only one auxiliary to two principal Verbs, it should be correctly associated with both.**
Incorrect: Ten students have passed one failed.
Correct: Ten students have passed, one has failed.
3. **A past tense in the main clause should be followed by a past tense in the subordinate clause.**
Incorrect: He qualified because he works hard.
Correct: He qualified because he worked hard.
4. **A past tense in main clause *may be* followed by a present tense in the subordinate clause when the subordinate clause expresses a universal truth.**
Incorrect: Our teacher said that the earth moved round the sun.
Correct: Our teacher said that the earth moves round the sun.

5. **When the subordinate clause comes after 'lest', the auxiliary Verb 'should' must be used.**

Incorrect: We start early lest we shall miss the bus.

Correct: We start early lest we should miss the bus.

6. **If a gerund is preceded by a Pronoun, then the pronoun must be in Possessive case.**

Incorrect: He emphasized me going to party.

Correct: He emphasized my going to party.

7. **Present Perfect Continuous Tense is used for an action that began in the past time and still going on. In such a case, Adverb of time introduced by 'since', 'for', and 'how long'.**

Incorrect: How long are you working here?

Correct: How long have you been working here?

8. **A Verb when preceded by a Preposition must be the Gerund.**

Incorrect: Students were punished for come late.

Correct: Students were punished for coming late.

9. **The Future Indefinite Tense is not used in the clauses of time, place, and condition. Here the Present Indefinite Tense is used.**

Incorrect: I shall wait for you till you will finish your work.

Correct: I shall wait for you, till you finish your work.

10. **The Present Perfect Tense is not used with the Adverbs of past time like yesterday, in 2017 etc. Here Past Indefinite Tense is used.**

Incorrect: I have bought a car yesterday.

Correct: I bought a car yesterday.

The Past Perfect Tense is used to represent the earlier of the two past actions.

Incorrect: When I reached the station, the train already left.

Correct: When I reached the station, the train had already left.

11. **Modal Auxiliaries are not used together. But two Auxiliaries can be connected by a Conjunction.**

Incorrect: He should must do it.

Correct: He should and must do it.

Correct: He should do it.

Rules Based upon Adjectives

1. **To express quantity or degree, some is used in affirmative sentences, any in negative or interrogative sentences.**

Incorrect: Have you bought some oranges?

Correct: Have you bought any oranges?

2. **In comparing two things, the Comparative should be used, instead of Superlative.**

Incorrect: Which is the best of the two models of car?

Correct: Which is the better of the two models of car?

3. When two qualities of the same person or thing are compared, the Comparative in 'er' is not used. 'More' is used for this purpose.

Incorrect: Anna is wiser than brave.

Correct: Anna is more wise than brave.

4. When comparison is made by means of a comparative, then 'other' or any such word should be used.

Incorrect: He is smarter than any boy in the section.

Correct: He is smarter than any other boy in the section.

5. Comparative Adjectives superior, inferior, senior, junior, prior, prefer, etc., should be followed by 'to' instead of 'than'.

Incorrect: He is elder than me.

Correct: He is elder to me.

6. When comparison is made by means of a superlative, the thing compared should include the class of things with which it is compared.

Incorrect: She is the strongest of all other women.

Correct: She is the strongest of all women.

7. When two persons or things are compared, it is important that the same parts of things should be compared.

Incorrect: The population of Lucknow is greater than Dehradun.

Correct: The population of Lucknow is greater than that of Dehradun.

8. Double comparatives and superlatives should not be used.

Incorrect: He is the most strongest boy in the class.

Correct: He is the strongest boy in the class.

Incorrect: Ram is more wiser than Shyam.

Correct: Ram is wiser than Shyam.

PRACTICE EXERCISES

PRACTICE EXERCISE 1

Directions: Read the each sentence to find out whether there is any error in it. The error, if any will be in one part of the sentence. The letter of that part is the answer. If there is no error, the answer is 'd'.

