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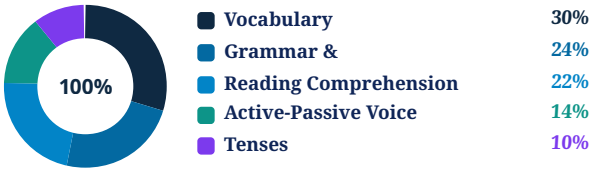
IUC ACADEMY NOTES

Complete Syllabus • Conceptual Flowcharts • Comparative Tables • Solved Practice Questions

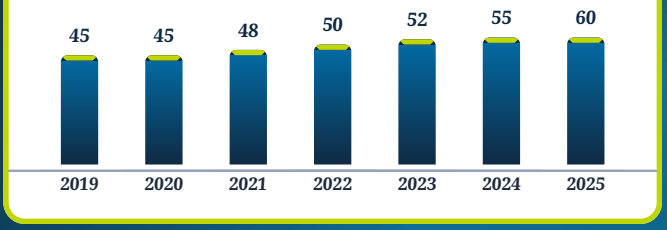
COMPLETE GENERAL ENGLISH GRAMMAR, VOCABULARY & COMPREHENSION

Subject-Verb Agreement, Tenses, Conditionals, Active-Passive Voice, Direct-Indirect Narration, Prepositions, Error Spotting, Etymology-Based Vocabulary, Idioms, One-Word Substitutions, Cloze Test & Reading Comprehension

Topic-Wise Exam Weightage Distribution (%)



Previous Years' Question Trend Analysis



Target Competitive, Entrance & Departmental Examinations

SSC CGL/CHSL/CPO/MTS • IBPS/SBI PO & Clerk • NDA/CDS/AFCAT • CLAT • CUET • UPSC EPFO • DSSSB/KVS

Core Syllabus Pillars & Exam Question Weightage (%)

- Vocabulary (Synonyms, Antonyms, One-Word, Idioms, Phrasal Verbs) (30%)
- Grammar & Error Spotting (Parts of Speech, SVA, Modals, Articles) (24%)
- Reading Comprehension, Cloze Test & Para Jumbles (PQRS) (22%)
- Active-Passive Voice & Direct-Indirect Speech Transformations (14%)
- Tenses, Conditional Clauses, Subjunctive Mood & Prepositions (10%)

Complete Theory
NCERT & Official Sources

Visual Flowcharts
Comparative Matrices

Memory Tricks
Exam Trap Alerts

75+ Solved MCQs
One-Liner Capsules

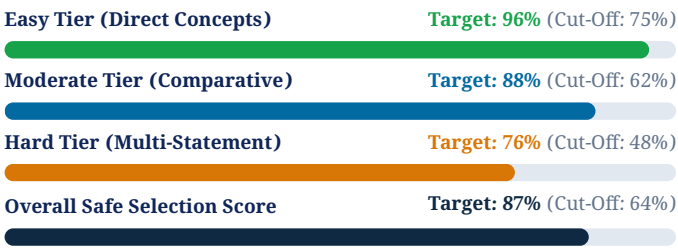
Preface, Exam Weightage Dashboard & Study Strategy — COMPLETE GENERAL ENGLISH GRAMMAR, VOCABULARY & COMPREHENSION

IUC Academy (Inclusive Universal Careers Academy | www.iucacademy.com) • Official English Medium Study Notes

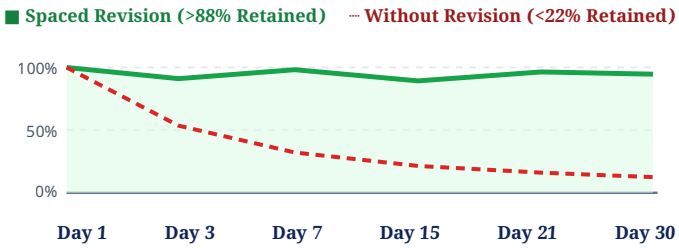
Dear Aspirants,

Modern competitive, entrance, and departmental promotion examinations demand a combination of deep conceptual clarity, statutory precision, and rapid revision tools. Prepared by **Inclusive Universal Careers Academy (IUC Academy — www.iucacademy.com)**, these comprehensive English-medium study notes integrate **structured chapter theory, 4-node conceptual process flowcharts, multi-column comparative tables, inline mathematical/scientific formulas, 'Did You Know?' boxes, 'Exam Trap Alert' callouts, 'Memory Trick' mnemonics, Chapter-End Analytical Synthesis Matrices, 75+ Step-by-Step Solved MCQs, and Rapid-Fire One-Liner Revision Capsules**.

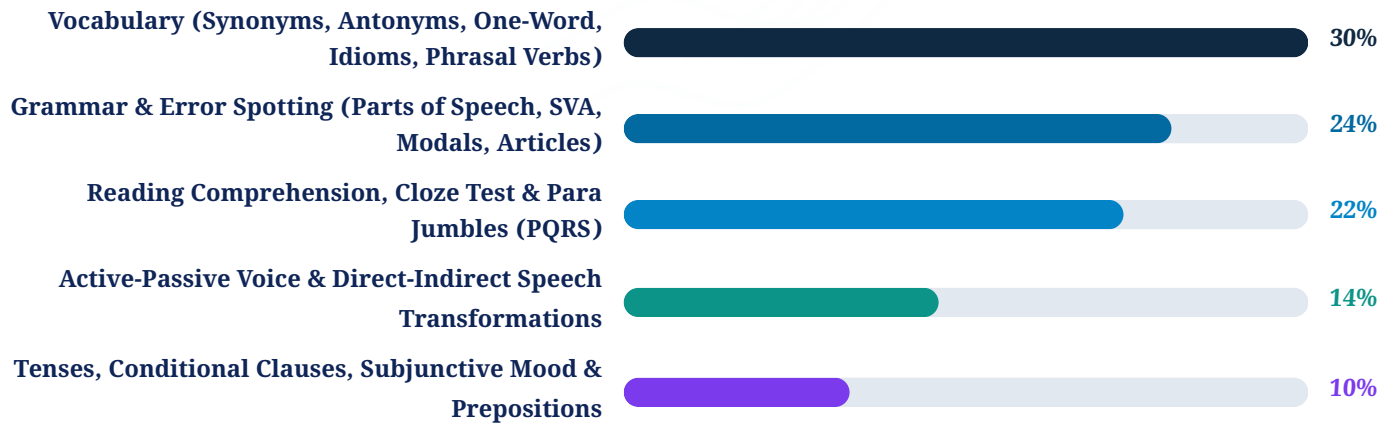
Target Accuracy vs Qualifying Cut-Off Benchmark (%)



Spaced Revision (1-3-7-21 Day Rule) & Retention Curve



Topic-Wise Exam Question Weightage Index (%)



Verified Official Curriculum & Statutory Reference Portals

- **SSC Official Portal** (https://ssc.gov.in/)
- **NCERT English Textbooks** (https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php)
- **IUC Academy Official Portal** (https://www.iucacademy.com)

Detailed Table of Contents & Chapter Architecture

COMPLETE GENERAL ENGLISH GRAMMAR, VOCABULARY & COMPREHENSION • Complete Chapters, Comparative Matrices, Solved MCQs & Rapid Revision

1. Chapter 1: Parts of Speech — Nouns, Pronouns, Adjectives & Determiners

- 1.1 Classification and Syntactic Functions of Nouns
- 1.2 Pronouns, Case Governance, and Adjective Gradation

2. Chapter 2: Subject-Verb Agreement, Finite & Non-Finite Verbs & Modals

- 2.1 Core Principles of Subject-Verb Concord
- 2.2 Non-Finite Verbs (Infinitives, Gerunds, Participles) and Modal Auxiliaries

3. Chapter 3: Time & Tense, Conditionals, Subjunctive Mood & Causative Verbs

- 3.1 Aspectual Precision Across Present, Past, and Future Tenses
- 3.2 Unreal Subjunctive Mood & Causative Verb Structures

4. Chapter 4: Active-Passive Voice & Direct-Indirect Narration

- 4.1 Complete Transformation Architecture for Active and Passive Voice
- 4.2 Direct and Indirect Narration (Reported Speech)

5. Chapter 5: Prepositions, Conjunctions, Inversion & Parallelism

- 5.1 High-Precision Prepositional Usage & Omission Rules
- 5.2 Correlative Conjunctions, Adverbial Inversion & Parallelism

6. Chapter 6: High-Frequency Vocabulary — Root Words, Synonyms, Antonyms & One-Word Substitutions

- 6.1 Classical Greco-Latin Root Word Matrix
- 6.2 One-Word Substitutions & Frequently Confused Homophones

7. Chapter 7: Idioms & Phrases, Phrasal Verbs & Contextual Collocations

- 7.1 High-Yield Idiomatic Expressions by Thematic Domain
- 7.2 Complete Phrasal Verb Family groups

8. Chapter 8: Reading Comprehension, Cloze Test & Para-Jumbles (PQRS)

- 8.1 Reading Comprehension (RC) Analytical Framework
- 8.2 Cloze Test & Para-Jumbles (Sentence Rearrangement) Solving Strategy

9. Solved Exam Practice Questions (MCQs)

10. Extended Comparative & Analytical Practice Set (Questions 36–75)

11. Rapid-Fire Last-Minute One-Liner Revision Capsule

Published by: Inclusive Universal Careers Academy (IUC Academy)

Official Curriculum Alignment: Staff Selection Commission (SSC) | NCERT Official Textbooks

Edition: Pure English Comprehensive Study Notes for All-India Competitive Examinations

Chapter *1:* Parts of Speech — Nouns, Pronouns, Adjectives & Determiners

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 1: Parts of Speech — Nouns, Pronouns, Adjectives & Determiners

Key Study Pillar 1
Classification and Syntactic Functions of Nouns

Key Study Pillar 2
Pronouns, Case Governance, and Adjective Gradation

1.1 Classification and Syntactic Functions of Nouns

• **Proper, Common, Collective, Material, and Abstract Nouns:** A noun functions as the subject of a verb, the object of a transitive verb, the object of a preposition, or a subject complement in competitive grammar items tested under SSC Official Syllabi.

• **Always Singular Uncountable Nouns:** Words such as *Advice*, *Information*, *Furniture*, *Luggage*, *Baggage*, *Scenery*, *Poetry*, *Machinery*, *Stationery*, *Crockery*, *Postage*, *Knowledge*, *Wastage*, *Jewellery*, *Breakage*, *Equipment*, *Evidence*, and *Work* never take the indefinite articles (*a*/*an*) directly and never admit an *-s*/*-es* plural suffix. To express countable units, use partitive phrases such as *a piece of advice* or *an item of furniture*.

• **Plural-Form Nouns with Singular Concord:** Academic disciplines (*Mathematics*, *Physics*, *Economics*, *Ethics*, *Linguistics*, *Politics*, *Civics*, *Statistics*), diseases (*Measles*, *Mumps*, *Rickets*, *Shingles*, *Diabetes*), games (*Billiards*, *Darts*, *Draughts*, *Gymnastics*, *Athletics*), and book titles (*The Arabian Nights*, *Gulliver's Travels*) take singular verbs when referring to the field or entity as a whole, as documented in NCERT Grammar Modules. When preceded by a possessive determiner (*his mathematics*, *the statistics of the survey*), they denote data or calculation ability and take a plural verb.

• **Bipartite Tools and Garments (Always Plural):** Nouns representing two-part instruments or apparel (*Scissors*, *Tongs*, *Pliers*, *Pincers*, *Bellows*, *Trousers*, *Pants*, *Pajamas*, *Shorts*, *Gallows*, *Fangs*, *Spectacles*, *Glasses*, *Goggles*, *Binoculars*, *Shears*) take plural verbs unless preceded by *a pair of*, in which case the singular head noun *pair* governs a singular verb.

• **Deceptively Singular Collective Nouns (Always Plural):** *Cattle*, *Cavalry*, *Infantry*, *Poultry*, *Peasantry*, *Children*, *Gentry*, *Police*, *Clergy*, *People*, *Folk*, and *Vermin* are plural in meaning and always require plural verbs without taking an *-s* ending.

• **Invariant Nouns (Identical Singular and Plural):** *Sheep*, *Deer*, *Swine*, *Offspring*, *Cod*, *Trout*, *Salmon*, *Aircraft*, *Spacecraft*, *Hovercraft*, *Series*, *Species*, *Corps*, *Crossroads*, *Innings*, *Headquarters*, and *Means* maintain the same morphological form in both numbers; context or determiners (*this species* vs *these species*) decide verb number.

• **Compound Noun Pluralization & Genitive Case Rules:** In hyphenated compound nouns, attach the plural marker *-s* to the principal headword (*Commanders-in-chief*, *Passers-by*, *Sons-in-law*, *Mothers-in-law*, *Step-sons*, *Maid-servants*), whereas compounds built with *man*/*woman* denoting profession pluralize both elements (*Men-*

servants, *Women-doctors*). When a noun functions as a pre-head modifier before another noun after a numeral (*a five-rupee note*, *a ten-mile walk*, *a three-member committee*), the modifier noun remains strictly singular.

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1 Identify Head Noun Category

STEP 2 Check Countability & Partitive Markers

STEP 3 Verify Collective Unity vs Division

STEP 4 Assign Singular or Plural Verb Concord

Noun Category	Representative Examples	Grammatical Number	Verb Agreement Rule	Official Reference
Uncountable Abstract/Material	Advice, Furniture, Scenery, Equipment, Information	Strictly Singular	Takes singular verb; never uses *a*/*an* or plural *-s*	NCERT English
Bipartite Instruments & Attire	Scissors, Spectacles, Trousers, Pliers, Binoculars	Strictly Plural	Takes plural verb; singular only after *a pair of*	SSC Exam Portal
Unmarked Plural Collectives	Cattle, Police, Gentry, Peasantry, Clergy, Poultry	Strictly Plural	Takes plural verb; never add *-s* (*cattles* is invalid)	IUC Academy
Zero-Plural Invariant Nouns	Sheep, Deer, Innings, Species, Series, Aircraft	Singular or Plural	Verb depends on singular/plural determiner (*a* vs *many*)	NCERT English
Collective Nouns of Variable Unity	Jury, Committee, Council, Audience, Cabinet	Context-Dependent	Singular when unanimous; plural when divided in action	SSC Exam Portal

1.2 Pronouns, Case Governance, and Adjective Gradation

• **Subjective vs Objective Case Governance:** Use subjective case pronouns (*I*, *we*, *you*, *he*, *she*, *it*, *they*, *who*) for clause subjects and complements of the copula *be* (*It is I who am responsible*), and objective case pronouns (*me*, *us*, *you*, *him*, *her*, *it*, *them*, *whom*) immediately after transitive verbs, prepositions (*between you and me*, *besides him*), the verb *let* (*Let Rohit and me verify the file*), and gerund phrases when denoting the object. Before a gerund (*reading*, *winning*), use a possessive determiner (*my*, *his*, *your*, *our*, *their*) rather than an objective pronoun (*The panel appreciated his presenting the evidence*).

• **Multi-Person Pronoun Sequencing:** When pronouns of different persons are joined in a single coordinate subject, follow the **2-3-1 sequence** (*Second Person -> Third Person -> First Person*, e.g., *You, he, and I have completed the assignment*) for positive or normal statements. Follow the **1-2-3 sequence** (*First Person -> Second Person -> Third Person*, e.g., *I, you, and he are guilty of the oversight*) when confessing a mistake, crime, or flaw, or when all three pronouns are plural (*We, you, and they*).

• **Distributive and Indefinite Pronoun Agreement:** *Each*, *Either*, *Neither*, *Everyone*, *Everybody*, *Someone*, *Somebody*, *Anyone*, *Anybody*, *No one*, and *Nobody* take singular verbs and singular masculine/gender-neutral possessive pronouns (*his*/*its*). Use *either*/*neither* for two entities and *any*/*none* for three or more entities. When *one* serves as the indefinite subject, maintain *one* / *one's* / *oneself* throughout the sentence (*One must fulfill one's duty oneself*).

• **Relative Pronouns (*Who, Whom, Whose, Which, That*):** Use *who* when an unclaimed finite verb follows in the relative clause, and *whom* when every finite verb in the relative clause already has its own grammatical

subject. Use *that* (never *who* or *which*) after superlative adjectives, ordinal numbers, and words like *all*, *same*, *only*, *none*, *nothing*, *little*, *much*, *the few*, and *the little*, or when two antecedents combine a person and an animal/thing (*The officer and his dog that crossed the river*).

• **Adjective Order (OSASCOMP) and Non-Gradable Absolutes:** Descriptive adjectives before a noun follow the sequence **Opinion -> Size -> Age -> Shape -> Color -> Origin -> Material -> Purpose** (*an elegant small antique rectangular brown Indian teakwood writing desk*). Latinate comparatives (*senior*, *junior*, *superior*, *inferior*, *prior*, *anterior*, *posterior*, *prefer*, *preferable*) take the preposition *to* instead of *than* and disallow *more*. Non-gradable absolutes (*unique*, *ideal*, *perfect*, *complete*, *universal*, *chief*, *extreme*, *eternal*, *supreme*, *rectangular*, *circular*, *dead*, *blind*) never take *more* or *most*.

• **Precision Determiners:** Use *some* in affirmative clauses and offers/requests, and *any* in negative or interrogative clauses. Distinguish quantifiers carefully: *little* / *a little* / *the little* modify uncountable nouns, whereas *few* / *a few* / *the few* modify plural countable nouns (*little*/*few* = almost none/negative; *a little*/*a few* = a small positive quantity; *the little*/*the few* = not much/many, but all that is available). Use *elder*/*eldest* strictly for blood family members (with *to*, never *than*), and *older*/*oldest* for both persons outside the family and inanimate objects (with *than*).

Did You Know?: Under traditional formal grammar adopted by NCERT Textbooks and SSC CGL Tier-II, verbs such as *avail*, *absent*, *acquit*, *reconcile*, *amuse*, *resign*, *avenge*, *exert*, *apply*, *adapt*, *adjust*, and *pride* require a reflexive pronoun (*myself*, *himself*, *themselves*) when used intransitively without a direct object (e.g., *Candidates must avail themselves of the reservation benefit*), whereas *keep*, *stop*, *turn*, *qualify*, *bathe*, *move*, *rest*, and *hide* never take a reflexive pronoun.

Exam Trap Alert: Examiners frequently pair two qualities of the same person using two comparative adjectives: when comparing two qualities within the same individual, never use the *-er* suffix; always use **more** + **positive degree** + **than** + **positive degree** (e.g., *Priya is more wise than brave*, NOT *wiser than brave*). Additionally, avoid the double failure of comparison when combining *as...as* and *than* in one sentence: write *He is as swift as, if not swifter than, his opponent*.

★ **Memory Trick:** Remember the acronym **S-P-A-C-E-D** for nouns that never take plural *-s*: **S**cenery/Stationery, **P**oetry/Postage, **A**dvice, **C**rockery, **E**quipment/Evidence, **D**irt/Dust. For pronoun ordering, think **"231 for Good Behaviour, 123 for Bad Confession"**.

Chapter *1* Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (SSC Official Portal)
Classification and Syntactic Functions of Nouns	**Proper, Common, Collective, Material, and Abstract Nouns**	A noun functions as the subject of a verb, the object of a transitive verb, the object of a preposition, or a subject complement in competitive grammar items tested under SSC Official Syllabi.
Pronouns, Case Governance, and Adjective Gradation	**Always Singular Uncountable Nouns**	Words such as *Advice*, *Information*, *Furniture*, *Luggage*, *Baggage*, *Scenery*, *Poetry*, *Machinery*, *Stationery*, *Crockery*, *Postage*, *Knowledge*, *Wastage*, *Jewellery*, *Breakage*, *Equipment*, *Evidence*, and *Work* never take the indefinite articles (*a*/*an*) directly and never admit an *-s*/*-es* plural suffix. To express countable units, use partitive phrases such as *a piece of advice* or *an item of furniture*.

