

SENTENCE CONNECTORS

Let us first understand what exactly are Sentence Connectors?

- Another terminology for Sentence Connectors is “synthesis”.
- In such type of questions, we are provided with three phrases/connectors. Among these, we need to find out the correct option which when used in the beginning of the sentence will help combine the two statements in a coherent manner.
- We need to bear in mind that after using these connectors to connect these statements, the newly formed sentence should imply the same meaning as expressed in the statement sentences.
- These questions appear somewhat difficult, but are very easy to tackle after some practice and can help you score good marks in the exam.
- The need to join sentences stems from the fact that it will help avoid the monotony that may result due to the use of brief sentences. Hence, to combine them and give them rhythm and style of various lengths and structures, we use sentence connectors.
- Sentence Connectors are words and phrases that are used for the synthesis of sentences, i.e., connect two sentences into one sentence with coherence. “Coherence” means “the quality of being logical and consistent”.
- Hence, the correct sentence connector is one that maintains coherence in the given two statements.
- Sentence connectors are used to provide coherence to the statement or paragraphs by presenting a contrast, similarity, consequence, sequence, example, emphasis, dismissal, etc.
- Some important sentence connectors can also be learned by a mnemonic device i.e., “ON A WHITE BUS” is given below.
- The letters of this mnemonic stand for subordinating conjunctions of the English Language:

O: only if, once

N: now that

A: after, although, as

WH: where, wherever, when, whenever, whether, while

H: how

I: in case, if, in order that

T: though, that

E: even though, even if

B: before, because

U: until, unless

S: since, so that

Apart from them, there are other ways too to connect simple, complex and compound sentences. They can also be joined by the use of participle, punctuation, initiative, adjective

clause, adverbial phrase, adverbial clause, etc. We will try to understand a few of these techniques.

Example 1:

1. We should move away from here.
2. The storm is approaching.

- (i) Considering that
- (ii) Although we should
- (iii) As the storm

1. Only (i)
2. Only (ii)
3. Only (iii)
4. Both (i) and (ii)
5. Both (i) and (iii)

Explanation:

In the first statement, it has been stated that “the storm is approaching”. Hence, it is an alarming situation for someone present over there. The second statement states an action that should be taken considering the above problem. The first option, “considering that” gives coherence to the two statements if combined - “Considering that the storm is approaching, we should move away from here”. “Considering that” is used to indicate that one is thinking about a particular fact/problem/situation when making a judgment or decision.

The second option “although we should” states a contrast and when added to the beginning of any of the given two statements it does not make sense. For example, “Although the storm is approaching, we should move away from here.” This statement is not logical. The key to solving questions based on sentence connectors lies in making the statements logical and consistent.

The third option “As the storm” consists of “as”. We use “as” in the beginning of a sentence to “state the reason for something”. Hence, in the given statement, it is stating the reason to leave a particular place due to imminent danger.

Example 2:

1. They were afraid.
2. The cat would eat them up.

- (i) that anytime
- (ii) as a matter of fact
- (iii) knowing that

Explanation:

These two sentences can be combined in many ways. By using option (i), “They were afraid that anytime the cat would eat them up.” It can also be combined by using option (iii), They

were afraid, knowing that the cat would eat them up. Option (ii) is incorrect for combining these sentences because “as a matter of fact” is used to emphasis sentences.

Example 3:

1. The love and adulation he amasses only continues to grow with each passing day.
2. It has been about four years that Sachin retired.

- (i) As it
- (ii) All in all
- (iii) Although

1. Only (i)
2. Only (ii)
3. Only (iii)
4. Both (i) and (ii)
5. Both (i) and (iii)

Explanation:

The given two statements present a contrasting fact that despite the retirement of Sachin about four years ago, his popularity has been growing as the time passes. Now option (i) does not give coherence to the statements. “As” in the beginning of the sentence is used to state a reason.

In the second option, “all in all” is used to state consideration of all aspects of something together.

The third option, “although” is the correct connector to be used. “Although” means “in spite of the fact that”. Hence, the correct answer should be option C.

Example 4:

1. She knows nothing about him.
2. He is young and handsome.

- (i) Although he is
- (ii) Except that
- (iii) However, she knows

1. Only (i)
2. Only (ii)
3. Only (iii)
4. Both (i) and (ii)
5. Both (i) and (iii)

Explanation:

In the above-given statements, two different statements are given in which the first one states that the lady knows nothing about a particular person whereas a fact about that

person is mentioned. The given statements can be used by using “except that” - “She knows nothing about him except that he is young and handsome”.

Example 5:

1. He keeps his pistol in a holster.
2. This is the holster.

- (i) along with his
(ii) in fact
(iii) where he keeps

1. Only (i)
2. Only (ii)
3. Only (iii)
4. Both (i) and (ii)
5. Both (i) and (iii)

Explanation:

In the above-mentioned statements, one statement states information and the other statement provides a brief description. Such types of sentences can be added by the use of “adjective clauses”. These two statements can be added in the given way – This is the holster where he keeps his pistol.

Hence, after careful scrutiny of the given statements and understanding their implied meaning you can use appropriate sentence connectors from the given options. A little practice will immensely help you in making you comfortable in identifying the conveyed meaning of the statements and enable you to use appropriate sentence connectors to combine the sentences.

Directions: You are required to match statements from columns 1 and 2 and find which of the following pairs of statement make sense meaningfully and grammatically.