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| <p>Q.1 If I would have been there (a)/ , I certainly would have (b)/ taken care of the problem.(c)/ No error (d)</p> <p>Q.2 The reason her (a)/ and her friend decided to take the bus instead of the train was that there (b)/ was an announcement about cancellation of several trains (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.3 No sooner (a)/ had he began to speak when (b)/ the opposition members started shouting slogans (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.4 Each of the (a)/ hotel's 150 rooms were equipped (b)/ with central air-conditioning and colour television (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.5 Every (a)/ man, woman and child are now (b)/ aware of the terrible consequences of the habit of smoking (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.6 More leisure (a)/ , as well as abundance (b)/ of consumers goods are attainable through automation (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.7 Since it (a)/ was an unusually (b)/ warm day, the dog laid under the tree all afternoon (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.8 That is (a)/ one of the books that is (b)/ listed in the catalogue (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.9 When her plane arrives (a) at the airport in Amritsar, I shall already have (b)/ left for New Delhi (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.10 Neither Rakesh nor (a)/ Shakti, presented their (b)/ , papers before the deadline for doing so (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.11 The company is planning (a)/ a training (b)/ programme for their senior officers sometimes (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.12 Last Monday the (a)/ Security Council (b)/ has urged Libya's interim leaders to curb proliferation of weapons (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.13 Three years ago, an earthquake (a)/ had destroyed the lives of Indian people, and they (b)/ are still struggling (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.14 As and when you are needing (a)/ my help, I am always there to help (b)/ you whole heartedly (c). No error (d)</p> | <p>Q.15 If you would have (a)/ toiled hard you (b) would not have had to suffer this much (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.16 Mr. Verma was (a)/ one of the persons (b)/ who are still working with me (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.17 By the time India will (a)/ achieves a better position (b)/ in the world, India will be the most popular country (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.18 In the film industry if Shammy (a)/ Kapoor was alive (b)/ he would not have let us cry today (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.19 I know Rajiv plan (a)/ to work with a multinational (b)/ company as it pays very high (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.20 Each and every bank was (a)/ instructed to maintain minimum (b)/ cash reserve ratio as per the basic three norms (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.21 The government of Punjab has (a)/ declared that they are going to launch a scheme for the sports person (b)/ so as to boost their career (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.22 A group of (a)/ friends want to visit the (b)/ new plant as early as possible. No error (d)</p> <p>Q.23. Companies and advisors (a)/ are not in the mood to put down the money without (b)/ getting into lengthy litigation (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.24 Ramesh gave me (a)/ two important informations I had been waiting for (b)/ the previous two months (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.25 Wordsworth's poetries (a)/ is characterized by his subtle description (b)/ of the beauty and live lines of nature (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.26 The brethrens (a)/ of this locality are always (b)/ at daggers drawn without any apparent reason (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.27 Pakistan's problems (a)/ are also as (b)/ serious as that of India (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.28 Cities after cities (a)/ were destroyed by (b)/ the flock of birds (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.29 If I was to have (a)/ a preference, I would (b)/ like to move second at checkers (c). No error (d)</p> <p>Q.30 The mission provides (a)/ able services to all the people in the area (b)/ during the last four years (c). No error (d)</p> |
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PRACTICE EXERCISE 2

Directions: Read the each sentence to find out whether there is any error in it. The error, if any will be in one part of the sentence. The letter of that part is the answer. If there is no error, the answer is 'd'.

- Q.1** Handicrafts exports have an increase (a)/ in the past year because of the innovative steps (b)/ taken by the government (c). No error (d)
- Q.2** An investor must (a)/ be take into account many factors before (b)/ making any financial decision (c). No error (d)
- Q.3** The tax treaty between India and Switzerland have (a)/ been amended and we shall be able to obtain information (b)/ about any Swiss bank account by next month (c). No error (d)
- Q.4** I would advise you (a)/ to invest in our company (b)/ stock although last year our profits decline (c). No error (d)
- Q.5** The committee will discuss (a)/ the draft in detail and we will make suggestions for the (b)/ proper implementing the scheme (c). No error (d)
- Q.6** The girl sat down (a)/ for dinner but refused to eat until (b)/her father came home (c). No error (d)
- Q.7** The man ran (a)/ to a tree, climbed on to it and (b)/ sit on a branch (c). No error (d)
- Q.8** A young man was standing (a)/ on the road proclaiming that he had more (b)/ beautiful car in the whole world (c). No error (d)
- Q.9** One day, the King woke up (a)/ earlier than usually to take a stroll (b)/ around his palace (c). No error (d)
- Q.10** The only thing that (a)/ the couple worried on was, whether their (b)/ happiness would last forever. No error (d)
- Q.11** By the time (a)/ he finished doing his work it (b)/ was not hardly ten (c). No error (d)
- Q.12** We need a building (a)/ more exterior to the main (b)/ so that we can use it as office (c). No error (d)
- Q.13** Measles is among (a)/ those diseases that is (b)/ curable now (c). No error (d)
- Q.14** Jewellers' are keeping (a)/ there fingers crossed as price remains (b)/ a cause of worry (c). No error (d)
- Q.15** Cameron has the (a)/ political support to make (b)/ the changes in Britain (c). No error (d)
- Q.16** Radha is very fond of these (a)/ kind of flowers and bought (b)/ some from the florist (c). No error (d)
- Q.17** Its impossible for (a)/ parents to monitor (b)/ their children's activities at all times. No error (d)
- Q.18** The youth (a)/ did not dare to venture with the sea (b)/ as it was high tide (c). No error (d)
- Q.19** The difference between successful person (a)/ and others is not (b)/ lack of knowledge but a lack of will (c). No error (d)
- Q.20** After my interview (a)/ by the selection panel I was waiting for a response (b)/ but they did not revert back (c). No error (d)
- Q.21** The teacher uses anecdotes (a)/ to help her students (b)/ relate better to the subjects taught in class (c). No error (d)
- Q.22** The President has denied (a)/ that the economy is in recession or was go into one (b)/ despite a spate of downcast reports (c). No error (d)
- Q.23** The angry at being (a)/ left out the bonanza is palpable among (b)/ employees of the organization (c). No error (d)
- Q.24** His comments came after (a)/ the research group said that its consumer confidence index were (b)/ slumped to its lowest level (c). No error (d)
- Q.25** If all goes well, the examination scheduled (a)/ for the next month is all set to be completely free (b)/ from annoying power cuts and disruptions (c). No error (d)
- Q.26** District police arrested (a)/ a gang of notorious robbers, who were planning to (b)/ strike at a house in the vicinity (c). No error (d)
- Q.27** It is only now, sixty years after independence, (a)/ that India is learning how to negotiating the competing (b)/ demands of power and justice (c). No error (d)
- Q.28** The market continues to be positive (a)/ and in the next quarter we expected the trend to continue with (b)/ the onset of the festive season (c). No error (d)
- Q.29** The results of the study showed that if the partners were willing (a)/ to talk to each other and arrive at a mutually (b)/ agreeable decision, the joint decisions were more better than any one person's judgment (c). No error (d)
- Q.30** A year after the global financial crisis saw students (a)/ from the best B-schools across the world struggling for a job, a survey on management education (b)/ this year thrown up some rather interesting findings (c). No error (d)