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (SSC Official Portal)
Classification and Syntactic Functions of Nouns	**Plural-Form Nouns with Singular Concord**	Academic disciplines (*Mathematics*, *Physics*, *Economics*, *Ethics*, *Linguistics*, *Politics*, *Civics*, *Statistics*), diseases (*Measles*, *Mumps*, *Rickets*, *Shingles*, *Diabetes*), games (*Billiards*, *Darts*, *Draughts*, *Gymnastics*, *Athletics*), and book titles (*The Arabian Nights*, *Gulliver's Travels*) take singular verbs when referring to the field or entity as a whole, as documented in NCERT Grammar Modules. When preceded by a possessive determiner (*his mathematics*, *the statistics of the survey*), they denote data or calculation ability and take a plural verb.
Pronouns, Case Governance, and Adjective Gradation	**Bipartite Tools and Garments (Always Plural)**	Nouns representing two-part instruments or apparel (*Scissors*, *Tongs*, *Pliers*, *Pincers*, *Bellows*, *Trousers*, *Pants*, *Pajamas*, *Shorts*, *Gallows*, *Fangs*, *Spectacles*, *Glasses*, *Goggles*, *Binoculars*, *Shears*) take plural verbs unless preceded by *a pair of*, in which case the singular head noun *pair* governs a singular verb.
Classification and Syntactic Functions of Nouns	**Deceptively Singular Collective Nouns (Always Plural)**	*Cattle*, *Cavalry*, *Infantry*, *Poultry*, *Peasantry*, *Children*, *Gentry*, *Police*, *Clergy*, *People*, *Folk*, and *Vermin* are plural in meaning and always require plural verbs without taking an *-s* ending.
Pronouns, Case Governance, and Adjective Gradation	**Invariant Nouns (Identical Singular and Plural)**	*Sheep*, *Deer*, *Swine*, *Offspring*, *Cod*, *Trout*, *Salmon*, *Aircraft*, *Spacecraft*, *Hovercraft*, *Series*, *Species*, *Corps*, *Crossroads*, *Innings*, *Headquarters*, and *Means* maintain the same morphological form in both numbers; context or determiners (*this species* vs *these species*) decide verb number.
Classification and Syntactic Functions of Nouns	**Compound Noun Pluralization & Genitive Case Rules**	In hyphenated compound nouns, attach the plural marker *-s* to the principal headword (*Commanders-in-chief*, *Passers-by*, *Sons-in-law*, *Mothers-in-law*, *Step-sons*, *Maid-servants*), whereas compounds built with *man*/*woman* denoting profession pluralize both elements (*Men-servants*, *Women-doctors*). When a noun functions as a pre-head modifier before another noun after a numeral (*a five-rupee note*, *a ten-mile walk*, *a three-member committee*), the modifier noun remains strictly singular.
Pronouns, Case Governance, and Adjective Gradation	**Subjective vs Objective Case Governance**	Use subjective case pronouns (*I*, *we*, *you*, *he*, *she*, *it*, *they*, *who*) for clause subjects and complements of the copula *be* (*It is I who am responsible*), and objective case pronouns (*me*, *us*, *you*, *him*, *her*, *it*, *them*, *whom*) immediately after transitive verbs, prepositions (*between you and me*, *besides him*), the verb *let* (*Let Rohit and me verify the file*), and gerund phrases when denoting the object. Before a gerund (*reading*, *winning*), use a possessive determiner (*my*, *his*, *your*, *our*, *their*) rather than an objective pronoun (*The panel appreciated his presenting the evidence*).
Classification and Syntactic Functions of Nouns	**Multi-Person Pronoun Sequencing**	When pronouns of different persons are joined in a single coordinate subject, follow the **2-3-1 sequence** (*Second Person -> Third Person -> First Person*, e.g., *You, he, and I have completed the assignment*) for positive or normal statements. Follow the **1-2-3 sequence** (*First Person -> Second Person -> Third Person*, e.g., *I, you, and he are guilty of the oversight*) when confessing a mistake, crime, or flaw, or when all three pronouns are plural (*We*, *you*, *and they*).
Pronouns, Case Governance, and Adjective Gradation	**Distributive and Indefinite Pronoun Agreement**	*Each*, *Either*, *Neither*, *Everyone*, *Everybody*, *Someone*, *Somebody*, *Anyone*, *Anybody*, *No one*, and *Nobody* take singular verbs and singular masculine/gender-neutral possessive pronouns (*his*/*its*). Use *either*/*neither* for two entities and *any*/*none* for three or more entities. When *one* serves as the indefinite subject, maintain *one* / *one's* / *oneself* throughout the sentence (*One must fulfill one's duty oneself*).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (SSC Official Portal)
Classification and Syntactic Functions of Nouns	**Relative Pronouns (*Who, Whom, Whose, Which, That*)**	* *Use* who *when an unclaimed finite verb follows in the relative clause, and* whom *when every finite verb in the relative clause already has its own grammatical subject. Use* that (*never* who *or* which) *after superlative adjectives, ordinal numbers, and words like* all, same, only, none, nothing, little, much, the few, *and* the little, *or when two antecedents combine a person and an animal/thing* (The officer and his dog that crossed the river*).
Pronouns, Case Governance, and Adjective Gradation	**Adjective Order (OSASCOMP) and Non-Gradable Absolutes**	Descriptive adjectives before a noun follow the sequence **Opinion -> Size -> Age -> Shape -> Color -> Origin -> Material -> Purpose** (*an elegant small antique rectangular brown Indian teakwood writing desk*). Latinate comparatives (*senior, junior, superior, inferior, prior, anterior, posterior, prefer, preferable*) take the preposition *to* instead of *than* and disallow *more*. Non-gradable absolutes (*unique, ideal, perfect, complete, universal, chief, extreme, eternal, supreme, rectangular, circular, dead, blind*) never take *more* or *most*.
Classification and Syntactic Functions of Nouns	**Precision Determiners**	Use *some* in affirmative clauses and offers/requests, and *any* in negative or interrogative clauses. Distinguish quantifiers carefully: *little / a little / the little* modify uncountable nouns, whereas *few / a few / the few* modify plural countable nouns (*little/few* = almost none/negative; *a little/a few* = a small positive quantity; *the little/the few* = not much/many, but all that is available). Use *elder/eldest* strictly for blood family members (with *to*, never *than*), and *older/oldest* for both persons outside the family and inanimate objects (with *than*).

Chapter *1* Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Proper, Common, Collective, Material, and Abstract Nouns): A noun functions as the subject of a verb, the object of a transitive verb, the object of a preposition, or a subject complement in competitive grammar items tested under SSC Official Syllabi.

Statement-II (Always Singular Uncountable Nouns): Words such as *Advice*, *Information*, *Furniture*, *Luggage*, *Baggage*, *Scenery*, *Poetry*, *Machinery*, *Stationery*, *Crockery*, *Postage*, *Knowledge*, *Wastage*, *Jewellery*, *Breakage*, *Equipment*, *Evidence*, and *Work* never take the indefinite articles (*a/an*) directly and never admit an *-s/-es* plural suffix. To express countable units, use partitive phrases such as *a piece of advice* or *an item of furniture*.

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Plural-Form Nouns with Singular Concord): Academic disciplines (*Mathematics*, *Physics*, *Economics*, *Ethics*, *Linguistics*, *Politics*, *Civics*, *Statistics*), diseases (*Measles*, *Mumps*, *Rickets*, *Shingles*, *Diabetes*), games (*Billiards*, *Darts*, *Draughts*, *Gymnastics*, *Athletics*), and book titles (*The Arabian Nights*, *Gulliver's Travels*) take singular verbs when referring to the field or entity as a whole, as documented in NCERT Grammar Modules. When preceded by a possessive determiner (*his mathematics*, *the statistics of the survey*), they denote data or calculation ability and take a plural verb.

Statement-II (Bipartite Tools and Garments (Always Plural)): Nouns representing two-part instruments or apparel (*Scissors*, *Tongs*, *Pliers*, *Pincers*, *Bellows*, *Trousers*, *Pants*, *Pajamas*, *Shorts*, *Gallows*, *Fangs*, *Spectacles*, *Glasses*, *Goggles*, *Binoculars*, *Shears*) take plural verbs unless preceded by *a pair of*, in which case the singular head noun *pair* governs a singular verb.

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Deceptively Singular Collective Nouns (Always Plural)): *Cattle*, *Cavalry*, *Infantry*, *Poultry*, *Peasantry*, *Children*, *Gentry*, *Police*, *Clergy*, *People*, *Folk*, and *Vermin* are plural in meaning and always require plural verbs without taking an *-s* ending.
Statement-II (Invariant Nouns (Identical Singular and Plural)): *Sheep*, *Deer*, *Swine*, *Offspring*, *Cod*, *Trout*, *Salmon*, *Aircraft*, *Spacecraft*, *Hovercraft*, *Series*, *Species*, *Corps*, *Crossroads*, *Innings*, *Headquarters*, and *Means* maintain the same morphological form in both numbers; context or determiners (*this species* vs *these species*) decide verb number.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Compound Noun Pluralization & Genitive Case Rules): In hyphenated compound nouns, attach the plural marker *-s* to the principal headword (*Commanders-in-chief*, *Passers-by*, *Sons-in-law*, *Mothers-in-law*, *Step-sons*, *Maid-servants*), whereas compounds built with *man*/*woman* denoting profession pluralize both elements (*Men-servants*, *Women-doctors*). When a noun functions as a pre-head modifier before another noun after a numeral (*a five-rupee note*, *a ten-mile walk*, *a three-member committee*), the modifier noun remains strictly singular.
Statement-II (Subjective vs Objective Case Governance): Use subjective case pronouns (*I*, *we*, *you*, *he*, *she*, *it*, *they*, *who*) for clause subjects and complements of the copula *be* (*It is I who am responsible*), and objective case pronouns (*me*, *us*, *you*, *him*, *her*, *it*, *them*, *whom*) immediately after transitive verbs, prepositions (*between you and me*, *besides him*), the verb *let* (*Let Rohit and me verify the file*), and gerund phrases when denoting the object. Before a gerund (*reading*, *winning*), use a possessive determiner (*my*, *his*, *your*, *our*, *their*) rather than an objective pronoun (*The panel appreciated his presenting the evidence*).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #5 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Multi-Person Pronoun Sequencing): When pronouns of different persons are joined in a single coordinate subject, follow the **2-3-1 sequence** (*Second Person -> Third Person -> First Person*, e.g., *You*, *he*, *and I have completed the assignment*) for positive or normal statements. Follow the **1-2-3 sequence** (*First Person -> Second Person -> Third Person*, e.g., *I*, *you*, *and he are guilty of the oversight*) when confessing a mistake, crime, or flaw, or when all three pronouns are plural (*We*, *you*, *and they*).
Statement-II (Distributive and Indefinite Pronoun Agreement): *Each*, *Either*, *Neither*, *Everyone*, *Everybody*, *Someone*, *Somebody*, *Anyone*, *Anybody*, *No one*, and *Nobody* take singular verbs and singular masculine/gender-neutral possessive pronouns (*his*/*its*). Use *either*/*neither* for two entities and *any*/*none* for three or more entities. When *one* serves as the indefinite subject, maintain *one* / *one's* / *oneself* throughout the sentence (*One must fulfill one's duty oneself*).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #6 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Relative Pronouns (*Who, Whom, Whose, Which, That*)): * *Use* who *when an unclaimed finite verb follows in the relative clause, and* whom *when every finite verb in the relative clause already has its own grammatical subject. Use* that (*never* who *or* which) *after superlative adjectives, ordinal numbers, and words like* all, same, only, none, nothing, little, much, the few, *and* the little, *or when two antecedents combine a person and an animal/thing* (The officer and his dog that crossed the river*).
Statement-II (Adjective Order (OSASCOMP) and Non-Gradable Absolutes): Descriptive adjectives before a noun follow the sequence **Opinion -> Size -> Age -> Shape -> Color -> Origin -> Material -> Purpose** (*an elegant small antique rectangular brown Indian teakwood writing desk*). Latinate comparatives (*senior*, *junior*, *superior*, *inferior*, *prior*, *anterior*, *posterior*, *prefer*, *preferable*) take the preposition *to* instead of *than* and disallow *more*. Non-gradable absolutes (*unique*, *ideal*, *perfect*, *complete*, *universal*, *chief*, *extreme*, *eternal*, *supreme*, *rectangular*, *circular*, *dead*, *blind*) never take *more* or *most*.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 2: Subject-Verb Agreement, Finite & Non-Finite Verbs & Modals

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 2: Subject-Verb Agreement, Finite & Non-Finite Verbs & Modals

Key Study Pillar 1
Core Principles of Subject-Verb Concord

Key Study Pillar 2
Non-Finite Verbs (Infinitives, Gerunds, Participles) and Modal Auxiliaries

2.1 Core Principles of Subject-Verb Concord

• **Intervention of Prepositional Phrases and Appositives:** The grammatical number of the finite verb is governed strictly by the true head noun of the subject phrase, never by nouns inside intervening prepositional phrases (*of, in, with, on, from*) or participial modifiers (e.g., *The quality of the mangoes dispatched from the orchards is exemplary*).

• **Additive Connectors vs Correlative Conjunctions:** When two subjects are linked by *with, along with, together with, as well as, in addition to, besides, accompanied by, headed by, led by, governed by, like, unlike, no less than,* or *rather than,* the verb agrees exclusively with the **first subject** (*The commander, along with his twenty lieutenants, was felicitated*). Conversely, when two subjects are joined by *either...or, neither...nor, not only...but also,* or *or,* the verb agrees with the **nearer subject** (Proximity Rule: *Neither the Chairman nor the directors were present*).

• **Article Placement and Dual vs Single Identity:** When two singular nouns joined by *and* refer to two distinct individuals or objects, both carry an article or possessive determiner and take a plural verb (*The Secretary and the Treasurer have signed the ledger*). When the article or possessive determiner appears only before the first noun, both nouns denote a single person or unified concept and take a singular verb (*The Secretary and Treasurer has arrived*).

• **Fixed Idiomatic Pairs (Parcel Subject Rule):** Paired nouns denoting a single unified concept (*bread and butter, rice and curry, horse and carriage, crown and glory, slow and steady, sum and substance, ebb and flow, hammer and sickle, bag and baggage, long and short*) take a singular verb when referring to a unified dish, principle, or entity.

• **Quantifiers, Fractions, and Measurement Expressions:** *Many a / Many an* is followed by a singular countable noun and a singular verb (*Many a soldier has laid down his life*). *More than one* takes a singular noun and singular verb (*More than one applicant was shortlisted*), whereas *More than two/three* or *More + plural noun + than one* takes a plural verb (*More candidates than one were disqualified*). Expressions of distance, weight, height, time, or money take a singular verb when viewed as a single unit (*Fifty thousand rupees is a substantial grant*), but a plural verb when viewed as individual units spent or distributed (*Fifty thousand rupees have been distributed among the flood victims*).

• **The Number Of vs A Number Of:** *A number of / A large number of / A great many* means "many" and always takes a plural noun and a plural verb (*A number of reforms have been enacted*). *The number of* refers to a specific numerical count and always takes a plural noun followed by a **singular verb** (*The number of applicants is rising steadily*), as verified in **IUC Academy Grammar Modules**.

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1 Strip Prepositional & Participial Modifiers

STEP 2 Locate True Head Subject or Correlative Pair

STEP 3 Check Article Repetition & Quantifier Type

STEP 4 Match Finite Verb in Number & Person

Subject Structure	Governing Subject	Noun Form Required	Verb Form Required	Illustrative Example
Subject 1 + as well as / along with + Subject 2	First Subject (**Subject 1**)	Matches **Subject 1**	Matches **Subject 1**	*The teacher, as well as the students, is ready.*
Neither…nor / Either…or / Not only…but also	Nearer Subject (**Subject 2**)	Matches **Subject 2**	Matches **Subject 2**	*Neither the players nor the coach was informed.*
Each / Every + Singular Noun + and + Each / Every + Singular Noun	Distributive Singular	Singular Noun	Strictly Singular	*Each boy and each girl was awarded a medal.*
Many a / More than one + Noun	Singular Head Noun	Singular Countable	Strictly Singular	*Many a scholar has researched this manuscript.*
The number of + Plural Noun vs **A number of + Plural Noun**	*The number* (S) vs *Noun* (P)	Plural Countable	Singular (*The*) / Plural (*A*)	*The number of errors is small; a number of pages are torn.*

2.2 Non-Finite Verbs (Infinitives, Gerunds, Participles) and Modal Auxiliaries

• **Bare Infinitive Governance:** Use the bare infinitive (base verb **V1** without *to*) after modal auxiliaries (*can, could, may, might, shall, should, will, would, must*), semi-modals *need not* and *dare not* (when used as auxiliaries in negative/interrogative sentences), causative verbs *make, let,* and *bid* in the active voice (*She made the clerk rewrite the draft*, though passive *be made* requires *to + V1*: *The clerk was made to rewrite the draft*), verbs of perception (*see, watch, notice, observe, hear, feel, smell*) when referring to a completed action, and expressions such as *had better, had rather, would rather, would sooner,* and *sooner than.*

• **Gerund (V1 + -ing) Required After Specific Verbs & Prepositions:** Always use a gerund (not a *to*-infinitive) after *avoid, mind, detest, dislike, enjoy, finish, postpone, defer, worth, prefer* (*general*), *consider, practise, risk, excuse, forgive, pardon, stop, anticipate, appreciate, resent, deny, admit, miss, imagine, Delay, keep,* and *cannot help / cannot bear*. Similarly, phrases ending with the preposition *to*—such as *look forward to, with a view to, accustomed to, habituated to, addicted to, averse to, object to, owing to, given to, prone to, taken to,* and *in addition to*—must be followed by a **gerund (V1 + -ing)** or noun phrase, never a base verb (*We look forward to hosting the summit).*

• **Participles and the Dangling Modifier Rule:** A present participle (**V1 + -ing**) or past participle (**V3**) or perfect participle (**Having + V3**) placed at the start of a sentence must share its logical subject with the grammatical subject of the main clause (*Walking through the forest, the ranger spotted a leopard* — NOT *Walking through the forest, a leopard was spotted).* However, impersonal participial prepositions like *Considering, Judging, Referring, Concerning, Regarding, Viewing, Broadly speaking,* and *Strictly speaking* are exempt from requiring a matching main-clause subject.

• **Modal Auxiliaries & Past Deductions:** Use *used to + V1* for discontinued past habits (whereas *be + used to + V-ing* expresses current familiarity). Use *must have + V3* for strong logical certainty about the past, *should have + V3 / ought to have + V3* for unfulfilled past obligations, *need not have + V3* for an action that was performed in the past despite being unnecessary, and *could have + V3* for past ability that remained unused.

Did You Know?: According to standard syntactic analysis on NCERT Official Textbooks, the verb *dare* and *need* act as both defective modal auxiliaries and regular lexical verbs. In affirmative statements, they behave as regular main verbs taking *-s* in the third person singular and requiring a *to*-infinitive (*He dares to challenge the order; She needs to submit the certificate*), whereas in negative/interrogative auxiliary usage they drop *-s* and take a bare infinitive (*He dare not speak; Need she wait?*).

Exam Trap Alert: Watch out for false subjects introduced by *There* or *It*, and inverted sentences beginning with negative adverbs or locative phrases (*On the hilltop stands an ancient temple / Seldom do these officers miss a deadline*). While *It* always governs a singular verb (*It is these documents that matter*), *There* takes a singular or plural verb depending on the real noun that follows it (*There are several discrepancies in the ledger*).

★ **Memory Trick:** Memorize **"L-A-W-O-P"** for phrases ending in *to* that demand `-ing` instead of `V1`: **L**ook forward to, **A**ccustomed/Addicted/Averse to, **W**ith a view to, **O**bject/Owing to, **P**rone to.

Chapter 2 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (SSC Official Portal)
Core Principles of Subject-Verb Concord	**Intervention of Prepositional Phrases and Appositives**	The grammatical number of the finite verb is governed strictly by the true head noun of the subject phrase, never by nouns inside intervening prepositional phrases (*of, in, with, on, from*) or participial modifiers (e.g., *The quality of the mangoes dispatched from the orchards is exemplary*).
Non-Finite Verbs (Infinitives, Gerunds, Participles) and Modal Auxiliaries	**Additive Connectors vs Correlative Conjunctions**	When two subjects are linked by *with, along with, together with, as well as, in addition to, besides, accompanied by, headed by, led by, governed by, like, unlike, no less than*, or *rather than*, the verb agrees exclusively with the **first subject** (*The commander, along with his twenty lieutenants, was felicitated*). Conversely, when two subjects are joined by *either...or, neither...nor, not only...but also*, or *or*, the verb agrees with the **nearer subject** (Proximity Rule: *Neither the Chairman nor the directors were present*).
Core Principles of Subject-Verb Concord	**Article Placement and Dual vs Single Identity**	When two singular nouns joined by *and* refer to two distinct individuals or objects, both carry an article or possessive determiner and take a plural verb (*The Secretary and the Treasurer have signed the ledger*). When the article or possessive determiner appears only before the first noun, both nouns denote a single person or unified concept and take a singular verb (*The Secretary and Treasurer has arrived*).
Non-Finite Verbs (Infinitives, Gerunds, Participles) and Modal Auxiliaries	**Fixed Idiomatic Pairs (Parcel Subject Rule)**	Paired nouns denoting a single unified concept (*bread and butter, rice and curry, horse and carriage, crown and glory, slow and steady, sum and substance, ebb and flow, hammer and sickle, bag and baggage, long and short*) take a singular verb when referring to a unified dish, principle, or entity.

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (SSC Official Portal)
Core Principles of Subject-Verb Concord	**Quantifiers, Fractions, and Measurement Expressions**	*Many a* / *Many an* is followed by a singular countable noun and a singular verb (*Many a soldier has laid down his life*). *More than one* takes a singular noun and singular verb (*More than one applicant was shortlisted*), whereas *More than two/three* or *More + plural noun + than one* takes a plural verb (*More candidates than one were disqualified*). Expressions of distance, weight, height, time, or money take a singular verb when viewed as a single unit (*Fifty thousand rupees is a substantial grant*), but a plural verb when viewed as individual units spent or distributed (*Fifty thousand rupees have been distributed among the flood victims*).
Non-Finite Verbs (Infinitives, Gerunds, Participles) and Modal Auxiliaries	**The Number Of vs A Number Of**	*A number of* / *A large number of* / *A great many* means "many" and always takes a plural noun and a plural verb (*A number of reforms have been enacted*). *The number of* refers to a specific numerical count and always takes a plural noun followed by a **singular verb** (*The number of applicants is rising steadily*), as verified in IUC Academy Grammar Modules.
Core Principles of Subject-Verb Concord	**Bare Infinitive Governance**	Use the bare infinitive (base verb **V1** without *to*) after modal auxiliaries (*can, could, may, might, shall, should, will, would, must*), semi-modals *need not* and *dare not* (when used as auxiliaries in negative/interrogative sentences), causative verbs *make, let,* and *bid* in the active voice (*She made the clerk rewrite the draft*, though passive *be made* requires *to + V1*: *The clerk was made to rewrite the draft*), verbs of perception (*see, watch, notice, observe, hear, feel, smell*) when referring to a completed action, and expressions such as *had better, had rather, would rather, would sooner,* and *sooner than.*
Non-Finite Verbs (Infinitives, Gerunds, Participles) and Modal Auxiliaries	**Gerund (V1 + -ing) Required After Specific Verbs & Prepositions**	Always use a gerund (not a *to*-infinitive) after *avoid, mind, detest, dislike, enjoy, finish, postpone, defer, worth, prefer* (*general*), *consider, practise, risk, excuse, forgive, pardon, stop, anticipate, appreciate, resent, deny, admit, miss, imagine, Delay, keep,* and *cannot help* / *cannot bear*. Similarly, phrases ending with the preposition *to*—such as *look forward to, with a view to, accustomed to, habituated to, addicted to, averse to, object to, owing to, given to, prone to, taken to,* and *in addition to*—must be followed by a **gerund (V1 + -ing)** or noun phrase, never a base verb (*We look forward to hosting the summit*).
Core Principles of Subject-Verb Concord	**Participles and the Dangling Modifier Rule**	A present participle (**V1 + -ing**) or past participle (**V3**) or perfect participle (**Having + V3**) placed at the start of a sentence must share its logical subject with the grammatical subject of the main clause (*Walking through the forest, the ranger spotted a leopard* — NOT *Walking through the forest, a leopard was spotted*). However, impersonal participial prepositions like *Considering, Judging, Referring, Concerning, Regarding, Viewing, Broadly speaking,* and *Strictly speaking* are exempt from requiring a matching main-clause subject.
Non-Finite Verbs (Infinitives, Gerunds, Participles) and Modal Auxiliaries	**Modal Auxiliaries & Past Deductions**	Use *used to + V1* for discontinued past habits (whereas *be + used to + V-ing* expresses current familiarity). Use *must have + V3* for strong logical certainty about the past, *should have + V3* / *ought to have + V3* for unfulfilled past obligations, *need not have + V3* for an action that was performed in the past despite being unnecessary, and *could have + V3* for past ability that remained unused.

