

In SBI Clerical Cadre (Phase-I) Examination 3-6 questions based on Sentence Improvement may be asked. In the questions based on Sentence Improvement or Phrase Substitution, a sentence is given with a part/ phrase printed in bold, italics or underlined. This part may or may not require improvement. Below the sentence are given four alternatives as a substitute for this part. The candidate is required to choose the alternative which makes the sentence grammatically correct. If the sentence is correct as it is and no correction is required, the candidate should choose the fifth alternative.

The purpose and nature of these questions are similar to those of questions based on spotting errors. For solving these questions you should have good knowledge of grammatical rules, appropriate use of words, idioms and phrases and superfluous expressions. The only advantage is that the candidate knows which part of the sentence is to be focused on.

Rapid Clues

- First, read the sentence and understand its meaning.
- Now focus on the part which is to be improved.
- Try to find out the error in this part in the context of the whole sentence.
- Look for the inappropriate and superfluous words.
- There may be error in the use of phrasal verbs or idioms and phrases.
- Read all the answer choices before selecting the answer.
- The sentence may not require any improvement. So don't make an extra effort to find the error.

Practice Questions

Directions (Q. Nos. 1 - 100) Which of the phrases (1), (2), (3) and (4) should replace the phrase given in bold in the sentence to make it grammatically correct? If the sentence is correct as it is given, mark 'No correction required' as your answer.

1. Shilpa was going to the temple, **then Parul came on meet her.**

- (1) after Parul was coming to
- (2) when Parul was coming to
- (3) when Parul came to
- (4) before Parul was coming to
- (5) No correction required

2. There is nothing **quite miserable** than handicap at such a tender age.

- (1) as miserable
- (2) more miserable
- (3) so miserable
- (4) very miserable
- (5) No correction required

3. They felt **humiliated** because they realised that they **had cheated.**

- (1) had been cheating
- (2) had been cheated
- (3) have been cheated
- (4) were to be cheated
- (5) No correction required

4. I love **the literature, the music, the art.**

- (1) literature, music and art
- (2) the literature, music and art
- (3) literature, music and the art
- (4) the literature, the music and the art
- (5) No correction required



spardhaguru2022



Spardhaguru Current affairs



Spardhaguru1



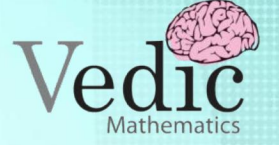
SpardhaGuru



Spardha.guru



www.spardha.guru



5. When the professor fell off the stool, the students could not **avoid to laugh**.

- (1) avoid laughing
- (2) refrain to laugh
- (3) avoid laughter
- (4) stop laughter
- (5) No correction required

6. What **does agonise me most** is not this criticism, but the trivial reason behind it.

- (1) I most agonised
- (2) most agonising me
- (3) agonises me most
- (4) agonising me most
- (5) No correction required

7. The indecisive man **was readily persuaded** to change his mind again.

- (1) was persuaded ready
- (2) was ready to persuade
- (3) was ready persuaded
- (4) could readily persuade
- (5) No correction required

8. Galileo said that the Earth **revolved** around the Sun.

- (1) has revolved
- (2) has been revoking
- (3) revolves
- (5) No correction required
- (4) is revolving

9. Sumit **would have been looked** smart in traditional clothes.

- (1) was looked
- (2) would be looked
- (3) had looking
- (4) would have looked
- (5) No correction required

10. **Being worked for** the whole day, you should have taken some rest and started the work tomorrow.

- (1) After having work
- (2) Having worked for
- (3) Working for
- (4) After being worked for
- (5) No correction required

11. I wish **I have** all those luxuries my friend has.

- (1) I will have
- (2) I am having
- (3) I had
- (4) I had been having
- (5) No correction required

12. Mrs. Johnson **had staying** here, since 1954 and has made India her home.

- (1) will stay
- (2) was to stay
- (3) is staying
- (4) has been staying
- (5) No correction required

13. The young hikers went **as far as** they finally got lost in the valley.

- (1) so far that
- (2) too far that
- (3) so far as that
- (4) very far therefore
- (5) No correction required