ANSWER KEYS

PRACTICE EXERCISE 1

1. (a)	2. (a)	3. (b)	4. (b)	5. (b)	6. (c)	7. (c)	8. (b)	9. (d)	10. (b)
11. (c)	12. (c)	13. (b)	14. (a)	15. (a)	16. (c)	17. (a)	18. (b)	19. (a)	20. (d)
21. (b)	22. (b)	23. (b)	24. (b)	25. (a)	26. (a)	27. (c)	28. (a)	29. (a)	30. (a)

PRACTICE EXERCISE 2

1. (a)	2. (b)	3. (a)	4. (c)	5. (c)	6. (d)	7. (c)	8. (b)	9. (b)	10. (b)
11. (c)	12. (b)	13. (b)	14. (b)	15. (d)	16. (a)	17. (a)	18. (b)	19. (c)	20. (c)
21. (d)	22. (b)	23. (a)	24. (b)	25. (a)	26. (b)	27. (b)	28. (b)	29. (c)	30. (c)

HINTS AND EXPLANATIONS

PRACTICE EXERCISE 1

1. "Had" should replace "would have" as it is conditional sentence and requires perfect tense. Therefore, the error is in part (a) of the sentence.
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
2. "Her" is replaced with "she" as the subject form of the personal pronoun is she, not her. Therefore, the error is in part (a) of the sentence.
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
3. Replace "when" by "than", as in conjunctions expression is [No sooner + than] always. So, in part (b), when is incorrect.
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
4. In the sentence, part B is incorrect, "were" should replace with "was" as the singular subject (each) requires a singular verb (was).
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
5. A compound subject (man, woman and child) introduced by every must have a singular verb (is now; are now), so "are" is replaced with "is".
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
6. Since the subject (leisure) is singular, the verb must be singular (is; not are).
Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.
7. "Laid" should replace with "lay" in the sentence as the past tense of the verb lie is lay, not laid.
Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.
8. In this sentence, that refers to books, plural noun, and, therefore, the verb must be plural (are; not is), so, "is" is replaced by "are".
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
9. There is no error in any part of the sentence.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
10. "Their" should replace with "his" as singular antecedents (Rakesh and Shakti) joined by *or* or *not* are referred to by singular pronoun (his).
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
11. A singular pronoun (its, not their) must be used to refer to a collective noun (company) when the members of the collective noun are considered a unit. So, "their" is replaced by "its".
Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.
12. "Has" should be replaced by "had" as time is mentioned that is past, so the tense should be in past indefinite.
Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.
13. "Had" should not be used in the sentence as it is not required. So, remove the word had.
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
14. "As and when you need" would be correct as it should not be in the continuous form.
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
15. "Had" should replace "would have" as it is conditional sentence and requires perfect tense. Therefore, the error is in part (a) of the sentence.
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
16. "Were" should be used in place of "are" because the sentence is in past tense.
Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.
17. "Will" should be removed from the first part (a) of the sentence, the sentence is in simple present tense.
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
18. "Was" should replace with "were", as it is conditional sentence.
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
19. "Plans" should replace "plan" as plans is a singular verb, it should be used with Ravi.
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
20. There is no error in any part of the sentence.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
21. "They are" should be replaced with "it is" as it is always followed by singular verb and government is singular body so it should be used as pronoun.
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
22. Replace "want" by "wants" because a group is singular.
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
23. "Put down" should be replaced by "put in", as put down – is a phrasal verb and means to write down whereas put in – means to make a formal offer of or to introduce, as in conversation.
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
24. Information is an uncountable noun and it cannot be used in plural form that is informations. So, information is used.
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
25. "Poems" must be used instead of "poetries" as the sentence is specifically talking about Wordsworth.
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