Chapter 2 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 2 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Intervention of Prepositional Phrases and Appositives): The grammatical number of the finite verb is governed strictly by the true head noun of the subject phrase, never by nouns inside intervening prepositional phrases (*of*, *in*, *with*, *on*, *from*) or participial modifiers (e.g., *The quality of the mangoes dispatched from the orchards is exemplary*).

Statement-II (Additive Connectors vs Correlative Conjunctions): When two subjects are linked by *with*, *along with*, *together with*, *as well as*, *in addition to*, *besides*, *accompanied by*, *headed by*, *led by*, *governed by*, *like*, *unlike*, *no less than*, or *rather than*, the verb agrees exclusively with the **first subject** (*The commander, along with his twenty lieutenants, was felicitated*). Conversely, when two subjects are joined by *either...or*, *neither...nor*, *not only...but also*, or *or*, the verb agrees with the **nearer subject** (Proximity Rule: *Neither the Chairman nor the directors were present*).

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 2 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Article Placement and Dual vs Single Identity): When two singular nouns joined by *and* refer to two distinct individuals or objects, both carry an article or possessive determiner and take a plural verb (*The Secretary and the Treasurer have signed the ledger*). When the article or possessive determiner appears only before the first noun, both nouns denote a single person or unified concept and take a singular verb (*The Secretary and Treasurer has arrived*).

Statement-II (Fixed Idiomatic Pairs (Parcel Subject Rule)): Paired nouns denoting a single unified concept (*bread and butter*, *rice and curry*, *horse and carriage*, *crown and glory*, *slow and steady*, *sum and substance*, *ebb and flow*, *hammer and sickle*, *bag and baggage*, *long and short*) take a singular verb when referring to a unified dish, principle, or entity.

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 2 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Quantifiers, Fractions, and Measurement Expressions): *Many a / Many an* is followed by a singular countable noun and a singular verb (*Many a soldier has laid down his life*). *More than one* takes a singular noun and singular verb (*More than one applicant was shortlisted*), whereas *More than two/three* or *More + plural noun + than one* takes a plural verb (*More candidates than one were disqualified*). Expressions of distance, weight, height, time, or money take a singular verb when viewed as a single unit (*Fifty thousand rupees is a substantial grant*), but a plural verb when viewed as individual units spent or distributed (*Fifty thousand rupees have been distributed among the flood victims*).

Statement-II (The Number Of vs A Number Of): *A number of / A large number of / A great many* means "many" and always takes a plural noun and a plural verb (*A number of reforms have been enacted*). *The number of* refers to a specific numerical count and always takes a plural noun followed by a **singular verb** (*The number of applicants is rising steadily*), as verified in **IUC Academy Grammar Modules**.

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 2 Statement-Verification Drill #4 Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Bare Infinitive Governance): Use the bare infinitive (base verb `V1` without *to*) after modal auxiliaries (*can*, *could*, *may*, *might*, *shall*, *should*, *will*, *would*, *must*), semi-modals *need not* and *dare not* (when used as auxiliaries in negative/interrogative sentences), causative verbs *make*, *let*, and *bid* in the active voice (*She made the clerk rewrite the draft*, though passive *be made* requires *to* + *V1*: *The clerk was made to rewrite the draft*), verbs of perception (*see*, *watch*, *notice*, *observe*, *hear*, *feel*, *smell*) when referring to a completed action, and expressions such as *had better*, *had rather*, *would rather*, *would sooner*, and *sooner than*.

Statement-II (Gerund (`V1 + -ing`) Required After Specific Verbs & Prepositions): Always use a gerund (not a *to*-infinitive) after *avoid*, *mind*, *detest*, *dislike*, *enjoy*, *finish*, *postpone*, *defer*, *worth*, *prefer* (*general*), *consider*, *practise*, *risk*, *excuse*, *forgive*, *pardon*, *stop*, *anticipate*, *appreciate*, *resent*, *deny*, *admit*, *miss*, *imagine*, *Delay*, *keep*, and *cannot help* / *cannot bear*. Similarly, phrases ending with the preposition *to*—such as *look forward to*, *with a view to*, *accustomed to*, *habituated to*, *addicted to*, *averse to*, *object to*, *owing to*, *given to*, *prone to*, *taken to*, and *in addition to*—must be followed by a **gerund (`V1 + -ing`)** or noun phrase, never a base verb (*We look forward to hosting the summit*).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 2 Statement-Verification Drill #5 Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Participles and the Dangling Modifier Rule): A present participle (`V1 + -ing`) or past participle (`V3`) or perfect participle (`Having + V3`) placed at the start of a sentence must share its logical subject with the grammatical subject of the main clause (*Walking through the forest, the ranger spotted a leopard* — NOT *Walking through the forest, a leopard was spotted*). However, impersonal participial prepositions like *Considering*, *Judging*, *Referring*, *Concerning*, *Regarding*, *Viewing*, *Broadly speaking*, and *Strictly speaking* are exempt from requiring a matching main-clause subject.

Statement-II (Modal Auxiliaries & Past Deductions): Use *used to* + *V1* for discontinued past habits (whereas *be* + *used to* + *V-ing* expresses current familiarity). Use *must have* + *V3* for strong logical certainty about the past, *should have* + *V3* / *ought to have* + *V3* for unfulfilled past obligations, *need not have* + *V3* for an action that was performed in the past despite being unnecessary, and *could have* + *V3* for past ability that remained unused.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter *3:* Time & Tense, Conditionals, Subjunctive Mood & Causative Verbs

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 3: Time & Tense, Conditionals, Subjunctive Mood & Causative Verbs

Key Study Pillar 1
Aspectual Precision Across Present, Past, and Future Tenses

Key Study Pillar 2
Unreal Subjunctive Mood & Causative Verb Structures

3.1 Aspectual Precision Across Present, Past, and Future Tenses

• **Simple Present vs Present Continuous:** Use the Simple Present (`V1` / `V1 + -s`) for universal truths, scientific laws, habitual actions, scheduled future public transport/events, newspaper headlines, and live sports commentaries. Verbs of static perception, emotion, possession, and cognition (*know*, *believe*, *understand*, *remember*, *forget*, *suppose*, *think* [*opinion*], *want*, *wish*, *love*, *hate*, *like*, *prefer*, *belong*, *own*, *possess*, *contain*, *consist*, *comprise*, *seem*, *appear*, *resemble*, *cost*, *owe*) are **stative verbs** and do not take the continuous `-ing` form in their core meaning (*I know the truth*, NOT *I am knowing*).

• **Present Perfect (`has/have + V3`) vs Simple Past (`V2`):** Never pair Present Perfect with definite past-time adverbs (*yesterday*, *last night*, *ago*, *in* 2019, *the other day*, *in ancient times*). Those markers strictly require

Simple Past (`V2`). Conversely, Present Perfect is mandatory with *yet*, *so far*, *up to now*, *recently*, *lately*, *already*, *just*, and *ever*/*never* when connected to the present moment.

• **Since vs For in Perfect & Perfect Continuous Tenses:** Use *for* to denote a calculated period/duration of time (*for three hours*, *for ten years*, *for a long time*) and *since* to denote a definite starting point in time (*since Monday*, *since 1998*, *since morning*, *since childhood*). When *since* acts as a conjunction connecting two clauses, the main clause takes **Present Perfect / Present Perfect Continuous** and the clause immediately following *since* takes **Simple Past (`V2`)** (*Five years have elapsed since he graduated from the institute*).

• **Past Perfect (`had + V3`) Sequencing in Dual Past Actions:** When two actions occurred sequentially in the past, the **earlier (first) action** must be placed in the Past Perfect (`had + V3`) and the **later (second) action** in the Simple Past (`V2`):

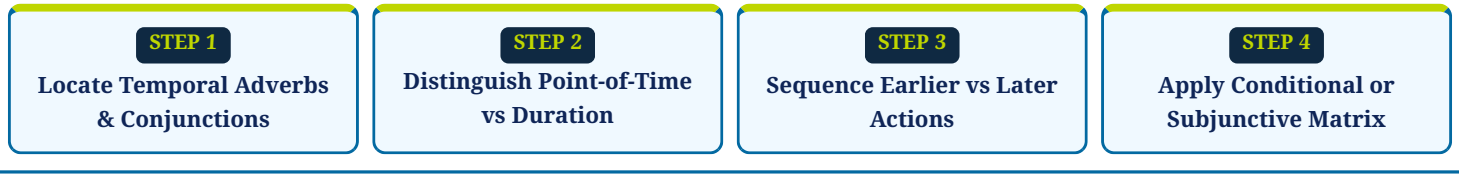
• `Subject + had + V3 + before + Subject + V2` (*The train had departed before we reached the station.*)

• `Subject + V2 + after + Subject + had + V3` (*The auditor approved the balance sheet after he had verified the vouchers.*)

• `By the time + Subject + V2, Subject + had + V3` (*By the time the fire brigade arrived, the warehouse had burned down.*)

• **Future Time Clauses and Dual Future Restriction:** Never use two future tense clauses (*will*/*shall*) in a single complex sentence when one clause is a subordinate time or condition clause introduced by *if*, *unless*, *until*, *till*, *when*, *while*, *as soon as*, *as long as*, *before*, *after*, *provided that*, *in case*, or *suppose*. The subordinate clause must be in the **Simple Present (`V1/V1-s`)** while the main clause takes the **Simple Future (`will/shall + V1`)** (*We shall commence the inspection as soon as the director arrives*).

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart



Conditional / Clause Type	Subordinate Clause (`If / Time Clause`)	Main Clause (`Result Clause`)	Core Usage & Grammatical Meaning	Official Portal
Zero Conditional	`If + Simple Present (V1/ V1-s)`	`Simple Present (V1/ V1-s)`	Scientific facts, universal truths, invariant rules	NCERT Textbooks
First Conditional (Probable)	`If / Unless + Simple Present (V1/V1-s)`	`will / shall / can / may + V1`	Real and likely future possibilities	SSC Exam Portal
Second Conditional (Hypothetical)	`If + Simple Past (V2 / were / had)`	`would / could / might + V1`	Unreal present state or improbable future event	IUC Academy
Third Conditional (Unfulfilled Past)	`If + Past Perfect (had + V3)`	`would / could / might + have + V3`	Imaginary past contrafactuals (regret/criticism)	SSC Exam Portal
Inverted Third Conditional	`Had + Subject + V3` (No *if*)	`would / could / might + have + V3`	Formal inversion of past unreal condition	NCERT Textbooks

3.2 Unreal Subjunctive Mood & Causative Verb Structures

• **Present & Past Subjunctive Mood:**

• **Mandative Subjunctive:** After verbs and adjectives of command, recommendation, urgency, or demand (*insist*, *suggest*, *recommend*, *demand*, *propose*, *command*, *order*, *request*, *imperative*, *essential*, *vital*, *necessary*, *important*) followed by *that*, the subordinate clause takes the **bare base verb (`V1`, including *be*)** regardless of subject person or tense (*The tribunal ordered that the contractor be blacklisted immediately*).

• **Unreal Past Subjunctive:** After *I wish*, *If only*, *As if*, *As though*, *Would rather* + *Subject*, and *It is time* / *It is high time* / *It is about time* + *Subject*, use **Simple Past (`V2` or `were` for all subjects)** to indicate present unreality (*It is high time the municipality repaired the drainage line*; *He speaks as if he were the magistrate*). If *as if* / *as though* or *I wish* refers to an action prior to the main verb, use **Past Perfect (`had + V3`)** (*She looked pale as though she had seen a ghost*).

• **Causative Verbs (*Have*, *Get*, *Make*, *Let*, *Help*):**

• **Active Agent Present (Person):** `Subject + make + Person + V1 (bare)` (*The supervisor made the intern verify the logs*) OR `Subject + have + Person + V1 (bare)` (*I had the electrician check the wiring*) OR `Subject + get + Person + to + V1` (*She got her counsel to file an affidavit*).

• **Passive Object Present (Thing):** `Subject + have / get + Thing (Object) + V3 (Past Participle)` (*We got the official seal renewed before the deadline*).

Did You Know?: In formal legal and administrative drafting modeled on India Code Legislative Texts, conditional clauses frequently omit *if* through **auxiliary inversion** across all three conditional types: Type 1 uses `Should + Subject + V1` (*Should any dispute arise, the matter shall go to arbitration*), Type 2 uses `Were + Subject + to + V1 / Noun` (*Were the economy to slow down, fiscal stimulus would follow*), and Type 3 uses `Had + Subject + V3` (*Had the notice been served in time, the hearing would have proceeded*).

Exam Trap Alert: Candidates frequently confuse `It is high time + Subject + V2` with `It is high time + to + V1`. When a grammatical subject immediately follows *It is high time*, you must use the past tense `V2` (*It is high time you started revising*); when no subject follows, use `to + V1` (*It is high time to start revising*). Also never use *not* inside a clause introduced by *unless*, *until*, or *lest*.

★ **Memory Trick:** For Past Causatives on objects, remember **"H-G-O-3"**: **H**ave or **G**et + **O**bject + **V3** (*Got the roof repaired*). For active causatives on people: **M**ake/**H**ave takes **V1**, **G**et takes **To-V1**.

Chapter 3 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (SSC Official Portal)
Aspectual Precision Across Present, Past, and Future Tenses	**Simple Present vs Present Continuous**	Use the Simple Present (`V1 / V1 + -s`) for universal truths, scientific laws, habitual actions, scheduled future public transport/events, newspaper headlines, and live sports commentaries. Verbs of static perception, emotion, possession, and cognition (*know, believe, understand, remember, forget, suppose, think [opinion], want, wish, love, hate, like, prefer, belong, own, possess, contain, consist, comprise, seem, appear, resemble, cost, owe*) are **stative verbs** and do not take the continuous `-ing` form in their core meaning (*I know the truth*, NOT *I am knowing*).
Unreal Subjunctive Mood & Causative Verb Structures	**Present Perfect (`has/have + V3`) vs Simple Past (`V2`)**	Never pair Present Perfect with definite past-time adverbs (*yesterday, last night, ago, in 2019, the other day, in ancient times*). Those markers strictly require Simple Past (`V2`). Conversely, Present Perfect is mandatory with *yet, so far, up to now, recently, lately, already, just*, and *ever/never* when connected to the present moment.
Aspectual Precision Across Present, Past, and Future Tenses	**Since vs For in Perfect & Perfect Continuous Tenses**	Use *for* to denote a calculated period/duration of time (*for three hours, for ten years, for a long time*) and *since* to denote a definite starting point in time (*since Monday, since 1998, since morning, since childhood*). When *since* acts as a conjunction connecting two clauses, the main clause takes **Present Perfect / Present Perfect Continuous** and the clause immediately following *since* takes **Simple Past (`V2`)** (*Five years have elapsed since he graduated from the institute*).
Unreal Subjunctive Mood & Causative Verb Structures	**Past Perfect (`had + V3`) Sequencing in Dual Past Actions**	When two actions occurred sequentially in the past, the **earlier (first) action** must be placed in the Past Perfect (`had + V3`) and the **later (second) action** in the Simple Past (`V2`):
Aspectual Precision Across Present, Past, and Future Tenses	**Future Time Clauses and Dual Future Restriction**	Never use two future tense clauses (*will/shall*) in a single complex sentence when one clause is a subordinate time or condition clause introduced by *if, unless, until, till, when, while, as soon as, as long as, before, after, provided that, in case*, or *suppose*. The subordinate clause must be in the **Simple Present (`V1/V1-s`)** while the main clause takes the **Simple Future (`will/shall + V1`)** (*We shall commence the inspection as soon as the director arrives*).
Unreal Subjunctive Mood & Causative Verb Structures	**Mandative Subjunctive**	After verbs and adjectives of command, recommendation, urgency, or demand (*insist, suggest, recommend, demand, propose, command, order, request, imperative, essential, vital, necessary, important*) followed by *that*, the subordinate clause takes the **bare base verb (`V1`, including *be*)** regardless of subject person or tense (*The tribunal ordered that the contractor be blacklisted immediately*).
Aspectual Precision Across Present, Past, and Future Tenses	**Unreal Past Subjunctive**	After *I wish, If only, As if, As though, Would rather + Subject*, and *It is time / It is high time / It is about time + Subject*, use **Simple Past (`V2` or `were` for all subjects)** to indicate present unreality (*It is high time the municipality repaired the drainage line; He speaks as if he were the magistrate*). If *as if / as though* or *I wish* refers to an action prior to the main verb, use **Past Perfect (`had + V3`)** (*She looked pale as though she had seen a ghost*).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (SSC Official Portal)
Unreal Subjunctive Mood & Causative Verb Structures	**Active Agent Present (Person)**	**Subject + make + Person + V1 (bare)** (*The supervisor made the intern verify the logs*) OR **Subject + have + Person + V1 (bare)** (*I had the electrician check the wiring*) OR **Subject + get + Person + to + V1** (*She got her counsel to file an affidavit*).
Aspectual Precision Across Present, Past, and Future Tenses	**Passive Object Present (Thing)**	**Subject + have / get + Thing (Object) + V3 (Past Participle)** (*We got the official seal renewed before the deadline*).

Chapter 3 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 3 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Simple Present vs Present Continuous): Use the Simple Present (**V1 / V1 + -s**) for universal truths, scientific laws, habitual actions, scheduled future public transport/events, newspaper headlines, and live sports commentaries. Verbs of static perception, emotion, possession, and cognition (*know*, *believe*, *understand*, *remember*, *forget*, *suppose*, *think* [*opinion*], *want*, *wish*, *love*, *hate*, *like*, *prefer*, *belong*, *own*, *possess*, *contain*, *consist*, *comprise*, *seem*, *appear*, *resemble*, *cost*, *owe*) are **stative verbs** and do not take the continuous **-ing** form in their core meaning (*I know the truth*, NOT *I am knowing*).

Statement-II (Present Perfect (has/have + V3) vs Simple Past (V2)): Never pair Present Perfect with definite past-time adverbs (*yesterday*, *last night*, *ago*, *in* 2019, *the other day*, *in ancient times*). Those markers strictly require Simple Past (**V2**). Conversely, Present Perfect is mandatory with *yet*, *so far*, *up to now*, *recently*, *lately*, *already*, *just*, and *ever*/*never* when connected to the present moment.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 3 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Since vs For in Perfect & Perfect Continuous Tenses): Use *for* to denote a calculated period/duration of time (*for three hours*, *for ten years*, *for a long time*) and *since* to denote a definite starting point in time (*since Monday*, *since* 1998, *since morning*, *since childhood*). When *since* acts as a conjunction connecting two clauses, the main clause takes **Present Perfect / Present Perfect Continuous** and the clause immediately following *since* takes **Simple Past (V2)** (*Five years have elapsed since he graduated from the institute*).

Statement-II (Past Perfect (had + V3) Sequencing in Dual Past Actions): When two actions occurred sequentially in the past, the **earlier (first) action** must be placed in the Past Perfect (**had + V3**) and the **later (second) action** in the Simple Past (**V2**):

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 3 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Future Time Clauses and Dual Future Restriction): Never use two future tense clauses (*will*/*shall*) in a single complex sentence when one clause is a subordinate time or condition clause introduced by *if*, *unless*, *until*, *till*, *when*, *while*, *as soon as*, *as long as*, *before*, *after*, *provided that*, *in case*, or *suppose*. The subordinate clause must be in the **Simple Present (V1/V1-s)** while the main clause takes the **Simple Future (will/shall + V1)** (*We shall commence the inspection as soon as the director arrives*).

Statement-II (Mandative Subjunctive): After verbs and adjectives of command, recommendation, urgency, or demand (*insist*, *suggest*, *recommend*, *demand*, *propose*, *command*, *order*, *request*, *imperative*, *essential*, *vital*, *necessary*, *important*) followed by *that*, the subordinate clause takes the **bare base verb (V1, including *be*)** regardless of subject person or tense (*The tribunal ordered that the contractor be blacklisted immediately*).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 3 Statement-Verification Drill #4 Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Unreal Past Subjunctive): After *I wish*, *If only*, *As if*, *As though*, *Would rather* + *Subject*, and *It is time* / *It is high time* / *It is about time* + *Subject*, use **Simple Past (V2 or were for all subjects)** to indicate present unreality (*It is high time the municipality repaired the drainage line*; *He speaks as if he were the magistrate*). If *as if* / *as though* or *I wish* refers to an action prior to the main verb, use **Past Perfect (had + V3)** (*She looked pale as though she had seen a ghost*).