Question 1:

Column (1)		Column (2)	
(A)	The eagle was afraid to fly into the sky	(D)	in spite of the Internet has a plethora of options.
(B)	The shrewd businessman quickly	(E)	after remain in captivity for two years.
(C)	Freelancing has always been a popular way to earn money online	(F)	grabbed beneath the opportunity and earned a huge pile of money.

- A. Only A-E and C-D
- B. Only B-F and C-D
- C. Only A-E and B-F
- D. Only C-D
- E. None of these

Answer: E

Explanation:

Checking A-E:

The eagle was afraid to fly into the sky after remain in captivity for two years.

The above sentence is grammatically erroneous. The usage of 'remain' is incorrect. It should have been 'remaining' instead of 'remain'. Hence, the pair A-E is invalid.

Checking B-F:

The shrewd businessman quickly grabbed beneath the opportunity and earned a huge pile of money.

The above sentence is grammatically erroneous. The correct preposition after 'grabbed' would be 'onto'. Hence, the pair B-F is invalid.

Checking C-D:

Freelancing has always been a popular way to earn money online in spite of the Internet has a plethora of options.

The above sentence is grammatically erroneous. The usage of 'in spite of' in the above sentence is incorrect. The correct word in front of 'the internet' would be 'and' instead of the expression 'in spite of'. Hence, the pair C-D is invalid.

Hence, option E is the correct answer.

Question 2:

Column (1)		Column (2)	
(A)	The audience gave the veteran musician	(D)	in the country today and covers over 50 per cent of Kerala households.
(B)	Kudumbashree is one of the largest women- empowerment projects	(E)	a standing ovation.
(C)	Children who have been victims of violence are more	(F)	likely to drop out of high school before graduation than their peers.

- A. Only A-E
- B. Only A-E and B-D
- C. Only B-D and C-F
- D. A-E, B-D and C-F
- E. None of these

Answer: D

Explanation:

Checking A-E:

The audience gave the veteran musician a standing ovation.

The above sentence is correct both grammatically and contextually. Hence, the pair A-E is valid.

Checking B-D:

Kudumbashree is one of the largest women- empowerment projects in the country today and covers over 50 per cent of Kerala households.

The above sentence is correct both grammatically and contextually. Hence, the pair B-D is valid.

Checking C-F:

Children who have been victims of violence are more likely to drop out of high school before graduation than their peers.

The above sentence is correct both grammatically and contextually. Hence, the pair C-F is valid.

Hence, option D is the correct answer.

Question 3:

Column (1)		Column (2)	
(A)	The tsunami swept over the island	(D)	will spur more Indian entrepreneurship.
(B)	The printer was out of ink and	(E)	hence showed promise of growth and vitality.
(C)	Hopefully the momentum at both PhonePe and Paytm	(F)	and destroyed over 2 billion dollars of property.

- A. Only A-F
- B. Only A-F and B-E
- C. Only A-F and C-D
- D. Only C-D
- E. None of these

Answer: C

Explanation:

Checking A-F:

The tsunami swept over the island and destroyed over 2 billion dollars of property.

The above sentence is correct both grammatically and contextually. Hence, the pair A-F is valid.

Checking B-E:

The printer was out of ink and hence showed promise of growth and vitality.

Contextually speaking, the above sentence does not make any sense. Hence, the pair B-E is invalid.

Checking C-D:

Hopefully the momentum at both PhonePe and Paytm will spur more Indian entrepreneurship.

The above sentence is correct both grammatically and contextually. Hence, the pair C-D is valid.

Hence option C is the correct answer.

Question 4:

Column (1)		Column (2)	
(A)	The angry mob	(D)	on the lines of defense public sector undertakings.
(B)	The Centre is considering converting the factories into multiple companies	(E)	beat upon the thief mercilessly.
(C)	The four indicators for the hunger index	(F)	are undernourishment, child stunting, child wasting and child mortality.

- A. Only A-E
- B. Only B-D
- C. Only C-F

- D. Only B-D and C-F
- E. None of these

Answer: D

Explanation:

Checking A-E:

The angry mob beat upon the thief mercilessly.

The sentence is grammatically erroneous. The correct preposition after 'beat' should have been 'up' instead of 'upon'. The pair A-E is hence invalid.

Checking B-D:

The Centre is considering converting the factories into multiple companies on the lines of defense public sector undertakings.

The above sentence is correct both grammatically and contextually. Hence, the pair B-D is valid.

Checking C-F:

The four indicators for the hunger index are undernourishment, child stunting, child wasting and child mortality.

The above sentence is correct both grammatically and contextually. Hence, the pair C-F is valid.

Hence, option D is the correct answer.

Question 5:

Column (1)		Column (2)	
(A)	My sister fought with two boys	(D)	his son failed to secure good marks of Mathematics.
(B)	The anguished cricketer lashed out	(E)	and won the surprise tests.
(C)	The father was deeply pained as	(F)	at the journalists when they went to ask him questions.

- A. Only A-E
- B. Only B-F
- C. Only C-D
- D. Only A-E and C-D
- E. None of these

Answer: B

Explanation:

Checking A-E:

My sister fought with two boys and won the surprise tests.

The sentence does not make any sense contextually. The pair A-E is hence invalid.

Checking B-F:

The anguished cricketer lashed out at the journalists when they went to ask him questions.

The above sentence is correct both grammatically and contextually. Hence, the pair B-F is valid.

Checking C-D:

The father was deeply pained as his son failed to secure good marks of Mathematics.

The sentence does not make any sense grammatically. The correct preposition in front of "Mathematics" should have been 'in' instead of 'of'. The pair C-D is hence invalid.

Hence, option B is the correct answer.