26. "Brethren" is used instead of "Brethrens" as Brethren is itself a plural noun. Brethren is members of a male religious order.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

27. "India's" is used instead of "India" as here the problems of Pakistan are compared with the problems of India.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

28. "Cities after city" is used instead of "Cities after cities", as when preposition is placed after a noun and

the same noun is also placed after preposition then that noun always used as singular.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

29. Replace "was" by "were" as this is a conditional statement and in such statements we use a plural auxiliary verb with a singular noun.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

30. "The mission has provided" should be used in place of "the mission provides" as statement is in present perfect tense.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

PRACTICE EXERCISE 2

1. "Had" should replace "have" in part (a), as the past year in part (b) shows that the verb should be in past tense. Therefore, the error is in part (a).

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

2. Here the error is in part (b) of the sentence, that is "be" should be removed as it is used after modal auxiliary verb in passive voice.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

3. "Has" should replace "Have", that is the error is in part (a). As tax treaty is a singular subject and will take has as an auxiliary verb.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

4. "Declined" should be replaced with "decline", that is the error is in part (c). As last year mentioned in the sentence is a time of past, so past form of verb is used.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

5. The error is in part (c), where "implementation of" should replace "implementing", as it is the proper form of the sentence.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

6. No error, therefore, no explanation.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

7. "Sat" should replace "sit", that is the error is in part (c), as the sentence is of past tense.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

8. "Most" should replace "more" in part (b), as superlative degree is required in the sentence. Therefore, the error is in part (b).

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

9. "Usual" should replace "usually" in part (b), as usual is used as an adjective whereas, usually is used as an adverb. Therefore, the error is in part (b).

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

10. The error is in part (b), as "about" should be used in place of "on" in the sentence. Because, on is used when

two objects are in contact with each other, whereas, about used for the subject connected with.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

11. In the sentence, the error is in part (c), as "not" should not be used with "hardly", as hardly is itself consider as not.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

12. Here, in the sentence, "more" should not be used with "exterior", as it is already a comparative form. Therefore, the error is in part (b).

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

13. Replace "that is" by "that are", that is the error is in part (b). As in relative pronouns (that/who/which) used as a subject takes the verb singular or plural. Here "that is" referring to diseases that are curable.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

14. "Their" should replace "there" as it is a relative pronoun, that is the error is in part (b).

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

15. No error, therefore, no explanation.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

16. "Very" should not be used with fond. So, there is error in part A of the sentence.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

17. "It's" should replace "its", as It's means It is. Therefore, the error is in part (a).

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

18. Here, the phrase "venture into" is to do something even though it involves risk. Therefore, "venture into the sea" should be used in place of "venture with the sea", that is error is in part (b).

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

19. Here, an indefinite article "a" i.e. a lack of knowledge should be used.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

20. In the statement, the error is in part (c), as the word “revert” is to return to the original state; to start something again. So, it is not proper to use “back” with “revert”.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

21. No error, therefore, no explanation.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

22. “Was go into one” should replace by “was going into one”, that is the error is in part (b) of the sentence. As, past continuous form of the verb has to be used as per the sentence.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

23. “The angry at being” should be replaced by “the anger at being”, as we need a noun after ‘the’ which is ‘anger’, therefore, the error is in part (a).

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

24. “Were” should be replaced by “was” as consumer confidence index is singular entity. So, error is in part (b).

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

25. “If all goes well” should be replaced by “if everything goes well”, according to subject – verb agreement.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

26. “Who” should replace by “which”, as was who is used for persons and we need a pronoun for the word group. Therefore, the error is in part (b).

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

27. “Negotiating” should be replaced by “negotiate”, as it should be followed by first form of verb, as per the sentence given.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

28. “Excepted” should be replaced by “expect” because the sentence has been made in present tense. So, error is in part (b).

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

29. The error in the sentence is in part (c), where more and better cannot be used together.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

30. “Threw” should replace “thrown”, that is the error is in part (c) of the sentence, as past form of verb should be used in past tense.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.