Statement-II (Active Agent Present (Person)): **Subject + make + Person + V1 (bare)** (*The supervisor made the intern verify the logs*) OR **Subject + have + Person + V1 (bare)** (*I had the electrician check the wiring*) OR **Subject + get + Person + to + V1** (*She got her counsel to file an affidavit*).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 4: Active-Passive Voice & Direct-Indirect Narration

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 4: Active-Passive Voice & Direct-Indirect Narration

Key Study Pillar 1
Complete Transformation Architecture for Active and Passive Voice

Key Study Pillar 2
Direct and Indirect Narration (Reported Speech)

4.1 Complete Transformation Architecture for Active and Passive Voice

• **Core Structural Shift:** Only transitive verbs (or intransitive verbs paired with a fixed preposition, known as prepositional verbs) can be passivized. The active object becomes the passive subject, the main verb shifts into **appropriate form of 'be' (is/am/are/was/were/be/been/being) + V3 (Past Participle)**, and the active subject moves into the agentive phrase (usually **by + agent**, unless the verb governs a fixed preposition or the agent is vague/universal like *someone*, *people*, *police*).

• **Tense-Wise Passive Conversion Formulae:**

• **Simple Present / Past / Future:** **is/am/are + V3** | **was/were + V3** | **will/shall + be + V3**.

• **Present / Past Continuous:** **is/am/are + being + V3** | **was/were + being + V3** (Future Continuous and all three Perfect Continuous tenses do not undergo standard passivization in competitive grammar).

• **Present / Past / Future Perfect:** **has/have + been + V3** | **had + been + V3** | **will/shall + have + been + V3**.

• **Modal Auxiliaries:** **Modal + V1** -> **Modal + be + V3**; **Modal + have + V3** -> **Modal + have + been + V3**.

• **Fixed Prepositions Replacing 'By' in Passive Voice:** Certain verbs never take *by* in the passive voice: *known*, *obliged*, *married* take **to**; *surprised*, *astonished*, *amazed*, *startled*, *alarmed*, *disappointed*, *displeased*, *distressed*,*veyed* (at an event/behaviour) take **at**; *pleased*, *satisfied*, *disgusted*, *charmed*, *thronged*, *lined*, *decorated*, *crammed*, *filled* take **with**; *contained*, *interested*, *consisted*, *absorbed*, *engulfed* take **in**; and *annoyed*, *vexed* take **with** for a person and **at** for a thing/action.

• **Imperative, Interrogative, and Quasi-Passive Constructions:**

• **Interrogatives with *Who* / *Whom*:** **Who wrote this treatise?** -> **By whom was this treatise written?**; **Whom did the committee nominate?** -> **Who was nominated by the committee?**.

• **Imperatives:** Commands use **Let + Object + be + V3** (*Let the gates be locked*) or **You are ordered/commanded to + V1**; moral advice/suggestions use **Object + should + be + V3** (*Promises should be kept*).

• **Quasi-Passive Verbs (Active in Form, Passive in Sense):** **Subject + Verb + Adjective** -> **Subject + Verb + Adjective + when + Pronoun + be + V3** (*Quinine tastes bitter -> Quinine is bitter when it is tasted; The rose smells sweet -> The rose is sweet when it is smelt*).

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1 Identify Object & Transitivity

STEP 2 Preserve Original Tense & Aspect

STEP 3 Apply Be-Auxiliary + V3 Formula

STEP 4 Select Idiomatic Preposition or Agent Omission

Active Voice Pattern	Passive Voice Formula	Exemplar Transformation (SSC / CDS Standard)	Governing Portal
Subject + V1/V2 + Object	Object + is/am/are/was/were + V3 + Prep + Agent	*He knows the magistrate. -> The magistrate is known to him.*	SSC Exam Portal
Subject + Modal + V1 + Object	Object + Modal + be + V3 + by + Agent	*One must keep one's word. -> One's word must be kept.*	NCERT Textbooks
Who + V2 + Object?	By whom + was/were + Object + V3?	*Who drafted the bill? -> By whom was the bill drafted?*	IUC Academy
It is time + to + V1 + Object	It is time + for + Object + to + be + V3	*It is time to audit the accounts. -> It is time for the accounts to be audited.*	SSC Exam Portal
Subject + Verb + Noun + Adjective	Subject + Verb + Adj + when + Pron + be + V3	*Honey tastes sweet. -> Honey is sweet when it is tasted.*	NCERT Textbooks

4.2 Direct and Indirect Narration (Reported Speech)

• **Pronoun Shift (S-O-N / 1-2-3 Rule):** Inside the reported clause, **First-Person** pronouns (*I, me, my, we, us, our*) change according to the **Subject** of the reporting verb; **Second-Person** pronouns (*you, your*) change according to the **Object** of the reporting verb; **Third-Person** pronouns (*he, she, it, they, their*) experience **No Change**.

• **Backshift of Tenses (When Reporting Verb is in Past Tense):** When the reporting verb is in the past (*said, told, asked*), the reported tense shifts one step back into the past:

• **Simple Present -> Simple Past** | **Present Continuous -> Past Continuous** | **Present Perfect -> Past Perfect** | **Present Perfect Continuous -> Past Perfect Continuous**.

• **Simple Past (V2) -> Past Perfect (had + V3)** | **Past Continuous (was/were + V-ing) -> Past Perfect Continuous (had been + V-ing)** | **Past Perfect -> No Change**.

• **will/shall -> would/should** | **can -> could** | **may -> might** | **must (compulsion) -> had to / would have to** (whereas *must* denoting moral duty or permanent rule remains unchanged).

• **Exceptions to Tense Backshift:** Even if the reporting verb is in the past tense, the tense of the reported speech **does not change** if it expresses (a) a universal truth, mathematical/scientific fact, or proverb, (b) an

ongoing habitual action, (c) two simultaneous past actions with *when*/*while* (*She said, "While I was studying, my brother was playing"*), or (d) an unreal past subjunctive after *wish*, *would rather*, *it is high time*, or conditional Type 2/3.

• **Deictic Nearness-to-Distance Shifts:** *this -> that*, *these -> those*, *here -> there*, *now -> then*, *today -> that day*, *tonight -> that night*, *yesterday -> the previous day / the day before*, *tomorrow -> the next day / the following day*, *last week -> the previous week*, *ago -> before*, and *thus -> so*.

• **Sentence-Type Reporting Connectors:**

• **Interrogatives:** Replace *said to* with *asked*, *inquired of*, *demanded of*, or *wanted to know*. Use *if* / *whether* for Yes/No questions and retain the **Wh-** word for **Wh-** questions. Crucially, convert the inverted question order (**Aux + Subject + Verb**) into **assertive order (Subject + Aux + Verb)** and drop the question mark.

• **Imperatives & *Let* Sentences:** Use *ordered*, *commanded*, *requested*, *advised*, *forbade*, *urged* + **Object + to + V1** (for negative imperatives: **not to + V1**, or **forbade + Object + to + V1** without *not*). For **Let us** (proposal/suggestion), use **proposed to / suggested to + Object + that + they/we + should + V1**. For **Let him/them** (permission/wish), use **wished/ordered + that + Subject + might be allowed to + V1**.

• **Exclamatory & Optative Sentences:** Replace *said* with *exclaimed with joy/sorrow/surprise/regret/applause/contempt* + **that** (converting *What a* / *How* into *very* / *great*), or *wished* / *prayed* / *blessed* / *cursed* + **that + Subject + might + V1**.

Did You Know?: When converting complex sentences containing an intransitive verb with a preposition (*laugh at*, *look after*, *mock at*, *listen to*, *dispense with*, *inquire into*), the original preposition must remain immediately attached to the past participle **V3** even when **by + agent** is appended right after it (*The proposal was dispensed with by the board*), as tested regularly on SSC CGL Tier-II Papers.

Exam Trap Alert: In indirect narration of **Wh-** questions, candidates frequently select options such as *He asked me where was I going* instead of *He asked me where I was going*. Once a reporting clause governs an embedded question, auxiliary inversion is strictly ungrammatical! Also never use the preposition *to* after *tell*, *ask*, *inform*, *advise*, *request*, *order*, or *forbid*, whereas *say*, *propose*, and *suggest* require *to* before an indirect personal object (*He suggested to me that...*).

★ **Memory Trick:** Use **"S-O-N over 1-2-3"** for pronoun conversion (*1st person -> Subject*, *2nd person -> Object*, *3rd person -> No change*), and **"Q-to-S (Question to Statement)"** to remind yourself to place the subject before the auxiliary verb in every indirect question.

Chapter 4 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (SSC Official Portal)
Complete Transformation Architecture for Active and Passive Voice	Core Structural Shift	Only transitive verbs (or intransitive verbs paired with a fixed preposition, known as prepositional verbs) can be passivized. The active object becomes the passive subject, the main verb shifts into **appropriate form of 'be' (is/am/are/was/were/be/been/being) + V3 (Past Participle)**, and the active subject moves into the agentive phrase (usually **by + agent**, unless the verb governs a fixed preposition or the agent is vague/universal like *someone*, *people*, *police*).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (SSC Official Portal)
Direct and Indirect Narration (Reported Speech)	**Simple Present / Past / Future**	**is/am/are + V3** | **was/were + V3** | **will/shall + be + V3**.
Complete Transformation Architecture for Active and Passive Voice	**Present / Past Continuous**	**is/am/are + being + V3** | **was/were + being + V3** (Future Continuous and all three Perfect Continuous tenses do not undergo standard passivization in competitive grammar).
Direct and Indirect Narration (Reported Speech)	**Present / Past / Future Perfect**	**has/have + been + V3** | **had + been + V3** | **will/shall + have + been + V3**.
Complete Transformation Architecture for Active and Passive Voice	**Modal Auxiliaries**	**Modal + V1** -> **Modal + be + V3**; **Modal + have + V3** -> **Modal + have + been + V3**.
Direct and Indirect Narration (Reported Speech)	**Fixed Prepositions Replacing 'By' in Passive Voice**	Certain verbs never take *by* in the passive voice: *known, obliged, married* take **to**; *surprised, astonished, amazed, startled, alarmed, disappointed, displeased, distressed,veyed* (at an event/behaviour) take **at**; *pleased, satisfied, disgusted, charmed, thronged, lined, decorated, crammed, filled* take **with**; *contained, interested, consisted, absorbed, engulfed* take **in**; and *annoyed, vexed* take **with** for a person and **at** for a thing/action.
Complete Transformation Architecture for Active and Passive Voice	**Interrogatives with *Who* / *Whom***	** **Who wrote this treatise?** -> **By whom was this treatise written?**; **Whom did the committee nominate?** -> **Who was nominated by the committee?**.
Direct and Indirect Narration (Reported Speech)	**Imperatives**	Commands use **Let + Object + be + V3** (*Let the gates be locked*) or **You are ordered/commanded to + V1**; moral advice/suggestions use **Object + should + be + V3** (*Promises should be kept*).
Complete Transformation Architecture for Active and Passive Voice	**Quasi-Passive Verbs (Active in Form, Passive in Sense)**	**Subject + Verb + Adjective** -> **Subject + Verb + Adjective + when + Pronoun + be + V3** (*Quinine tastes bitter -> Quinine is bitter when it is tasted; The rose smells sweet -> The rose is sweet when it is smelt*).
Direct and Indirect Narration (Reported Speech)	**Pronoun Shift (S-O-N / 1-2-3 Rule)**	Inside the reported clause, **First-Person** pronouns (*I, me, my, we, us, our*) change according to the **Subject** of the reporting verb; **Second-Person** pronouns (*you, your*) change according to the **Object** of the reporting verb; **Third-Person** pronouns (*he, she, it, they, their*) experience **No Change**.

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (SSC Official Portal)
Complete Transformation Architecture for Active and Passive Voice	**Backshift of Tenses (When Reporting Verb is in Past Tense)**	When the reporting verb is in the past (*said*, *told*, *asked*), the reported tense shifts one step back into the past:
Direct and Indirect Narration (Reported Speech)	**Exceptions to Tense Backshift**	Even if the reporting verb is in the past tense, the tense of the reported speech **does not change** if it expresses (a) a universal truth, mathematical/scientific fact, or proverb, (b) an ongoing habitual action, (c) two simultaneous past actions with *when*/*while* (*She said, "While I was studying, my brother was playing"*), or (d) an unreal past subjunctive after *wish*, *would rather*, *it is high time*, or conditional Type 2/3.
Complete Transformation Architecture for Active and Passive Voice	**Deictic Nearness-to-Distance Shifts**	*this -> that*, *these -> those*, *here -> there*, *now -> then*, *today -> that day*, *tonight -> that night*, *yesterday -> the previous day / the day before*, *tomorrow -> the next day / the following day*, *last week -> the previous week*, *ago -> before*, and *thus -> so*.
Direct and Indirect Narration (Reported Speech)	**Interrogatives**	Replace *said to* with *asked*, *inquired of*, *demanded of*, or *wanted to know*. Use *if* / *whether* for Yes/No questions and retain the **Wh-** word for **Wh-** questions. Crucially, convert the inverted question order (**Aux + Subject + Verb**) into **assertive order (Subject + Aux + Verb)** and drop the question mark.

Chapter 4 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 4 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Core Structural Shift): Only transitive verbs (or intransitive verbs paired with a fixed preposition, known as prepositional verbs) can be passivized. The active object becomes the passive subject, the main verb shifts into **appropriate form of 'be' (is/am/are/was/were/be/been/being) + V3 (Past Participle)**, and the active subject moves into the agentive phrase (usually **by + agent**, unless the verb governs a fixed preposition or the agent is vague/universal like *someone*, *people*, *police*).
Statement-II (Simple Present / Past / Future): **is/am/are + V3** | **was/were + V3** | **will/shall + be + V3**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 4 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Present / Past Continuous): **is/am/are + being + V3** | **was/were + being + V3** (Future Continuous and all three Perfect Continuous tenses do not undergo standard passivization in competitive grammar).
Statement-II (Present / Past / Future Perfect): **has/have + been + V3** | **had + been + V3** | **will/shall + have + been + V3**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 4 Statement-Verification Drill #3 Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Modal Auxiliaries): `Modal + V1` -> `Modal + be + V3`; `Modal + have + V3` -> `Modal + have + been + V3`.

Statement-II (Fixed Prepositions Replacing 'By' in Passive Voice): Certain verbs never take *by* in the passive voice: *known, obliged, married* take **to**; *surprised, astonished, amazed, startled, alarmed, disappointed, displeased, distressed,veyed* (at an event/behaviour) take **at**; *pleased, satisfied, disgusted, charmed, thronged, lined, decorated, crammed, filled* take **with**; *contained, interested, consisted, absorbed, engulfed* take **in**; and *annoyed, vexed* take **with** for a person and **at** for a thing/action.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 4 Statement-Verification Drill #4 Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Interrogatives with *Who* / *Whom*): ** `Who wrote this treatise?` -> `By whom was this treatise written?`; `Whom did the committee nominate?` -> `Who was nominated by the committee?`.

Statement-II (Imperatives): Commands use `Let + Object + be + V3` (*Let the gates be locked*) or `You are ordered/commanded to + V1`; moral advice/suggestions use `Object + should + be + V3` (*Promises should be kept*).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 4 Statement-Verification Drill #5 Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Quasi-Passive Verbs (Active in Form, Passive in Sense)): `Subject + Verb + Adjective` -> `Subject + Verb + Adjective + when + Pronoun + be + V3` (*Quinine tastes bitter -> Quinine is bitter when it is tasted; The rose smells sweet -> The rose is sweet when it is smelt*).

Statement-II (Pronoun Shift (S-O-N / 1-2-3 Rule)): Inside the reported clause, **First-Person** pronouns (*I, me, my, we, us, our*) change according to the **Subject** of the reporting verb; **Second-Person** pronouns (*you, your*) change according to the **Object** of the reporting verb; **Third-Person** pronouns (*he, she, it, they, their*) experience **No Change**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 4 Statement-Verification Drill #6 Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Backshift of Tenses (When Reporting Verb is in Past Tense)): When the reporting verb is in the past (*said, told, asked*), the reported tense shifts one step back into the past:

Statement-II (Exceptions to Tense Backshift): Even if the reporting verb is in the past tense, the tense of the reported speech **does not change** if it expresses (a) a universal truth, mathematical/scientific fact, or proverb, (b) an ongoing habitual action, (c) two simultaneous past actions with *when/while* (*She said, "While I was studying, my brother was playing"*), or (d) an unreal past subjunctive after *wish, would rather, it is high time*, or conditional Type 2/3.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter *5:* Prepositions, Conjunctions, Inversion & Parallelism

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 5: Prepositions, Conjunctions, Inversion & Parallelism

Key Study Pillar 1
High-Precision Prepositional Usage & Omission Rules

Key Study Pillar 2
Correlative Conjunctions, Adverbial Inversion & Parallelism

5.1 High-Precision Prepositional Usage & Omission Rules

• Spatial & Temporal Prepositions:

• *In* vs *Into*: *In* indicates static position inside an enclosure; *into* indicates dynamic movement from outside to inside or transformation from one state/language to another (*translate the passage into English*).

• *On* vs *Upon* / *Onto*: *On* denotes static contact with a surface or specific days/dates (*on Friday*, *on 15th August*); *upon*/*onto* denotes motion toward a surface.

• *At* / *In* / *On* (*Time & Place*): Use *at* for exact clock times (*at 6:30 AM*), festivals as points in the calendar, and specific addresses/small towns; use *in* for months, years, centuries, seasons, morning/evening, and countries/metropolises; use *on* for days and dates (*on a cold winter morning*).

• *By* vs *With*: *By* denotes the animate agent or doer (*struck by lightning* / *written by the author*, and also deadlines: *by 5 PM* = not later than 5 PM); *with* denotes the physical instrument or tool used (*written with a fountain pen* / *cut with a knife*).

• *Beside* vs *Besides*: *Beside* means "by the side of / adjacent to" (*She sat beside her mentor*); *besides* means "in addition to / apart from" (*Besides English, he is fluent in Sanskrit*).

• *Between* vs *Among*: *Between* is used for two entities, or for more than two entities when there is a **definite reciprocal relationship, treaty, alliance, tournament, or geographical boundary** (*a tripartite treaty between India, Nepal, and Bhutan; Wait here between 2 PM and 4 PM* — always **between A and B**, never **between A to B**). *Among* is used for general distribution across three or more entities.

• **Transitive Verbs Taking Zero Preposition in Active Voice:** Never insert a preposition immediately after *discuss*, *describe*, *reach*, *order* (*verb*), *request* (*verb*), *attack* (*verb*), *resist*, *resemble*, *afford*, *accompany*, *investigate*, *inspect*, *sign*, *violate*, *pervade*, *precede*, *succeed* (*follow*), *invade*, *enter* (*physical room*/*hall*), *ensure*, *comprise*, *emphasize*, *stress*, *await*, *regret*, *consider*, or *join*. Note the contrast pairs: **comprise = consist of** (*The panel comprises five judges* vs *consists of five judges*); **await = wait for**; **investigate = inquire into**; **discuss = talk about**; **enter = go into** (though *enter into* is valid for abstract agreements/alliances: *enter into a contract*/*partnership*).

• **Contextual Preposition Differentiation (Person vs Thing):**

• *Agree*: **with** a person, **to** a proposal/view, **on** a point/terms.

• *Angry* / *Annoyed* / *Vexed* / *Indignant*: **with** a person, **at** a thing, behaviour, or condition.

• *Die*: **of** a disease, hunger, thirst, grief, or shame; **from** an external cause, wound, overwork, or poison; **by** violence or one's own hand; **in** battle, poverty, or harness (while still in service); **for** a noble cause or country.

• *Blind*: **in** one/left/right eye (physical), **to** someone's faults/defects (mental/figurative).

• *Deal*: **in** commodities/goods/trade (*He deals in textiles*), **with** a person, subject, or problem (*This chapter deals with constitutional law*).

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4
Check if Verb is Purely Transitive	Identify Animate vs Abstract Object	Match Correlative Conjunction Pair	Enforce Inversion & Parallel Structure

Correlative Conjunction	Mandatory Paired Partner	Inversion Rule (If Sentence-Initial)	Key Grammatical Constraint	Official Source
Hardly / Scarcely	**when / before** (NEVER *than*)	**Hardly + had + S + V3 / did + S + V1**	Expresses immediate sequence of past events	SSC Exam Portal
No sooner	**than** (NEVER *when / then*)	**No sooner + had + S + V3 / did + S + V1**	Comparative *sooner* requires *than*	NCERT Textbooks
Lest	**should + V1** (or bare **V1**)	Not applicable	Means "for fear that"; NEVER takes *not*, *will*, or *may*	IUC Academy
Although / Though	**yet** or **,** (comma) (NEVER *but*)	Not applicable	Expresses concession/contrast	SSC Exam Portal
Both ...	**and** (NEVER *as well as*)	Not applicable	Used in affirmative sentences only	NCERT Textbooks
Whether ...	**or** (NEVER *that*)	Not applicable	Used for doubt/choice (*doubt whether*, affirmative)	IUC Academy

5.2 Correlative Conjunctions, Adverbial Inversion & Parallelism

• **Strict Correlative Pairings:**

• **Not only ... but also** | **Either ... or** | **Neither ... nor** | **Whether ... or**.

• **Other / Rather + than** | **No other / Nothing else + than / but**.

• **Such ... as** (denoting category/example: *There is no such book as you mentioned*) vs **Such ... that** (denoting degree/consequence: *Such was his eloquence that the audience stood spellbound*).

• **The same ... as** (when the verb is omitted or implies similarity) vs **The same ... that** (when a clear finite verb follows).

• **So ... as** (strictly for negative comparisons: *He is not so tall as his brother*) vs **As ... as** (used in both affirmative and negative comparisons).

• **Scarcely / Hardly ... when** and **No sooner ... than**.

• **Subject-Auxiliary Inversion Rules:** When a sentence begins with a negative, restrictive, or degree adverb/adverbial phrase—such as *Never*, *Seldom*, *Rarely*, *Little*, *Few*, *Hardly*, *Scarcely*, *Barely*, *No sooner*, *Not only*, *Under no circumstances*, *In no way*, *On no account*, *At no time*, *Nowhere*, or *Only + adverb/prepositional phrase/subordinate clause* (*Only yesterday*, *Only by working hard*, *Only when the audit ended*)—the main clause must undergo **auxiliary inversion (Auxiliary + Subject + Main Verb)**:

• *Never have I witnessed such dedication.*

• *Only after the bill was passed did the market stabilize.* (Note: inversion happens in the **main clause**, not inside the *when/after* subordinate clause!).

• **Syntactic Parallelism:** Elements joined by coordinating conjunctions (*and*, *but*, *or*) or correlative conjunctions (*not only...but also*, *both...and*, *either...or*, *neither...nor*) must have identical grammatical forms (all nouns, all gerunds, all *to*-infinitives, or all prepositional phrases). If **not only** precedes a preposition or verb,

but also must immediately precede a matching preposition or verb (*He was praised not only for his integrity but also for his diligence*).

Did You Know?: Nouns and adjectives derived from transitive verbs often **do** require a preposition even though their parent verbs forbid one in active voice! For example: **attack** (verb: no preposition -> *The troops attacked the fort*) vs **attack** (noun: takes **on** -> *an attack on the fort*); **emphasize** (verb: no preposition) vs **emphasis** (noun: takes **on**); **comprise** (active verb: no preposition) vs **be comprised of** (passive/adjectival usage in modern administrative texts, though formal SSC Exams prefer **consist of** or active **comprise**).

Exam Trap Alert: Never pair *Because / Since / As / For* with *therefore / so / thus* (*Because he was ill, he could not attend* — NOT *Because he was ill, therefore he could not attend*). Similarly, never use *Suppose* and *if* together (*Suppose the train is delayed*), never use *return/recede/retreat/recall/reimburse/rebuild* with *back*, and never use *repeat* or *recapitulate* with *again*.

★ **Memory Trick:** Remember **"H-S-W / N-S-T"** (**H**ardly/**S**carcely -> **W**hen; **N**o **S**ooner -> **T**han) and **"A-T-Y"** (**A**lthough/ **T**hough -> **Y**et or Comma, never *But*).

Chapter 5 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (SSC Official Portal)
High-Precision Prepositional Usage & Omission Rules	***In* vs *Into***	*In* indicates static position inside an enclosure; *into* indicates dynamic movement from outside to inside or transformation from one state/language to another (*translate the passage into English*).
Correlative Conjunctions, Adverbial Inversion & Parallelism	***On* vs *Upon* / *Onto***	*On* denotes static contact with a surface or specific days/dates (*on Friday*, *on 15th August*); *upon/onto* denotes motion toward a surface.
High-Precision Prepositional Usage & Omission Rules	***At* / *In* / *On* (*Time & Place*)**	Use *at* for exact clock times (*at 6:30 AM*), festivals as points in the calendar, and specific addresses/small towns; use *in* for months, years, centuries, seasons, morning/evening, and countries/metropolises; use *on* for days and dates (*on a cold winter morning*).
Correlative Conjunctions, Adverbial Inversion & Parallelism	***By* vs *With***	*By* denotes the animate agent or doer (*struck by lightning / written by the author*, and also deadlines: *by 5 PM* = not later than 5 PM); *with* denotes the physical instrument or tool used (*written with a fountain pen / cut with a knife*).
High-Precision Prepositional Usage & Omission Rules	***Beside* vs *Besides***	*Beside* means "by the side of / adjacent to" (*She sat beside her mentor*); *besides* means "in addition to / apart from" (*Besides English, he is fluent in Sanskrit*).
Correlative Conjunctions, Adverbial Inversion & Parallelism	***Between* vs *Among***	*Between* is used for two entities, or for more than two entities when there is a **definite reciprocal relationship, treaty, alliance, tournament, or geographical boundary** (*a tripartite treaty between India, Nepal, and Bhutan*; *Wait here between 2 PM and 4 PM* — always **between A and B**, never **between A to B**). *Among* is used for general distribution across three or more entities.

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (SSC Official Portal)
High-Precision Prepositional Usage & Omission Rules	**Transitive Verbs Taking Zero Preposition in Active Voice**	Never insert a preposition immediately after *discuss*, *describe*, *reach*, *order* (*verb*), *request* (*verb*), *attack* (*verb*), *resist*, *resemble*, *afford*, *accompany*, *investigate*, *inspect*, *sign*, *violate*, *pervade*, *precede*, *succeed* (*follow*), *invade*, *enter* (*physical room/hall*), *ensure*, *comprise*, *emphasize*, *stress*, *await*, *regret*, *consider*, or *join*. Note the contrast pairs: **comprise = consist of** (*The panel comprises five judges* vs *consists of five judges*); **await = wait for**; **investigate = inquire into**; **discuss = talk about**; **enter = go into** (though *enter into* is valid for abstract agreements/alliances: *enter into a contract/partnership*).
Correlative Conjunctions, Adverbial Inversion & Parallelism	***Agree***	**with** a person, **to** a proposal/view, **on** a point/terms.
High-Precision Prepositional Usage & Omission Rules	***Angry / Annoyed / Vexed / Indignant***	**with** a person, **at** a thing, behaviour, or condition.
Correlative Conjunctions, Adverbial Inversion & Parallelism	***Die***	**of** a disease, hunger, thirst, grief, or shame; **from** an external cause, wound, overwork, or poison; **by** violence or one's own hand; **in** battle, poverty, or harness (while still in service); **for** a noble cause or country.
High-Precision Prepositional Usage & Omission Rules	***Blind***	**in** one/left/right eye (physical), **to** someone's faults/defects (mental/figurative).
Correlative Conjunctions, Adverbial Inversion & Parallelism	***Deal***	**in** commodities/goods/trade (*He deals in textiles*), **with** a person, subject, or problem (*This chapter deals with constitutional law*).
High-Precision Prepositional Usage & Omission Rules	**Such ... as (denoting category/example**	*There is no such book as you mentioned*) vs **Such ... that** (denoting degree/consequence: *Such was his eloquence that the audience stood spellbound*).
Correlative Conjunctions, Adverbial Inversion & Parallelism	**So ... as (strictly for negative comparisons**	*He is not so tall as his brother*) vs **As ... as** (used in both affirmative and negative comparisons).

Chapter *5* Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — **Both Statements Verified Correct**

Statement-I (*In* vs *Into*): *In* indicates static position inside an enclosure; *into* indicates dynamic movement from outside to inside or transformation from one state/language to another (*translate the passage into English*).

Statement-II (*On* vs *Upon* / *Onto*): *On* denotes static contact with a surface or specific days/dates (*on Friday*, *on 15th August*); *upon/onto* denotes motion toward a surface.

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (*At* / *In* / *On* (*Time & Place*)): Use *at* for exact clock times (*at 6:30 AM*), festivals as points in the calendar, and specific addresses/small towns; use *in* for months, years, centuries, seasons, morning/evening, and countries/metropolises; use *on* for days and dates (*on a cold winter morning*).

Statement-II (*By* vs *With*): *By* denotes the animate agent or doer (*struck by lightning* / *written by the author*, and also deadlines: *by 5 PM* = not later than 5 PM); *with* denotes the physical instrument or tool used (*written with a fountain pen* / *cut with a knife*).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (*Beside* vs *Besides*): *Beside* means "by the side of / adjacent to" (*She sat beside her mentor*); *besides* means "in addition to / apart from" (*Besides English, he is fluent in Sanskrit*).

Statement-II (*Between* vs *Among*): *Between* is used for two entities, or for more than two entities when there is a **definite reciprocal relationship, treaty, alliance, tournament, or geographical boundary** (*a tripartite treaty between India, Nepal, and Bhutan*; *Wait here between 2 PM and 4 PM* — always **between A and B**, never **between A to B**). *Among* is used for general distribution across three or more entities.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Transitive Verbs Taking Zero Preposition in Active Voice): Never insert a preposition immediately after *discuss*, *describe*, *reach*, *order* (*verb*), *request* (*verb*), *attack* (*verb*), *resist*, *resemble*, *afford*, *accompany*, *investigate*, *inspect*, *sign*, *violate*, *pervade*, *precede*, *succeed* (*follow*), *invade*, *enter* (*physical room/hall*), *ensure*, *comprise*, *emphasize*, *stress*, *await*, *regret*, *consider*, or *join*. Note the contrast pairs: **comprise = consist of** (*The panel comprises five judges* vs *consists of five judges*); **await = wait for**; **investigate = inquire into**; **discuss = talk about**; **enter = go into** (though *enter into* is valid for abstract agreements/alliances: *enter into a contract/partnership*).

Statement-II (*Agree*): with a person, **to** a proposal/view, **on** a point/terms.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #5 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (*Angry* / *Annoyed* / *Vexed* / *Indignant*): with a person, **at** a thing, behaviour, or condition.

Statement-II (*Die*): of a disease, hunger, thirst, grief, or shame; **from** an external cause, wound, overwork, or poison; **by** violence or one's own hand; **in** battle, poverty, or harness (while still in service); **for** a noble cause or country.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #6 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (*Blind*): in one/left/right eye (physical), **to** someone's faults/defects (mental/figurative).

Statement-II (*Deal*): in commodities/goods/trade (*He deals in textiles*), **with** a person, subject, or problem (*This chapter deals with constitutional law*).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter *6:* High-Frequency Vocabulary — Root Words, Synonyms, Antonyms & One-Word Substitutions

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 6: High-Frequency Vocabulary — Root Words, Synonyms, Antonyms & One-Word Substitutions

Key Study Pillar 1
Classical Greco-Latin Root Word Matrix

Key Study Pillar 2
One-Word Substitutions & Frequently Confused Homophones

6.1 Classical Greco-Latin Root Word Matrix

• Anthropology, Philanthropy & Social Roots:

• **Anthrop-** (Human/Mankind): *Philanthropist* (lover of mankind), *Misanthrope* (hater of mankind), *Anthropology* (study of human evolution and societies).

• **Phil-** (Love) & **Mis-** (Hate): *Bibliophile* (lover of books), *Philogynist* (admirer/supporter of women), *Misogynist* (hater of women), *Misogamist* (hater of marriage), *Misologist* (hater of learning/reasoning), *Philatelist* (collector of postage stamps).

• **Gam-** (Marriage): *Monogamy* (one spouse at a time), *Bigamy* (two spouses simultaneously — unlawful), *Polygamy* (multiple spouses), *Polyandry* (multiple husbands), *Polygyny* (multiple wives), *Celibacy* (state of abstaining from marriage).

• Governance, Cracy & Archy Roots (-cracy = Rule by; -archy = Government by):

• *Democracy* (people), *Autocracy* / *Despotism* (one person with absolute power), *Theocracy* (priests/religious laws), *Plutocracy* (wealthy class), *Oligarchy* (small powerful group/clique), *Aristocracy* (nobility), *Bureaucracy* (state officials/civil servants), *Kakistocracy* (worst/least qualified citizens), *Meritocracy* (individuals selected by merit), *Gerontocracy* (aged/elderly leaders), *Ochlocracy* / *Mobocracy* (mob/crowd), *Anarchy* (absence of government/law), *Panarchy* (universal rule).

• Killing (-cide), Belief (The-/Cred-), and Speech (Loqu-/Locu-) Roots:

• **-cide** (Killing): *Regicide* (king/monarch), *Patricide* (father), *Matricide* (mother), *Fratricide* (brother), *Sororicide* (sister), *Uxoricide* (wife), *Mariticide* (husband), *Filicide* / *Prolicide* (one's own child), *Infanticide* (newborn infant), *Foeticide* (foetus), *Genocide* (entire race/ethnic group), *Parricide* (parent or close relative).

• **The-** (God): *Theist* (believer in God), *Atheist* (disbeliever in God), *Agnostic* (one who holds that God's existence is unknown/unknowable), *Pantheist* (believer that God pervades all nature), *Monotheism* (belief in one God), *Polytheism* (belief in many gods), *Iconoclast* (breaker of cherished traditions/idols).

• **Loqu- / Locu-** (Speak): *Loquacious* / *Garrulous* (excessively talkative), *Taciturn* / *Reticent* (reserved/uncommunicative in speech), *Circumlocution* (evasive/indirect speech using too many words), *Soliloquy* (speaking one's thoughts aloud when alone), *Somniloquist* (one who talks in sleep), *Magniloquent* / *Grandiloquent* (pompous/bombastic in speech), *Eloquence* (fluent and persuasive speech).

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1 Isolate Prefix (Direction/ Negation)

STEP 2 Decode Core Greek or Latin Root

STEP 3 Identify Part-of-Speech Suffix

STEP 4 Verify Contextual Polarity (Positive/Negative)

High-Yield Word	Core Meaning	Precision Synonyms	Precision Antonyms	Target Exam Reference
Abate (v.)	To become less intense or widespread	Subside, Diminish, Mitigate, Wane, Allay	Aggravate, Intensify, Augment, Escalate	SSC Exam Portal
Acumen (n.)	Keen insight and shrewdness in judgment	Perspicacity, Astuteness, Sagacity, Shrewdness	Obtuseness, Stupidity, Naivety, Ineptitude	IUC Academy
Bellicose (adj.)	Demonstrating aggression and willingness to fight	Belligerent, Pugnacious, Truculent, Hostile	Pacifist, Peaceable, Amicable, Conciliatory	SSC Exam Portal
Capricious (adj.)	Given to sudden and unaccountable changes of mood	Fickle, Mercurial, Whimsical, Erratic, Volatile	Steadfast, Constant, Resolute, Immutable	NCERT Textbooks
Ephemeral (adj.)	Lasting for a very short time; transitory	Evanescent, Fleeting, Transient, Fugacious	Perennial, Eternal, Perpetual, Enduring	IUC Academy
Fastidious (adj.)	Very attentive to and concerned about accuracy/detail	Meticulous, Scrupulous, Punctilious, Finicky	Sloppy, Negligent, Careless, Lax, Indifferent	SSC Exam Portal
Garrulous (adj.)	Excessively talkative, especially on trivial matters	Loquacious, Voluble, Verbose, Effusive, Chatty	Taciturn, Reticent, Laconic, Succinct, Reserved	NCERT Textbooks
Obsequious (adj.)	Obedient or attentive to an excessive/servile degree	Sycophantic, Servile, Fawning, Unctuous	Domineering, Assertive, Arrogant, Imperious	IUC Academy
Pragmatic (adj.)	Dealing with things sensibly and realistically	Practical, Utilitarian, Realistic, Matter-of-fact	Idealistic, Quixotic, Utopian, Impractical	SSC Exam Portal
Sanguine (adj.)	Optimistic or positive, especially in a tough situation	Buoyant, Hopeful, Confident, Upbeat, Cheerful	Morose, Despondent, Melancholic, Pessimistic	IUC Academy

6.2 One-Word Substitutions & Frequently Confused Homophones

• **High-Frequency One-Word Substitutions (SSC / CDS / EPFO):**

• *Altruist*: One who makes charitable donations or acts unselfishly for the welfare of others.

• *Stoic*: A person who can endure pain or hardship without showing feelings or complaining (*Equanimity* = calmness under stress).

• *Ascetic*: One who practices severe self-discipline and abstention from all forms of indulgence.

• *Connoisseur*: An expert judge in matters of fine art, cuisine, or aesthetic taste.

• *Dilettante / Amateur*: A person who cultivates an area of interest without real commitment or professional knowledge.

• *Panacea*: A solution or remedy for all difficulties or diseases.

• *Sinecure*: A position requiring little or no work but giving the holder status or financial benefit.

• *Elegy*: A mournful poem or song of lamentation for the dead (*Epitaph* = words inscribed on a tombstone; *Dirge* = a mournful funeral song).

• *Infallible*: Incapable of making mistakes or being wrong (*Impregnable* = unable to be captured or broken into; *Indelible* = unable to be erased; *Ineligible* = not qualified to be chosen; *Illegible* = not clear enough to be read).

• *Valetudinarian*: A person who is unduly anxious about their health (*Hypochondriac*).

• **Confusable Paronyms & Homophones:**

• *Adverse* (unfavorable/hostile: *adverse weather*) vs *Averse* (strongly disliking/opposed: *averse to risk*).

• *Allusion* (indirect reference) vs *Illusion* (deceptive appearance/false belief) vs *Delusion* (fixed false belief resistant to reason).

• *Apprise* (to inform/notify: *apprise the minister of the facts*) vs *Appraise* (to assess the value/performance of).

• *Complacent* (smugly self-satisfied) vs *Complaisant* (willing to please others; obliging).

• *Disinterested* (impartial/unbiased: *a disinterested judge*) vs *Uninterested* (bored/lacking interest).

• *Eminent* (famous and respected) vs *Imminent* (about to happen very soon: *imminent danger*) vs *Immanent* (inherent/indwelling).

• *Ingenious* (clever, original, and inventive) vs *Ingenuous* (innocent, candid, and unsuspecting).

• *Prescribe* (to recommend authoritatively) vs *Proscribe* (to forbid/ban by law).

• *Venal* (susceptible to bribery; corrupt: *venal officials*) vs *Venial* (a slight/pardonable fault or sin).

Did You Know?: English spelling rules tested in **SSC Examination Papers** follow predictable orthographic shifts: words ending in **-ceed** are only three in the entire English language (*Proceed, Succeed, Exceed*), only one word ends in **-sede** (*Supersede*), and all other words with that sound end in **-cede** (*Precede, Concede, Recede, Intercede, Accede, Secede*).

Exam Trap Alert: In synonym/antonym items, always check the **instruction header** carefully ("*Select the word OPPOSITE in meaning*" vs "*Select the word NEAREST in meaning*"), and Watch for words with deceptive prefixes: *Inflammable* means "easily set on fire" (synonym of *Flammable*; its antonym is *Non-flammable / Incombustible*), and *Invaluable* means "priceless / extremely valuable" (NOT *valueless*).

★ **Memory Trick:** Distinguish *Stationary* (not moving, like a **par**ked **car** -> **-ary**) from *Stationery* (writing materials like **p**en and pap**er** -> **-ery**). Distinguish *Complacent* (**c**ontent with **ce**rtainty) from *Complaisant* (**s**ervile to plea**s**e).

Chapter *6* Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (SSC Official Portal)
Classical Greco-Latin Root Word Matrix	**Anthrop-** (Human/Mankind)	*Philanthropist* (lover of mankind), *Misanthrope* (hater of mankind), *Anthropology* (study of human evolution and societies).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (SSC Official Portal)
One-Word Substitutions & Frequently Confused Homophones	**Phil-** (Love) & **Mis-** (Hate)	*Bibliophile* (lover of books), *Philogynist* (admirer/supporter of women), *Misogynist* (hater of women), *Misogamist* (hater of marriage), *Misologist* (hater of learning/reasoning), *Philatelist* (collector of postage stamps).
Classical Greco-Latin Root Word Matrix	**Gam-** (Marriage)	*Monogamy* (one spouse at a time), *Bigamy* (two spouses simultaneously — unlawful), *Polygamy* (multiple spouses), *Polyandry* (multiple husbands), *Polygyny* (multiple wives), *Celibacy* (state of abstaining from marriage).
One-Word Substitutions & Frequently Confused Homophones	**-cide** (Killing)	*Regicide* (king/monarch), *Patricide* (father), *Matricide* (mother), *Fratricide* (brother), *Sororicide* (sister), *Uxoricide* (wife), *Mariticide* (husband), *Filicide* / *Prolicide* (one's own child), *Infanticide* (newborn infant), *Foeticide* (foetus), *Genocide* (entire race/ethnic group), *Parricide* (parent or close relative).
Classical Greco-Latin Root Word Matrix	**The-** (God)	*Theist* (believer in God), *Atheist* (disbeliever in God), *Agnostic* (one who holds that God's existence is unknown/unknowable), *Pantheist* (believer that God pervades all nature), *Monotheism* (belief in one God), *Polytheism* (belief in many gods), *Iconoclast* (breaker of cherished traditions/idols).
One-Word Substitutions & Frequently Confused Homophones	**Loqu- / Locu-** (Speak)	*Loquacious* / *Garrulous* (excessively talkative), *Taciturn* / *Reticent* (reserved/uncommunicative in speech), *Circumlocution* (evasive/indirect speech using too many words), *Soliloquy* (speaking one's thoughts aloud when alone), *Somniloquist* (one who talks in sleep), *Magniloquent* / *Grandiloquent* (pompous/bombastic in speech), *Eloquence* (fluent and persuasive speech).
Classical Greco-Latin Root Word Matrix	***Altruist***	One who makes charitable donations or acts unselfishly for the welfare of others.
One-Word Substitutions & Frequently Confused Homophones	***Stoic***	A person who can endure pain or hardship without showing feelings or complaining (*Equanimity* = calmness under stress).
Classical Greco-Latin Root Word Matrix	***Ascetic***	One who practices severe self-discipline and abstention from all forms of indulgence.
One-Word Substitutions & Frequently Confused Homophones	***Connoisseur***	An expert judge in matters of fine art, cuisine, or aesthetic taste.
Classical Greco-Latin Root Word Matrix	***Dilettante* / *Amateur***	A person who cultivates an area of interest without real commitment or professional knowledge.

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (SSC Official Portal)
One-Word Substitutions & Frequently Confused Homophones	***Panacea***	A solution or remedy for all difficulties or diseases.
Classical Greco-Latin Root Word Matrix	***Sinecure***	A position requiring little or no work but giving the holder status or financial benefit.
One-Word Substitutions & Frequently Confused Homophones	***Elegy***	A mournful poem or song of lamentation for the dead (*Epitaph* = words inscribed on a tombstone; *Dirge* = a mournful funeral song).

Chapter *6* Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter *6* Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (`Anthrop-` (Human/Mankind)): *Philanthropist* (lover of mankind), *Misanthrope* (hater of mankind), *Anthropology* (study of human evolution and societies).

Statement-II (`Phil-` (Love) & `Mis-` (Hate)): *Bibliophile* (lover of books), *Philogynist* (admirer/supporter of women), *Misogynist* (hater of women), *Misogamist* (hater of marriage), *Misologist* (hater of learning/reasoning), *Philatelist* (collector of postage stamps).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter *6* Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (`Gam-` (Marriage)): *Monogamy* (one spouse at a time), *Bigamy* (two spouses simultaneously — unlawful), *Polygamy* (multiple spouses), *Polyandry* (multiple husbands), *Polygyny* (multiple wives), *Celibacy* (state of abstaining from marriage).

Statement-II (`-cide` (Killing)): *Regicide* (king/monarch), *Patricide* (father), *Matricide* (mother), *Fratricide* (brother), *Sororicide* (sister), *Uxoricide* (wife), *Mariticide* (husband), *Filicide* / *Prolicide* (one's own child), *Infanticide* (newborn infant), *Foeticide* (foetus), *Genocide* (entire race/ethnic group), *Parricide* (parent or close relative).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter *6* Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (`The-` (God)): *Theist* (believer in God), *Atheist* (disbeliever in God), *Agnostic* (one who holds that God's existence is unknown/unknowable), *Pantheist* (believer that God pervades all nature), *Monotheism* (belief in one God), *Polytheism* (belief in many gods), *Iconoclast* (breaker of cherished traditions/idols).

Statement-II (`Loqu-` / `Locu-` (Speak)): *Loquacious* / *Garrulous* (excessively talkative), *Taciturn* / *Reticent* (reserved/uncommunicative in speech), *Circumlocution* (evasive/indirect speech using too many words), *Soliloquy* (speaking one's thoughts aloud when alone), *Somniloquist* (one who talks in sleep), *Magniloquent* / *Grandiloquent* (pompous/bombastic in speech), *Eloquence* (fluent and persuasive speech).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 6 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (*Altruist*): One who makes charitable donations or acts unselfishly for the welfare of others.

Statement-II (*Stoic*): A person who can endure pain or hardship without showing feelings or complaining (*Equanimity* = calmness under stress).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 6 Statement-Verification Drill #5 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (*Ascetic*): One who practices severe self-discipline and abstention from all forms of indulgence.

Statement-II (*Connoisseur*): An expert judge in matters of fine art, cuisine, or aesthetic taste.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 6 Statement-Verification Drill #6 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (*Dilettante* / *Amateur*): A person who cultivates an area of interest without real commitment or professional knowledge.

Statement-II (*Panacea*): A solution or remedy for all difficulties or diseases.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 7: Idioms & Phrases, Phrasal Verbs & Contextual Collocations

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 7: Idioms & Phrases, Phrasal Verbs & Contextual Collocations

Key Study Pillar 1
High-Yield Idiomatic Expressions by Thematic Domain

Key Study Pillar 2
Complete Phrasal Verb Family groups

7.1 High-Yield Idiomatic Expressions by Thematic Domain

- **Administrative, Legal, and Workplace Idioms:**
- *Abide by / Conform to*: To act in accordance with rules or decisions.
- *Above board*: Honest, transparent, and completely legal without concealment.
- *Null and void*: Having no legal force; invalid.
- *Red tape*: Excessive bureaucratic formality and routine that delays action.
- *White elephant*: A possession that is useless or troublesome, especially one that is expensive to maintain.
- *Stick to one's guns*: To refuse to compromise or change one's stand despite criticism.
- *Burn the midnight oil*: To read or work late into the night.
- *By leaps and bounds*: With startlingly rapid progress.
- *Leave no stone unturned*: To try every possible course of action in order to achieve a goal.
- *Nipped in the bud*: Suppressed or halted at an early stage of development.
- **Conflict, Dilemma, and Deception Idioms:**

• *At loggerheads / At daggers drawn*: In a state of bitter enmity or open hostility.

• *Bone of contention / Apple of discord*: The subject or cause of a dispute or rivalry.

• *Bury the hatchet*: To end a quarrel or conflict and become friendly.

• *Between Scylla and Charybdis / Between the devil and the deep blue sea*: Caught between two equally dangerous or unpleasant alternatives.

• *sit on the fence*: To avoid making a decision or choosing a side in a dispute.

• *Throw dust in someone's eyes / Pull the wool over someone's eyes*: To deceive or mislead someone by misrepresentation.

• *A wolf in sheep's clothing*: A dangerous or hostile person pretending to be harmless or friendly.

• *Cry over spilt milk*: To waste time feeling upset about a past loss that cannot be undone.

• *Beat about the bush*: To discuss a matter without coming directly to the main point.

• *Gift of the gab*: The ability to speak with eloquence, fluency, and persuasion.

• *Swan song*: The final performance, work, or achievement of a person's career before retirement or death.

• *To eat humble pie*: To make a humble apology and accept humiliation after being proven wrong.

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart



Phrasal Verb	Exact Idiomatic Meaning	Contextual Usage Example	Official Reference
Bear out	To confirm, corroborate, or support the truth of	*The forensic report bore out the witness's testimony.*	SSC Exam Portal
Break down	(a) Stop functioning (machine); (b) Lose emotional control	*The locomotive broke down; the witness broke down in court.*	NCERT Textbooks
Bring about	To cause something to happen; accomplish	*Digital governance has brought about transparency in welfare.*	IUC Academy
Call off	To cancel a planned event or strike	*The workers called off the agitation after negotiations.*	SSC Exam Portal
Carry out	To execute, perform, or implement an order/plan	*The engineers carried out a structural safety audit.*	NCERT Textbooks
Come across	To meet or find someone/something by chance	*While archiving records, she came across an rare charter.*	IUC Academy
Fall through	To fail to materialize; come to nothing (of a plan/deal)	*The merger fell through due to regulatory objections.*	SSC Exam Portal
Give in / Give up	*Give in* = yield/surrender; *Give up* = abandon a habit/effort	*The rebels refused to give in; he gave up smoking.*	NCERT Textbooks

Phrasal Verb	Exact Idiomatic Meaning	Contextual Usage Example	Official Reference
Look down upon	To regard someone with contempt or superiority	*No citizen should look down upon manual dignity.*	IUC Academy
Put off / Put out	*Put off* = postpone; *Put out* = extinguish (fire/light)	*Do not put off the hearing; the firemen put out the blaze.*	SSC Exam Portal
Run out of	To exhaust the supply of something completely	*The expedition ran out of rations on the seventh day.*	NCERT Textbooks
Turn down	To reject or refuse an offer, request, or application	*The appellate bench turned down the bail petition.*	IUC Academy

7.2 Complete Phrasal Verb Family groups

• **Look Family:** *Look after* (take care of), *Look into* (investigate/examine), *Look for* (search for), *Look up* (search for information in a reference book/dictionary, or improve in condition), *Look up to* (respect/admire), *Look out / Watch out* (be vigilant/careful), *Look over* (examine quickly).

• **Put Family:** *Put up with* (tolerate/endure), *Put across* (communicate an idea effectively), *Put aside / Lay by* (save money for future use; ignore differences), *Put down* (suppress by force; write down; criticize), *Put forward* (propose an idea/candidate).

• **Take Family:** *Take after* (resemble an older family member in appearance or character), *Take over* (assume control/responsibility), *Take off* (become airborne; become suddenly successful; remove clothing/shoes), *Take down* (record in writing), *Take in* (deceive/cheat: *He was completely taken in by the conman*; or comprehend).

• **Set & Make Family:** *Set in* (begin and seem likely to continue, e.g., winter/monsoon/infection), *Set off / Set out* (begin a journey), *Set up* (establish a business/institution), *Make out* (decipher/understand with difficulty), *Make up* (invent a story/excuse; reconcile after a quarrel; compensate *for*), *Make off with* (steal and hurry away with).

Did You Know?: In competitive examinations conducted by Staff Selection Commission and IBPS, *cope with* (meaning "to deal effectively with something difficult") is tested repeatedly against the ungrammatical error **cope up with**. In standard English, *up* is never used inside *cope with* (*She managed to cope with the heavy workload*).

Exam Trap Alert: Never select the option that repeats the literal physical words of an idiom! For example, *To smell a rat* means "to suspect foul play or trickery" (never "to smell a dead rodent"), *To spill the beans* means "to divulge a secret prematurely", and *By the skin of one's teeth* means "by a very narrow margin".

★ **Memory Trick:** Group phrasal verbs of **Cancellation vs Postponement**: **C**all **O**ff = **C**ancel **O**utright; **P**ut **O**ff = **P**ostpone **O**nward.

Chapter 7 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (SSC Official Portal)
High-Yield Idiomatic Expressions by Thematic Domain	***Abide by / Conform to***	To act in accordance with rules or decisions.
Complete Phrasal Verb Family groups	***Above board***	Honest, transparent, and completely legal without concealment.
High-Yield Idiomatic Expressions by Thematic Domain	***Null and void***	Having no legal force; invalid.
Complete Phrasal Verb Family groups	***Red tape***	Excessive bureaucratic formality and routine that delays action.
High-Yield Idiomatic Expressions by Thematic Domain	***White elephant***	A possession that is useless or troublesome, especially one that is expensive to maintain.
Complete Phrasal Verb Family groups	***Stick to one's guns***	To refuse to compromise or change one's stand despite criticism.
High-Yield Idiomatic Expressions by Thematic Domain	***Burn the midnight oil***	To read or work late into the night.
Complete Phrasal Verb Family groups	***By leaps and bounds***	With startlingly rapid progress.
High-Yield Idiomatic Expressions by Thematic Domain	***Leave no stone unturned***	To try every possible course of action in order to achieve a goal.
Complete Phrasal Verb Family groups	***Nipped in the bud***	Suppressed or halted at an early stage of development.
High-Yield Idiomatic Expressions by Thematic Domain	***At loggerheads / At daggers drawn***	In a state of bitter enmity or open hostility.
Complete Phrasal Verb Family groups	***Bone of contention / Apple of discord***	The subject or cause of a dispute or rivalry.
High-Yield Idiomatic Expressions by Thematic Domain	***Bury the hatchet***	To end a quarrel or conflict and become friendly.
Complete Phrasal Verb Family groups	***Between Scylla and Charybdis / Between the devil and the deep blue sea***	Caught between two equally dangerous or unpleasant alternatives.

Chapter 7 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 7 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (*Abide by* / *Conform to*): To act in accordance with rules or decisions.

Statement-II (*Above board*): Honest, transparent, and completely legal without concealment.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 7 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (*Null and void*): Having no legal force; invalid.

Statement-II (*Red tape*): Excessive bureaucratic formality and routine that delays action.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 7 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (*White elephant*): A possession that is useless or troublesome, especially one that is expensive to maintain.

Statement-II (*Stick to one's guns*): To refuse to compromise or change one's stand despite criticism.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 7 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (*Burn the midnight oil*): To read or work late into the night.

Statement-II (*By leaps and bounds*): With startlingly rapid progress.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 7 Statement-Verification Drill #5 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (*Leave no stone unturned*): To try every possible course of action in order to achieve a goal.

Statement-II (*Nipped in the bud*): Suppressed or halted at an early stage of development.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 7 Statement-Verification Drill #6 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (*At loggerheads* / *At daggers drawn*): In a state of bitter enmity or open hostility.

Statement-II (*Bone of contention* / *Apple of discord*): The subject or cause of a dispute or rivalry.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 8: Reading Comprehension, Cloze Test & Para-Jumbles (PQRS)

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 8: Reading Comprehension, Cloze Test & Para-Jumbles (PQRS)

Key Study Pillar 1
Reading Comprehension (RC) Analytical Framework

Key Study Pillar 2
Cloze Test & Para-Jumbles (Sentence Rearrangement) Solving Strategy

8.1 Reading Comprehension (RC) Analytical Framework

• **Classification of Comprehension Questions (SSC CGL Tier-II, IBPS PO, CDS, CLAT, CUET):**

1. **Central Theme / Primary Purpose / Title Questions:** Require synthesizing the overarching thesis across all paragraphs without getting trapped by an example mentioned in only one paragraph. Eliminate options that are **Too Broad** (sweeping generalizations beyond the text), **Too Narrow** (minor supporting details), or **Extreme/Absolute** (containing words like *always*, *never*, *completely*, *exclusively*, *impossible* unless explicitly supported by the passage).

2. **Direct Factual / Retrieval Questions:** Answered directly from explicit statements in the passage (often paraphrased using synonyms).

3. **Logical Inference / Implication Questions:** An inference must be a **necessary logical deduction** from the given facts inside the passage, never an external opinion or speculative leap.

4. **Author's Tone & Attitude Questions:**

• **Analytical / Objective / Expository:** Examines data, causes, and effects neutrally without emotional bias (common in NCERT and economic reports).

• **Critical / Acerbic / Censorious / Vitriolic:** Expresses strong disapproval or fault-finding.

• **Didactic / Pedagogical:** Intended to instruct or teach a moral/academic lesson.

• **Sanguine / Optimistic vs Cynical / Skeptical:** Hopeful vs doubting the sincerity or success of human motives.

• **Laudatory / Panegyric / Eulogistic:** Expressing high praise and admiration.

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1 Identify Independent Opening Sentence

STEP 2 Lock Mandatory Pairs via Pronouns & Connectors

STEP 3 Trace Chronological or Cause-Effect Flow

STEP 4 Confirm Concluding Synthesis Sentence

Para-Jumble Signal Type	Linguistic Markers to Spot	Structural Role in PQRS / 5-Sentence Rearrangement	Official Source
Independent Opener	Full proper nouns, general definitions, historical dates, thesis statements	Introduces the topic without dangling pronouns or transition connectors	SSC Exam Portal
Pronoun Antecedent Link	*He, she, it, they, this, that, these, those, such*	Must immediately follow the sentence that introduces the matching noun	NCERT Textbooks
Full-Name to Short-Name	*Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar -> Dr. Ambedkar -> He*	Establishes strict sequence from first mention to subsequent mentions	IUC Academy
Contrast / Pivot Markers	*However, nevertheless, on the contrary, yet, conversely, despite this*	Links a positive claim to an opposing limitation or counter-argument	SSC Exam Portal
Cause-Effect / Conclusion	*Therefore, consequently, thus, hence, as a result, in conclusion*	Marks the logical outcome or final closing sentence of the paragraph	IUC Academy

8.2 Cloze Test & Para-Jumbles *(Sentence Rearrangement)* Solving Strategy

• **4-Pillar Cloze Test Method:**

1. **First Pass (Forward-Backward Contextual Scan):** Read the entire passage once without filling any blanks to establish the tense (past narrative vs present analytical), domain (economy, ecology, jurisprudence, technology), and tone.

2. **Grammatical Slot Analysis:** Identify what part of speech fits the blank:

• `Article/Determiner + [Blank] + Noun` -> requires an **Adjective**.

• `Modal/To + [Blank]` -> requires a **Base Verb (`V1`)**.

• `Has/Have/Had + [Blank]` -> requires a **Past Participle (`V3`)**.

• `[Blank] + Preposition (to/with/from/in/of)` -> check which option legally governs that exact preposition!

3. **Collocation & Register Matching:** Choose words that form natural English collocations in formal prose (*pose a threat,wreak havoc, bridge the gap, curb inflation, lodge a complaint, deliver a verdict, enact legislation*).

• **Mandatory Pairing Technique for Para-Jumbles (PQRS):**

• **Article Progression (`A/An -> The`):** A sentence introducing *a new policy* precedes the sentence discussing *the policy*.

• **Chronological & Process Order:** Past dates/eras precede modern developments; problem identification precedes policy intervention, which precedes outcome evaluation.

• **Acronym Expansion Rule:** The sentence containing the full expansion (*Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology* (*MeitY*)) always precedes the sentence using the abbreviated acronym (*MeitY*).

Did You Know?: Over 70% of Para-Jumble questions in SSC CGL and Banking Prelims can be solved in under 25 seconds by identifying a single **2-sentence mandatory pair** (such as `Either...or`, `Former...Latter`, `Noun...Pronoun`, or `Question...Answer`) and eliminating all three distractor options that break that pair.

Exam Trap Alert: In Cloze Tests, all four options are often grammatically valid synonyms, but only one fits the **preposition immediately following the blank**. For example, if the text reads "*The committee failed to [Blank] with the statutory guidelines*", between *follow*, *obey*, *comply*, and *observe*, only **comply** takes *with* (*follow/obey/observe* are transitive and take no preposition).

★ **Memory Trick:** Remember **"N-P-C-T"** for Para-Jumbles: **N**oun before **P**ronoun, **C**ause before **T**herefore!

Chapter *8* Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (SSC Official Portal)
Reading Comprehension (RC) Analytical Framework	**Central Theme / Primary Purpose / Title Questions**	Require synthesizing the overarching thesis across all paragraphs without getting trapped by an example mentioned in only one paragraph. Eliminate options that are **Too Broad** (sweeping generalizations beyond the text), **Too Narrow** (minor supporting details), or **Extreme/Absolute** (containing words like *always*, *never*, *completely*, *exclusively*, *impossible* unless explicitly supported by the passage).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (SSC Official Portal)
Cloze Test & Para-Jumbles (Sentence Rearrangement) Solving Strategy	**Direct Factual / Retrieval Questions**	Answered directly from explicit statements in the passage (often paraphrased using synonyms).
Reading Comprehension (RC) Analytical Framework	**Logical Inference / Implication Questions**	An inference must be a **necessary logical deduction** from the given facts inside the passage, never an external opinion or speculative leap.
Cloze Test & Para-Jumbles (Sentence Rearrangement) Solving Strategy	**Analytical / Objective / Expository**	Examines data, causes, and effects neutrally without emotional bias (common in NCERT and economic reports).
Reading Comprehension (RC) Analytical Framework	**Critical / Acerbic / Censorious / Vitriolic**	Expresses strong disapproval or fault-finding.
Cloze Test & Para-Jumbles (Sentence Rearrangement) Solving Strategy	**Didactic / Pedagogical**	Intended to instruct or teach a moral/academic lesson.
Reading Comprehension (RC) Analytical Framework	**Sanguine / Optimistic vs Cynical / Skeptical**	Hopeful vs doubting the sincerity or success of human motives.
Cloze Test & Para-Jumbles (Sentence Rearrangement) Solving Strategy	**Laudatory / Panegyric / Eulogistic**	Expressing high praise and admiration.
Reading Comprehension (RC) Analytical Framework	**First Pass (Forward-Backward Contextual Scan)**	Read the entire passage once without filling any blanks to establish the tense (past narrative vs present analytical), domain (economy, ecology, jurisprudence, technology), and tone.
Cloze Test & Para-Jumbles (Sentence Rearrangement) Solving Strategy	**Grammatical Slot Analysis**	Identify what part of speech fits the blank:
Reading Comprehension (RC) Analytical Framework	**Collocation & Register Matching**	Choose words that form natural English collocations in formal prose (*pose a threat*,*wreak havoc*, *bridge the gap*, *curb inflation*, *lodge a complaint*, *deliver a verdict*, *enact legislation*).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (SSC Official Portal)
Cloze Test & Para-Jumbles (Sentence Rearrangement) Solving Strategy	**Article Progression (`A/An -> The`)**	A sentence introducing *a new policy* precedes the sentence discussing *the policy*.
Reading Comprehension (RC) Analytical Framework	**Chronological & Process Order**	Past dates/eras precede modern developments; problem identification precedes policy intervention, which precedes outcome evaluation.
Cloze Test & Para-Jumbles (Sentence Rearrangement) Solving Strategy	**Acronym Expansion Rule**	The sentence containing the full expansion (*Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology* (*MeitY*)) always precedes the sentence using the abbreviated acronym (*MeitY*).

Chapter *8* Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Central Theme / Primary Purpose / Title Questions): Require synthesizing the overarching thesis across all paragraphs without getting trapped by an example mentioned in only one paragraph. Eliminate options that are **Too Broad** (sweeping generalizations beyond the text), **Too Narrow** (minor supporting details), or **Extreme/Absolute** (containing words like *always*, *never*, *completely*, *exclusively*, *impossible* unless explicitly supported by the passage).
Statement-II (Direct Factual / Retrieval Questions): Answered directly from explicit statements in the passage (often paraphrased using synonyms).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Logical Inference / Implication Questions): An inference must be a **necessary logical deduction** from the given facts inside the passage, never an external opinion or speculative leap.
Statement-II (Analytical / Objective / Expository): Examines data, causes, and effects neutrally without emotional bias (common in NCERT and economic reports).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Critical / Acerbic / Censorious / Vitriolic): Expresses strong disapproval or fault-finding.
Statement-II (Didactic / Pedagogical): Intended to instruct or teach a moral/academic lesson.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Sanguine / Optimistic vs Cynical / Skeptical): Hopeful vs doubting the sincerity or success of human motives.
Statement-II (Laudatory / Panegyric / Eulogistic): Expressing high praise and admiration.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #5 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (First Pass (Forward-Backward Contextual Scan)): Read the entire passage once without filling any blanks to establish the tense (past narrative vs present analytical), domain (economy, ecology, jurisprudence, technology), and tone.

Statement-II (Grammatical Slot Analysis): Identify what part of speech fits the blank:

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #6 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Collocation & Register Matching): Choose words that form natural English collocations in formal prose (*pose a threat,wreak havoc, bridge the gap, curb inflation, lodge a complaint, deliver a verdict, enact legislation*).

Statement-II (Article Progression (`A/An -> The`)): A sentence introducing *a new policy* precedes the sentence discussing *the policy*.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy.**

Solved Exam Practice Questions (MCQs)

Practice Question #1 — Solved Exam MCQ

1. **Identify the grammatically correct sentence regarding uncountable nouns:**
(A) The police has received several informations regarding the heist.
(B) The police have received several pieces of information regarding the heist.
(C) The polices have received many informations regarding the heist.
(D) A police has received an information regarding the heist.
Answer: (B) — *Explanation: Police* is an unmarked plural collective noun taking the plural verb *have*, and *information* is an uncountable noun that requires *pieces of* to express plural units.

Practice Question #2 — Solved Exam MCQ

2. **Choose the option that correctly replaces the bracketed segment: "Neither the Managing Director nor the board members [was apprised] of the audit discrepancy."**
(A) were apprised
(B) was apprise
(C) has been apprised
(D) were appraised
Answer: (A) — *Explanation:* Under the Proximity Rule for *neither...nor*, the verb agrees with the nearer plural subject *board members* (*were*), and *apprised* means "informed".

Practice Question #3 — Solved Exam MCQ

3. **Spot the error in the following sentence: "Hardly had the speaker finished his keynote address (1) / than the audience burst into (2) / thunderous applause across the auditorium. (3) / No error (4)"**
(A) Segment 1
(B) Segment 2
(C) Segment 3
(D) Segment 4
Answer: (B) — *Explanation:* The correlative conjunction *Hardly / Scarcely* must be paired with **when** or **before**, never *than* (*No sooner* takes *than*).

Practice Question #4 Solved Exam MCQ

4. **Fill in the blank with the appropriate verb form: "The municipal commissioner, along with three chief engineers, _____ inspecting the barrage today."**
(A) are
(B) were
(C) is
(D) have been
Answer: (C) — *Explanation:* When subjects are linked by *along with*, the verb agrees with the first singular subject (*The municipal commissioner -> is*).

Practice Question #5 Solved Exam MCQ

5. **Select the correct completion: "It is high time the regulatory authority _____ stringent penalties against data breaches."**
(A) enforces
(B) enforced
(C) will enforce
(D) has enforced
Answer: (B) — *Explanation:* The phrase *It is high time + Subject* governs the unreal past subjunctive, requiring the Simple Past (`V2`) form *enforced*.

Practice Question #6 Solved Exam MCQ

6. **Identify the correct passive transformation of: "Who taught you constitutional jurisprudence?"**
(A) By whom you were taught constitutional jurisprudence?
(B) By whom were you taught constitutional jurisprudence?
(C) Whom were you taught constitutional jurisprudence by?
(D) By who was constitutional jurisprudence taught to you?
Answer: (B) — *Explanation:* In direct questions, passive conversion changes *Who* to *By whom* and preserves interrogative inversion (*By whom + were + you + taught*).

Practice Question #7 Solved Exam MCQ

7. **Choose the correct indirect narration for: The captain said to the soldiers, "Do not fire until I give the signal."**
(A) The captain forbade the soldiers not to fire until he gave the signal.
(B) The captain ordered the soldiers not to fire until he gave the signal.
(C) The captain ordered the soldiers to not fire until I gave the signal.
(D) The captain asked the soldiers that they should not fire until he gives the signal.
Answer: (B) — *Explanation:* Negative imperative commands convert using `ordered + Object + not to + V1`, with pronoun and tense backshift (*I give -> he gave*). Option (A) is wrong because *forbade* never takes *not*.

Practice Question #8 Solved Exam MCQ

8. **Fill in the blank with the correct non-finite form: "The delegation looks forward to _____ the bilateral trade agreement next month."**
(A) ratify
(B) ratifying
(C) have ratified
(D) be ratified
Answer: (B) — *Explanation:* In the phrasal construction *look forward to*, *to* is a preposition and must be followed by a gerund (`V1 + -ing` -> *ratifying*).

Practice Question #9 Solved Exam MCQ

9. **Select the correct preposition: "The new syllabus of the examination comprises _____ four distinct analytical modules."**
(A) of
(B) with
(C) in
(D) No preposition required
Answer: (D) — *Explanation:* In the active voice, *comprise* means "consist of" and never takes the preposition *of*.

Practice Question #10 Solved Exam MCQ

10. **Identify the sentence with correct pronoun sequencing:**
(A) I, you, and he have been selected for the national fellowship.
(B) You, he, and I have been selected for the national fellowship.
(C) He, you, and I have been selected for the national fellowship.
(D) You, I, and he have been selected for the national fellowship.
Answer: (B) — *Explanation*: For positive statements with singular pronouns, follow the **2-3-1** order (*You* [2], *he* [3], *and I* [1]).

Practice Question #11 Solved Exam MCQ

11. **Choose the grammatically sound comparison:**
(A) The climate of Shimla is cooler than Delhi.
(B) The climate of Shimla is more cooler than that of Delhi.
(C) The climate of Shimla is cooler than that of Delhi.
(D) The climate of Shimla is cooler than those of Delhi.
Answer: (C) — *Explanation*: Compare like entities: *The climate* (singular) must be compared with *that of Delhi* (not the city *Delhi* itself, nor plural *those*).

Practice Question #12 Solved Exam MCQ

12. **Fill in the blank: "Had the pilot received the weather alert earlier, he _____ an emergency landing."**
(A) would make
(B) would have made
(C) will have made
(D) had made
Answer: (B) — *Explanation*: Inverted Third Conditional (`Had + Subject + V3`) requires `would/could/might + have + V3` (*would have made*) in the main clause.

Practice Question #13 Solved Exam MCQ

13. **Select the correct preposition pair: "The magistrate was annoyed _____ the clerk _____ his unexplained absence."**
(A) at, with
(B) with, at
(C) on, for
(D) to, by
Answer: (B) — *Explanation*: One is annoyed **with** a person (*the clerk*) and annoyed **at** a thing or conduct (*his unexplained absence*).

Practice Question #14 Solved Exam MCQ

14. **Identify the word NEAREST in meaning to "PERSPICACIOUS":**
(A) Transparent
(B) Astute
(C) Sweating
(D) Ambiguous
Answer: (B) — *Explanation*: *Perspicacious* means having a ready insight into and understanding of things (*astute* / *shrewd* / *sagacious*), whereas *perspicuous* means clearly expressed/lucid.

Practice Question #15 Solved Exam MCQ

15. **Identify the word OPPOSITE in meaning to "EPHEMERAL":**
(A) Transient
(B) Perennial
(C) Fleeting
(D) Fragile
Answer: (B) — *Explanation*: *Ephemeral* means short-lived or transitory; its antonym is *Perennial* (enduring/lasting indefinitely).

Practice Question #16 Solved Exam MCQ

16. **Select the exact One-Word Substitution for: "An office or post with a high salary but requiring little or no work."**
(A) Honorary
(B) Sinecure
(C) Bureaucracy
(D) Plutocracy
Answer: (B) — *Explanation*: *Sinecure* denotes a salaried position that requires minimal or no work (*Honorary* denotes an unpaid post conferred as an honor).

Practice Question #17 Solved Exam MCQ

17. **What is the meaning of the idiom "To rest on one's laurels"?**
(A) To work tirelessly for future glory
(B) To be complacently satisfied with past achievements and stop putting in effort
(C) To retire in a forest cottage
(D) To accept defeat gracefully
Answer: (B) — *Explanation*: *Resting on one's laurels* means becoming complacent because of past success.

Practice Question #18 Solved Exam MCQ

18. **Choose the correctly spelt word:**
(A) Supercede
(B) Supersede
(C) Supraccede
(D) Superceed
Answer: (B) — *Explanation*: *Supersede* is the only English word ending in `-sede`.

Practice Question #19 Solved Exam MCQ

19. **Spot the error: "One should always be true to his word (1) / if one wishes to earn respect (2) / in public administration. (3) / No error (4)"**
(A) Segment 1
(B) Segment 2
(C) Segment 3
(D) Segment 4
Answer: (A) — *Explanation:* When the indefinite pronoun *One* is the subject, its possessive form must be **one's** (*true to one's word*), never *his*.

Practice Question #20 Solved Exam MCQ

20. **Choose the correct passive voice for: "People say that the treasury has frozen the grant."**
(A) The grant is said to have been frozen by the treasury.
(B) It was said that the grant had been frozen.
(C) The treasury is said to be freezing the grant.
(D) The grant has been said to freeze by people.
Answer: (A) — *Explanation:* Present reporting (**People say**) + Perfect action (**has frozen**) converts to **Subject + is said + to have been + V3**.

Practice Question #21 Solved Exam MCQ

21. **Fill in the blank: "Walking carefully along the icy ridge, _____."**
(A) a crevasse was spotted by the mountaineers
(B) the mountaineers spotted a deep crevasse
(C) the rope snapped suddenly
(D) the weather turned hostile
Answer: (B) — *Explanation:* To prevent a dangling participle, the subject of the main clause must be the logical doer of *Walking* (*the mountaineers*).

Practice Question #22 Solved Exam MCQ

22. **Select the appropriate phrasal verb: "The inquiry commission was constituted to _____ the causes of the derailment."**
(A) look after
(B) look into
(C) look down upon
(D) look up to
Answer: (B) — *Explanation: Look into* means to investigate or examine systematically.

Practice Question #23 Solved Exam MCQ

23. **Identify the word OPPOSITE in meaning to "OBSEQUIOUS":**
(A) Servile
(B) Sycophantic
(C) Domineering
(D) Courteous
Answer: (C) — *Explanation: Obsequious* means excessively submissive or fawning; *Domineering* (asserting one's will over others arrogantly) is its opposite.

Practice Question #24 Solved Exam MCQ

24. **Choose the correct sentence regarding inversion:**
(A) Never I have seen such a meticulously drafted statute.
(B) Never have I seen such a meticulously drafted statute.
(C) Never did I saw such a meticulously drafted statute.
(D) Never I saw such a meticulously drafted statute.
Answer: (B) — *Explanation:* Sentence-initial negative adverb *Never* requires auxiliary inversion (`Never + have + I + seen`).

Practice Question #25 Solved Exam MCQ

25. **Select the One-Word Substitution for: "A person who is indifferent to pleasure or pain and endures hardship without complaint."**
(A) Epicurean
(B) Hedonist
(C) Stoic
(D) Cynic
Answer: (C) — *Explanation:* A *Stoic* displays equanimity and endurance without emotional display.

Practice Question #26 Solved Exam MCQ

26. **Fill in the blank: "More than one gazetted officer _____ implicated in the vigilance inquiry."**
(A) were
(B) have been
(C) was
(D) are
Answer: (C) — *Explanation:* The construction `More than one + singular noun` always governs a singular verb (*was*).

Practice Question #27 Solved Exam MCQ

27. **What does the idiom "A Pyrrhic victory" signify?**
(A) A victory achieved without shedding a drop of blood
(B) A victory won at such a devastating cost to the victor that it is tantamount to defeat
(C) A decisive naval triumph
(D) An unexpected victory by a weak contender
Answer: (B) — *Explanation:* Named after King Pyrrhus of Epirus, a *Pyrrhic victory* inflicts ruinous losses on the winner.

Practice Question #28 Solved Exam MCQ

28. **Choose the correct modal auxiliary completion: "You _____ bought an extra copy of the manual; the department already provides one free of cost."**
(A) must not have
(B) need not have
(C) should not
(D) cannot have
Answer: (B) — *Explanation:* `need not have + V3` expresses that an action was performed in the past even though it was unnecessary.

Practice Question #29 Solved Exam MCQ

29. **Select the correct quantifier: "Although the drought was severe, _____ water remaining in the reservoir was sufficient for two days."**
(A) little
(B) a little
(C) the little
(D) the few
Answer: (C) — *Explanation*: *Water* is uncountable, and the relative clause (*that was*) *remaining in the reservoir* specifies the entire small quantity available, requiring **the little**.

Practice Question #30 Solved Exam MCQ

30. **Identify the correctly spelt word among the four options:**
(A) Accomodation
(B) Accommodation
(C) Acommodation
(D) Acomodation
Answer: (B) — *Explanation*: *Accommodation* contains double **c** and double **m** (`A-c-c-o-m-m-o-d-a-t-i-o-n`).

Practice Question #31 Solved Exam MCQ

31. **Fill in the blank: "Five years have passed since my elder brother _____ the Indian Defence Service."**
(A) has joined
(B) had joined
(C) joined
(D) joins
Answer: (C) — *Explanation*: When *since* connects a Present Perfect main clause to a starting point clause, the clause after *since* takes Simple Past (`V2` -> *joined*).

Practice Question #32 Solved Exam MCQ

32. **Select the correct comparative structure: "Of the two legal drafts submitted to the bench, this one is definitely _____."**
(A) more precise
(B) the more precise
(C) most precise
(D) the most precise
Answer: (B) — *Explanation*: When choosing one out of two items using *Of the two*, use the definite article **the** + **Comparative Degree** (*the more precise*).

Practice Question #33 Solved Exam MCQ

33. **Arrange the jumbled segments (P, Q, R, S) into a coherent paragraph:**
P: Consequently, central banks had to tighten monetary policy by raising benchmark repo rates.
Q: Supply-chain bottlenecks following global geopolitical disruptions triggered a sharp surge in commodity prices.
R: This sudden spike in input costs rapidly translated into persistent retail inflation across major economies.
S: While higher interest rates curbed inflationary expectations, they also moderated industrial credit growth.
(A) Q-R-P-S
(B) P-Q-R-S
(C) R-Q-S-P
(D) Q-P-R-S
Answer: (A) — *Explanation:* **Q** is the independent opener introducing the root cause (*sharp surge in commodity prices*); **R** links via demonstrative noun phrase *This sudden spike;* **P** states the policy consequence (*Consequently... raising benchmark repo rates*); **S** concludes by referring to *higher interest rates.*

Practice Question #34 Solved Exam MCQ

34. **Choose the correct word to fill the blank: "The Supreme Court appointed an _____ jurist as amicus curiae to assist the constitutional bench."**
(A) imminent
(B) eminent
(C) immanent
(D) emanate
Answer: (B) — *Explanation*: *Eminent* means distinguished, renowned, and respected in a profession (*imminent* means about to occur).

Practice Question #35 Solved Exam MCQ

35. **Spot the error: "Scarcely had the sentinel blown the whistle (1) / when the encroachers fled away (2) / into the dense thicket. (3) / No error (4)"**
(A) Segment 1
(B) Segment 2
(C) Segment 3
(D) Segment 4
Answer: (B) — *Explanation*: The verb *flee* (*fled*) already means "to run away"; adding *away* after *fled* is a superfluous redundancy error (*fled into the dense thicket*).

Extended Comparative & Analytical Practice Set (Questions *36* to *75*)

Practice Question #36 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q36. With reference to Noun Category and Representative Examples, which of the following is accurately matched with “Uncountable Abstract/Material”?

(A) Advice, Furniture, Scenery, Equipment, Information
(B) Scissors, Spectacles, Trousers, Pliers, Binoculars
(C) Cattle, Police, Gentry, Peasantry, Clergy, Poultry
(D) Sheep, Deer, Innings, Species, Series, Aircraft

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Uncountable Abstract/Material** (Noun Category), the verified Representative Examples is **Advice, Furniture, Scenery, Equipment, Information**. Furthermore, Strictly Singular. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #37 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q37. With reference to Noun Category and Representative Examples, which of the following is accurately matched with “Bipartite Instruments & Attire”?

(A) Cattle, Police, Gentry, Peasantry, Clergy, Poultry
(B) Scissors, Spectacles, Trousers, Pliers, Binoculars
(C) Sheep, Deer, Innings, Species, Series, Aircraft
(D) Jury, Committee, Council, Audience, Cabinet

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Bipartite Instruments & Attire** (Noun Category), the verified Representative Examples is **Scissors, Spectacles, Trousers, Pliers, Binoculars**. Furthermore, Strictly Plural. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #38 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q38. With reference to Noun Category and Representative Examples, which of the following is accurately matched with “Unmarked Plural Collectives”?

(A) Sheep, Deer, Innings, Species, Series, Aircraft
(B) Jury, Committee, Council, Audience, Cabinet
(C) Cattle, Police, Gentry, Peasantry, Clergy, Poultry
(D) First Subject (**Subject 1**)

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Unmarked Plural Collectives** (Noun Category), the verified Representative Examples is **Cattle, Police, Gentry, Peasantry, Clergy, Poultry**. Furthermore, Strictly Plural. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #39 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q39. With reference to Noun Category and Representative Examples, which of the following is accurately matched with “Zero-Plural Invariant Nouns”?

(A) Jury, Committee, Council, Audience, Cabinet
(B) First Subject (**Subject 1**)
(C) Nearer Subject (**Subject 2**)
(D) Sheep, Deer, Innings, Species, Series, Aircraft

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Zero-Plural Invariant Nouns** (Noun Category), the verified Representative Examples is **Sheep, Deer, Innings, Species, Series, Aircraft**. Furthermore, Singular or Plural. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #40 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q40. With reference to Noun Category and Representative Examples, which of the following is accurately matched with “Collective Nouns of Variable Unity”?

(A) Jury, Committee, Council, Audience, Cabinet
(B) First Subject (**Subject 1**)
(C) Nearer Subject (**Subject 2**)
(D) Distributive Singular

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Collective Nouns of Variable Unity** (Noun Category), the verified Representative Examples is **Jury, Committee, Council, Audience, Cabinet**. Furthermore, Context-Dependent. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #41 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q41. With reference to Subject Structure and Governing Subject, which of the following is accurately matched with "Subject 1 + as well as / along with + Subject 2"?

(A) Nearer Subject (**Subject 2**)
(B) First Subject (**Subject 1**)
(C) Distributive Singular
(D) Singular Head Noun

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Subject 1 + as well as / along with + Subject 2** (Subject Structure), the verified Governing Subject is **First Subject (Subject 1)**. Furthermore, Matches **Subject 1**. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #42 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q42. With reference to Subject Structure and Governing Subject, which of the following is accurately matched with "Neither...nor / Either...or / Not only...but also"?

(A) Distributive Singular
(B) Singular Head Noun
(C) Nearer Subject (**Subject 2**)
(D) *The number* (S) vs *Noun* (P)

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Neither...nor / Either...or / Not only...but also** (Subject Structure), the verified Governing Subject is **Nearer Subject (Subject 2)**. Furthermore, Matches **Subject 2**. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #43 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q43. With reference to Subject Structure and Governing Subject, which of the following is accurately matched with "Each / Every + Singular Noun + and + Each / Every + Singular Noun"?

(A) Singular Head Noun
(B) *The number* (S) vs *Noun* (P)
(C) **If + Simple Present (V1/V1-s)**
(D) Distributive Singular

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Each / Every + Singular Noun + and + Each / Every + Singular Noun** (Subject Structure), the verified Governing Subject is **Distributive Singular**. Furthermore, Singular Noun. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #44 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q44. With reference to Subject Structure and Governing Subject, which of the following is accurately matched with "Many a / More than one + Noun"?

(A) Singular Head Noun
(B) *The number* (S) vs *Noun* (P)
(C) **If + Simple Present (V1/V1-s)**
(D) **If / Unless + Simple Present (V1/V1-s)**

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Many a / More than one + Noun** (Subject Structure), the verified Governing Subject is **Singular Head Noun**. Furthermore, Singular Countable. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #45 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q45. With reference to Subject Structure and Governing Subject, which of the following is accurately matched with "The number of + Plural Noun vs A number of + Plural Noun"?

(A) **If + Simple Present (V1/V1-s)**
(B) *The number* (S) vs *Noun* (P)
(C) **If / Unless + Simple Present (V1/V1-s)**
(D) **If + Simple Past (V2 / were / had)**

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **The number of + Plural Noun** vs **A number of + Plural Noun** (Subject Structure), the verified Governing Subject is ***The number* (S) vs *Noun* (P)**. Furthermore, Plural Countable. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #46 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q46. With reference to Conditional / Clause Type and Subordinate Clause (If / Time Clause), which of the following is accurately matched with "Zero Conditional"?

(A) **If / Unless + Simple Present (V1/V1-s)**
(B) **If + Simple Past (V2 / were / had)**
(C) **If + Simple Present (V1/V1-s)**
(D) **If + Past Perfect (had + V3)**

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Zero Conditional** (Conditional / Clause Type), the verified Subordinate Clause (**If / Time Clause**) is **If + Simple Present (V1/V1-s)**. Furthermore, **Simple Present (V1/V1-s)**. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #47 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q47. With reference to Conditional / Clause Type and Subordinate Clause (If / Time Clause), which of the following is accurately matched with "First Conditional (Probable)"?

(A) **If + Simple Past (V2 / were / had)**
(B) **If + Past Perfect (had + V3)**
(C) **Had + Subject + V3** (No *if*)
(D) **If / Unless + Simple Present (V1/V1-s)**

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **First Conditional (Probable)** (Conditional / Clause Type), the verified Subordinate Clause (**If / Time Clause**) is **If / Unless + Simple Present (V1/V1-s)**. Furthermore, **will / shall / can / may + V1**. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #48 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q48. With reference to Conditional / Clause Type and Subordinate Clause (If / Time Clause), which of the following is accurately matched with "Second Conditional (Hypothetical)"?

(A) **If + Simple Past (V2 / were / had)**
(B) **If + Past Perfect (had + V3)**
(C) **Had + Subject + V3** (No *if*)
(D) **Object + is/am/are/was/were + V3 + Prep + Agent**

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Second Conditional (Hypothetical)** (Conditional / Clause Type), the verified Subordinate Clause (**If / Time Clause**) is **If + Simple Past (V2 / were / had)**. Furthermore, **would / could / might + V1**. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #49 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q49. With reference to Conditional / Clause Type and Subordinate Clause (`If / Time Clause`), which of the following is accurately matched with "Third Conditional (Unfulfilled Past)"?

(A) `Had + Subject + V3` (No *if*)
(B) `If + Past Perfect (had + V3)`
(C) `Object + is/am/are/was/were + V3 + Prep + Agent`
(D) `Object + Modal + be + V3 + by + Agent`

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Third Conditional (Unfulfilled Past)** (Conditional / Clause Type), the verified Subordinate Clause (`If / Time Clause`) is `If + Past Perfect (had + V3)`. Furthermore, `would / could / might + have + V3`. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #50 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q50. With reference to Conditional / Clause Type and Subordinate Clause (`If / Time Clause`), which of the following is accurately matched with "Inverted Third Conditional"?

(A) `Object + is/am/are/was/were + V3 + Prep + Agent`
(B) `Object + Modal + be + V3 + by + Agent`
(C) `Had + Subject + V3` (No *if*)
(D) `By whom + was/were + Object + V3?`

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Inverted Third Conditional** (Conditional / Clause Type), the verified Subordinate Clause (`If / Time Clause`) is `Had + Subject + V3` **(No *if*)**. Furthermore, `would / could / might + have + V3`. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #51 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q51. With reference to Active Voice Pattern and Passive Voice Formula, which of the following is accurately matched with "`Subject + V1/V2 + Object`"?

(A) `Object + Modal + be + V3 + by + Agent`
(B) `By whom + was/were + Object + V3?`
(C) `It is time + for + Object + to + be + V3`
(D) `Object + is/am/are/was/were + V3 + Prep + Agent`

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For `Subject + V1/V2 + Object` (Active Voice Pattern), the verified Passive Voice Formula is `Object + is/am/are/was/were + V3 + Prep + Agent`. Furthermore, *He knows the magistrate. -> The magistrate is known to him.*. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #52 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q52. With reference to Active Voice Pattern and Passive Voice Formula, which of the following is accurately matched with "`Subject + Modal + V1 + Object`"?

(A) `Object + Modal + be + V3 + by + Agent`
(B) `By whom + was/were + Object + V3?`
(C) `It is time + for + Object + to + be + V3`
(D) `Subject + Verb + Adj + when + Pron + be + V3`

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For `Subject + Modal + V1 + Object` (Active Voice Pattern), the verified Passive Voice Formula is `Object + Modal + be + V3 + by + Agent`. Furthermore, *One must keep one's word. -> One's word must be kept.*. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #53 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q53. With reference to Active Voice Pattern and Passive Voice Formula, which of the following is accurately matched with “ Who + V2 + Object? ”?

(A) **It is time + for + Object + to + be + V3**
(B) **By whom + was/were + Object + V3?**
(C) **Subject + Verb + Adj + when + Pron + be + V3**
(D) **when / before** (NEVER *than*)

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Who + V2 + Object?** (Active Voice Pattern), the verified Passive Voice Formula is **By whom + was/were + Object + V3?**. Furthermore, *Who drafted the bill? -> By whom was the bill drafted?*. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #54 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q54. With reference to Active Voice Pattern and Passive Voice Formula, which of the following is accurately matched with “ It is time + to + V1 + Object ”?

(A) **Subject + Verb + Adj + when + Pron + be + V3**
(B) **when / before** (NEVER *than*)
(C) **It is time + for + Object + to + be + V3**
(D) **than** (NEVER *when / then*)

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **It is time + to + V1 + Object** (Active Voice Pattern), the verified Passive Voice Formula is **It is time + for + Object + to + be + V3**. Furthermore, *It is time to audit the accounts. -> It is time for the accounts to be audited.*. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #55 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q55. With reference to Active Voice Pattern and Passive Voice Formula, which of the following is accurately matched with “ Subject + Verb + Noun + Adjective ”?

(A) **when / before** (NEVER *than*)
(B) **than** (NEVER *when / then*)
(C) **should + V1** (or bare **V1**)
(D) **Subject + Verb + Adj + when + Pron + be + V3**

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Subject + Verb + Noun + Adjective** (Active Voice Pattern), the verified Passive Voice Formula is **Subject + Verb + Adj + when + Pron + be + V3**. Furthermore, *Honey tastes sweet. -> Honey is sweet when it is tasted.*. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #56 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q56. With reference to Correlative Conjunction and Mandatory Paired Partner, which of the following is accurately matched with “ Hardly / Scarcely ”?

(A) **when / before** (NEVER *than*)
(B) **than** (NEVER *when / then*)
(C) **should + V1** (or bare **V1**)
(D) **yet** or **,** (comma) (NEVER *but*)

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Hardly / Scarcely** (Correlative Conjunction), the verified Mandatory Paired Partner is **when / before** **(NEVER *than*)**. Furthermore, **Hardly + had + S + V3 / did + S + V1**. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #57 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q57. With reference to Correlative Conjunction and Mandatory Paired Partner, which of the following is accurately matched with "`No sooner`"?

(A) `should + V1` (or bare `V1`)
(B) `than` (NEVER *when / then*)
(C) `yet` or `,` (comma) (NEVER *but*)
(D) `and` (NEVER *as well as*)

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For `No sooner` (Correlative Conjunction), the verified Mandatory Paired Partner is `than` **(NEVER *when / then*)**. Furthermore, `No sooner + had + S + V3 / did + S + V1`. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #58 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q58. With reference to Correlative Conjunction and Mandatory Paired Partner, which of the following is accurately matched with "`Lest`"?

(A) `yet` or `,` (comma) (NEVER *but*)
(B) `and` (NEVER *as well as*)
(C) `should + V1` (or bare `V1`)
(D) `or` (NEVER *that*)

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For `Lest` (Correlative Conjunction), the verified Mandatory Paired Partner is `should + V1` **(or bare `V1`)**. Furthermore, Not applicable. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #59 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q59. With reference to Correlative Conjunction and Mandatory Paired Partner, which of the following is accurately matched with "`Although / Though`"?

(A) `and` (NEVER *as well as*)
(B) `or` (NEVER *that*)
(C) To become less intense or widespread
(D) `yet` or `,` (comma) (NEVER *but*)

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For `Although / Though` (Correlative Conjunction), the verified Mandatory Paired Partner is `yet` **or** `,` **(comma) (NEVER *but*)**. Furthermore, Not applicable. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #60 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q60. With reference to Correlative Conjunction and Mandatory Paired Partner, which of the following is accurately matched with "`Both ...`"?

(A) `and` (NEVER *as well as*)
(B) `or` (NEVER *that*)
(C) To become less intense or widespread
(D) Keen insight and shrewdness in judgment

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For `Both ...` (Correlative Conjunction), the verified Mandatory Paired Partner is `and` **(NEVER *as well as*)**. Furthermore, Not applicable. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #61 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q61. With reference to Correlative Conjunction and Mandatory Paired Partner, which of the following is accurately matched with "Whether ..."?

(A) To become less intense or widespread

(B) or (NEVER *that*)

(C) Keen insight and shrewdness in judgment

(D) Demonstrating aggression and willingness to fight

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For Whether ... (Correlative Conjunction), the verified Mandatory Paired Partner is **or (NEVER *that*)**. Furthermore, Not applicable. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #62 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q62. With reference to High-Yield Word and Core Meaning, which of the following is accurately matched with "Abate (v.)"?

(A) Keen insight and shrewdness in judgment

(B) Demonstrating aggression and willingness to fight

(C) To become less intense or widespread

(D) Given to sudden and unaccountable changes of mood

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Abate (v.)** (High-Yield Word), the verified Core Meaning is **To become less intense or widespread**. Furthermore, Subside, Diminish, Mitigate, Wane, Allay. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #63 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q63. With reference to High-Yield Word and Core Meaning, which of the following is accurately matched with "Acumen (n.)"?

(A) Demonstrating aggression and willingness to fight

(B) Given to sudden and unaccountable changes of mood

(C) Lasting for a very short time; transitory

(D) Keen insight and shrewdness in judgment

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Acumen (n.)** (High-Yield Word), the verified Core Meaning is **Keen insight and shrewdness in judgment**. Furthermore, Perspicacity, Astuteness, Sagacity, Shrewdness. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #64 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q64. With reference to High-Yield Word and Core Meaning, which of the following is accurately matched with "Bellicose (adj.)"?

(A) Demonstrating aggression and willingness to fight

(B) Given to sudden and unaccountable changes of mood

(C) Lasting for a very short time; transitory

(D) Very attentive to and concerned about accuracy/detail

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Bellicose (adj.)** (High-Yield Word), the verified Core Meaning is **Demonstrating aggression and willingness to fight**. Furthermore, Belligerent, Pugnacious, Truculent, Hostile. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #65 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q65. With reference to High-Yield Word and Core Meaning, which of the following is accurately matched with "Capricious (adj.)"?

(A) Lasting for a very short time; transitory
(B) Given to sudden and unaccountable changes of mood
(C) Very attentive to and concerned about accuracy/detail
(D) Excessively talkative, especially on trivial matters

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Capricious (adj.)** (High-Yield Word), the verified Core Meaning is **Given to sudden and unaccountable changes of mood**. Furthermore, Fickle, Mercurial, Whimsical, Erratic, Volatile. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #66 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q66. With reference to High-Yield Word and Core Meaning, which of the following is accurately matched with "Ephemeral (adj.)"?

(A) Very attentive to and concerned about accuracy/detail
(B) Excessively talkative, especially on trivial matters
(C) Lasting for a very short time; transitory
(D) Obedient or attentive to an excessive/servile degree

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Ephemeral (adj.)** (High-Yield Word), the verified Core Meaning is **Lasting for a very short time; transitory**. Furthermore, Evanescent, Fleeting, Transient, Fugacious. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #67 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q67. With reference to High-Yield Word and Core Meaning, which of the following is accurately matched with "Fastidious (adj.)"?

(A) Excessively talkative, especially on trivial matters
(B) Obedient or attentive to an excessive/servile degree
(C) Dealing with things sensibly and realistically
(D) Very attentive to and concerned about accuracy/detail

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Fastidious (adj.)** (High-Yield Word), the verified Core Meaning is **Very attentive to and concerned about accuracy/detail**. Furthermore, Meticulous, Scrupulous, Punctilious, Finicky. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #68 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q68. With reference to High-Yield Word and Core Meaning, which of the following is accurately matched with "Garrulous (adj.)"?

(A) Excessively talkative, especially on trivial matters
(B) Obedient or attentive to an excessive/servile degree
(C) Dealing with things sensibly and realistically
(D) Optimistic or positive, especially in a tough situation

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Garrulous (adj.)** (High-Yield Word), the verified Core Meaning is **Excessively talkative, especially on trivial matters**. Furthermore, Loquacious, Voluble, Verbose, Effusive, Chatty. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #69 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q69. With reference to High-Yield Word and Core Meaning, which of the following is accurately matched with "Obsequious (adj.)"?

(A) Dealing with things sensibly and realistically
(B) Obedient or attentive to an excessive/servile degree
(C) Optimistic or positive, especially in a tough situation
(D) To confirm, corroborate, or support the truth of

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Obsequious (adj.)** (High-Yield Word), the verified Core Meaning is **Obedient or attentive to an excessive/servile degree**. Furthermore, Sycophantic, Servile, Fawning, Unctuous. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #70 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q70. With reference to High-Yield Word and Core Meaning, which of the following is accurately matched with "Pragmatic (adj.)"?

(A) Optimistic or positive, especially in a tough situation
(B) To confirm, corroborate, or support the truth of
(C) Dealing with things sensibly and realistically
(D) (a) Stop functioning (machine); (b) Lose emotional control

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Pragmatic (adj.)** (High-Yield Word), the verified Core Meaning is **Dealing with things sensibly and realistically**. Furthermore, Practical, Utilitarian, Realistic, Matter-of-fact. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #71 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q71. With reference to High-Yield Word and Core Meaning, which of the following is accurately matched with "Sanguine (adj.)"?

(A) To confirm, corroborate, or support the truth of
(B) (a) Stop functioning (machine); (b) Lose emotional control
(C) To cause something to happen; accomplish
(D) Optimistic or positive, especially in a tough situation

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Sanguine (adj.)** (High-Yield Word), the verified Core Meaning is **Optimistic or positive, especially in a tough situation**. Furthermore, Buoyant, Hopeful, Confident, Upbeat, Cheerful. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #72 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q72. With reference to Phrasal Verb and Exact Idiomatic Meaning, which of the following is accurately matched with "Bear out"?

(A) To confirm, corroborate, or support the truth of
(B) (a) Stop functioning (machine); (b) Lose emotional control
(C) To cause something to happen; accomplish
(D) To cancel a planned event or strike

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Bear out** (Phrasal Verb), the verified Exact Idiomatic Meaning is **To confirm, corroborate, or support the truth of**. Furthermore, *The forensic report bore out the witness's testimony.*. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #73 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q73. With reference to Phrasal Verb and Exact Idiomatic Meaning, which of the following is accurately matched with "Break down"?

(A) To cause something to happen; accomplish
(B) (a) Stop functioning (machine); (b) Lose emotional control
(C) To cancel a planned event or strike
(D) To execute, perform, or implement an order/plan

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Break down** (Phrasal Verb), the verified Exact Idiomatic Meaning is **(a) Stop functioning (machine); (b) Lose emotional control**. Furthermore, *The locomotive broke down; the witness broke down in court.*. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #74 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q74. With reference to Phrasal Verb and Exact Idiomatic Meaning, which of the following is accurately matched with "Bring about"?

(A) To cancel a planned event or strike
(B) To execute, perform, or implement an order/plan
(C) To cause something to happen; accomplish
(D) To meet or find someone/something by chance

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Bring about** (Phrasal Verb), the verified Exact Idiomatic Meaning is **To cause something to happen; accomplish**. Furthermore, *Digital governance has brought about transparency in welfare.*. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #75 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q75. With reference to Phrasal Verb and Exact Idiomatic Meaning, which of the following is accurately matched with "Call off"?

(A) To execute, perform, or implement an order/plan
(B) To meet or find someone/something by chance
(C) To fail to materialize; come to nothing (of a plan/deal)
(D) To cancel a planned event or strike

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Call off** (Phrasal Verb), the verified Exact Idiomatic Meaning is **To cancel a planned event or strike**. Furthermore, *The workers called off the agitation after negotiations.*. (Source: SSC Official Portal & IUC Academy).

Rapid-Fire Last-Minute One-Liner Revision Capsule

1. Uncountable nouns (*Advice*, *Information*, *Furniture*, *Scenery*, *Equipment*, *Stationery*, *Poetry*, *Luggage*) always take singular verbs and never admit *a/an* or plural *-s*.

2. Bipartite nouns (*Scissors*, *Trousers*, *Spectacles*, *Pliers*, *Binoculars*, *Tongs*) are plural unless preceded by *a pair of*.

3. Collective nouns *Cattle*, *Police*, *Gentry*, *Peasantry*, *Clergy*, *Poultry*, and *Vermin* are always plural without an *-s*.

4. Invariant nouns (*Sheep*, *Deer*, *Innings*, *Species*, *Series*, *Aircraft*, *Offspring*, *Headquarters*) have identical singular and plural spellings.

5. Compound nouns pluralize the headword (*Commanders-in-chief*, *Sons-in-law*, *Passers-by*), while *man/woman* professional compounds pluralize both parts (*Women-doctors*).

6. A noun acting as a hyphenated unit modifier after a number stays singular (*a five-member tribunal, a ten-rupee coin*).

7. Singular personal pronouns follow the **2-3-1** order (*You, he, and I*) for positive contexts and **1-2-3** (*I, you, and he*) for confessions of fault.

8. Objective case pronouns (*me, him, her, us, them, whom*) are mandatory after *let*, prepositions (*between, besides, except*), and transitive verbs.

9. Use a possessive determiner (*my, his, their, your*) before a gerund (**V1 + -ing**) (*She objected to his leaving early*).

10. When *one* is the indefinite subject, maintain *one* / *one's* / *oneself* throughout the sentence.

11. Use *each/either/neither* with singular countable nouns and singular verbs; *either/neither* applies to two entities, while *any/none* applies to three or more.

12. Use the relative pronoun *that* after superlatives, *all, only, same, nothing, none, the few*, and *the little*.

13. Latinate comparatives (*senior, junior, superior, inferior, prior, prefer, anterior*) take *to* instead of *than* and never take *more*.

14. Non-gradable absolutes (*unique, ideal, perfect, universal, supreme, chief, eternal, complete*) never take *more* or *most*.

15. When comparing two qualities of the same person, use **more + positive degree + than + positive degree** (*She is more prudent than bold*).

16. When choosing one of two items with *of the two*, use **the + comparative degree** (*She is the taller of the two sisters*).

17. *Little* / *a little* / *the little* modify uncountable nouns; *few* / *a few* / *the few* modify plural countable nouns.

18. When subjects are joined by *as well as, along with, together with, accompanied by, besides*, or *unlike*, the verb agrees with the first subject.

19. When subjects are joined by *either...or, neither...nor, not only...but also*, or *or*, the verb agrees with the nearer subject.

20. *Many a + singular noun* and *More than one + singular noun* always take a singular verb.

21. *A number of + plural noun* takes a plural verb, whereas *The number of + plural noun* takes a singular verb.

22. Two singular nouns joined by *and* take a singular verb if the article/possessive appears only before the first noun (*The poet and philosopher is dead*).

23. Reflexive pronouns are mandatory after *avail, absent, acquit, reconcile, resign, exert, apply, adapt*, and *pride* when no object follows.

24. Never use a reflexive pronoun after *keep, stop, turn, qualify, bathe, move, rest*, or *hide*.

25. Phrases ending in the preposition *to* (*look forward to, with a view to, accustomed to, addicted to, averse to, object to*) take a gerund (**V1 + -ing**).

26. Bare infinitives (**V1** without *to*) follow *make, let, bid* (in active voice), *had better, would rather*, and *need not* / *dare not*.

27. Present Perfect (**has/have + V3**) cannot be used with definite past-time adverbs (*yesterday, ago, last year*); use Simple Past (**V2**).

28. When *since* links two clauses, use Present Perfect in the main clause and Simple Past (**V2**) in the *since*-clause.

29. In two sequential past actions, the earlier action takes Past Perfect (**had + V3**) and the later action takes Simple Past (**V2**).

30. Subordinate time and condition clauses (*if*, *unless*, *until*, *when*, *as soon as*, *before*, *after*) take Simple Present (**V1**), never *will*/*shall*.

31. First Conditional: **If + V1/V1-s** -> **will/shall/can/may + V1**.

32. Second Conditional: **If + V2 / were** -> **would/could/might + V1**.

33. Third Conditional: **If + had + V3** (or **Had + S + V3**) -> **would/could/might + have + V3**.

34. *It is time* / *It is high time* + *Subject* always requires Simple Past (**V2**).

35. Causative passive pattern: **have/get + Object (Thing) + V3** (*got the contract notarized*).

36. Causative active pattern: **make/have + Person + V1 (bare)** vs **get + Person + to + V1**.

37. *Lest* means "for fear that" and is followed by *should* + *V1* (or bare *V1*) without *not*.

38. *Unless* (condition) and *Until* (time) are inherently negative and forbid *not* in their own clause.

39. *Hardly* / *Scarcely* pairs with *when* / *before*; *No sooner* pairs with *than*.

40. Sentences starting with *Hardly*, *Scarcely*, *No sooner*, *Never*, *Seldom*, *Little*, or *Only* + *adverbial* require auxiliary inversion (**Aux + Subject + Verb**).

41. *Although* / *Though* pairs with *yet* or a comma, never with *but*.

42. *Both* pairs with *and* (never *as well as*); *Between* pairs with *and* (never *to*).

43. In the active voice, *comprise*, *discuss*, *describe*, *reach*, *order*, *request*, *attack*, *resemble*, *investigate*, *enter* (*room*), and *await* take no preposition.

44. In passive voice, *known*/*married*/*obliged* take *to*; *surprised*/*astonished*/*alarmed* take *at*; *pleased*/*satisfied*/*thronged* take *with*.

45. One dies *of* a disease/hunger, *from* a wound/overwork, *in* battle/harness, and *for* a country/belief.

46. One agrees *with* a person, *to* a proposal, and *on* a matter/terms.

47. One deals *in* goods/merchandise and deals *with* a person or problem.

48. In indirect speech of questions, convert question word order (**Aux + S + V**) into statement order (**S + Aux + V**).

49. Universal truths, proverbs, and scientific laws do not undergo tense backshift in indirect narration.

50. *Cope with* is the correct idiom (never *cope up with*); *dispose of* uses single *f* (never *dispose off*).

51. Only three English words end in **-ceed** (*Proceed*, *Succeed*, *Exceed*) and only one ends in **-sede** (*Supersede*).

52. Never use *back* after *return*, *retreat*, *recede*, *recall*, *reimburse*, or *refund*, and never use *again* after *repeat* or *recapitulate*.

53. Never use *away* after *flee*/*fled* or *enter into* for physical rooms (*enter into* means to sign an agreement/treaty).

54. *Disinterested* means impartial/unbiased; *Uninterested* means bored or lacking interest.

55. *Adverse* means unfavorable; *Averse* means strongly opposed (always takes *to*).

56. *Eminent* means famous/distinguished; *Imminent* means impending/about to happen soon.

57. *Ingenious* means clever/inventive; *Ingenuous* means innocent/candid.

58. *Prescribe* means to recommend officially; *Proscribe* means to ban or prohibit.

59. *Misogynist* hates women; *Misanthrope* hates mankind; *Misogamist* hates marriage; *Philanthropist* loves mankind.

60. In Para-Jumbles (PQRS), always place full proper nouns and expanded names before pronouns (*he/it/they*) and acronyms, verified via **IUC Academy Resources**.

IUC Academy *1-3-7-21* Day Spaced-Revision & Self-Assessment Tracker (www.iucacademy.com)

Chapter / Study Section	Day 1 (First Read)	Day 3 (Active Recall)	Day 7 (MCQ Drill)	Day 21 (Exam Ready)
1. Chapter 1: Parts of Speech — Nouns, Pronouns, Adjectives & Determiners	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
2. Chapter 2: Subject-Verb Agreement, Finite & Non-Finite Verbs & Modals	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
3. Chapter 3: Time & Tense, Conditionals, Subjunctive Mood & Causative Verbs	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
4. Chapter 4: Active-Passive Voice & Direct-Indirect Narration	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
5. Chapter 5: Prepositions, Conjunctions, Inversion & Parallelism	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
6. Chapter 6: High-Frequency Vocabulary — Root Words, Synonyms, Antonyms & One-Word Substitutions	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
7. Chapter 7: Idioms & Phrases, Phrasal Verbs & Contextual Collocations	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
8. Chapter 8: Reading Comprehension, Cloze Test & Para-Jumbles (PQRS)	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
9. Solved Exam Practice Questions (MCQs)	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
10. Extended Comparative & Analytical Practice Set (Questions 36–75)	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
11. Rapid-Fire Last-Minute One-Liner Revision Capsule	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**