14. Rajni unnecessarily **picked up** a quarrel with Kashish and left the party hurriedly.

- (1) picking up
- (2) picked on
- (3) picked
- (4) has picked up
- (5) No correction required





spardhaguru2022



Spardhaguru Current affairs



Spardhaguru1



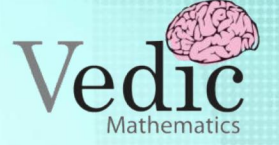
SpardhaGuru



Spardha.guru



www.spardha.guru



15. He spent much time and energy over it and lost a sum **in the bargain**.

- (1) off the bargain
- (2) for the bargain
- (3) into the bargain
- (4) with the bargain
- (5) No correction required

16. Because of his mastery in this field, his suggestions **are wide accepted**.

- (1) are widely accepted
- (2) are wide acceptance
- (3) have widely accepted
- (4) have been wide accepted
- (5) No correction required

17. The various practices and norms for bank's transactions **are laid down** by the Reserve Bank of India.

- (1) are laid up
- (2) are laid down
- (3) are lead up
- (5) No correction required
- (4) have been lay down

18. It will take two hours to walk **across** the forest.

- (1) over
- (2) between
- (3) away
- (4) through
- (5) No correction required

19. It shall depend on **they finishing** on time.

- (1) they finish
- (2) them finishing
- (3) their finishing
- (4) their's finishing
- (5) No correction required

20. The unemployment rate has dropped sharply this month. **though it may only be temporary**.

- (1) but it may be only temporary
- (2) but the drop may only be temporary
- (3) even though the drop may only be temporary
- (4) but such a drop may only be a temporary one
- (5) No correction required

21. Bad movies affect people living in today's society more than **they did** in previous years.

- (1) they had been done
- (2) they had been doing
- (3) they had done
- (4) they were doing
- (5) No correction required

22. All work and no play **make** Jack a dull boy.

- (1) made
- (2) would make
- (3) makes
- (4) maketh
- (5) No correction required

23. He is in the habit of purchasing the very good of all the things available.

- (1) the most good
- (2) the better
- (3) the very better
- (4) the best
- (5) No correction required

24. I shall finish up the work by the end of **this present month**.

- (1) this month
- (2) this very month
- (3) this same month
- (4) this current month
- (5) No correction required





spardhaguru2022



Spardhaguru Current affairs



Spardhaguru1



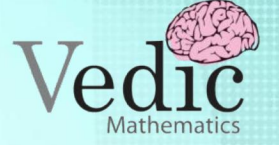
SpardhaGuru



Spardha.guru



www.spardha.guru



25. **Having had** in the Foreign Service for a long time.
Mr. Verma has met many prominent personalities.

- (1) Having
- (2) He has been
- (3) Having been
- (4) Had he been
- (5) No correction required

26. Right there she decided that she too **would become** part of that world.

- (1) also will become
- (2) too will become
- (3) too might become
- (4) too could become
- (5) No correction required

27. They continued to work in the field **despite of the heavy rains.**

- (1) inspite the heavy rains
- (2) although heavily rains
- (3) even though it rained heavily
- (4) even though there is heavy rain
- (5) No correction required

28. One of the men gave first aid to Hitesh **who is injured** in a road accident.

- (1) who had injured
- (2) who was injured
- (3) which was injured
- (4) as he was to injure
- (5) No correction required

29. The weather was not good; it was a **bit** pleasant.

- (1) rather
- (2) to some extent
- (3) fairly
- (4) a little
- (5) No correction required

30. People are generally found **absorbing** in the activity which they like most.

- (1) absorb
- (2) absorbed
- (3) observe
- (4) observing
- (5) No correction required

31. **Had you been told** me about your problem, I would have helped you.

- (1) Had you told
- (2) Had you have told
- (3) you have told
- (4) you would have told
- (5) No correction required

32. Can you tell me **why did you not speak** the truth?

- (1) why did not you speak
- (2) that why did you not speak
- (3) why you did not speak
- (4) why did you not spoke
- (5) No correction required

33. Had we been on time, we **would not have** missed the train.

- (1) will not have
- (2) might have
- (3) would have been
- (4) had not
- (5) No correction required

34. He was born **to** rich parents.

- (1) from
- (2) with
- (3) by
- (4) of
- (5) No correction required





spardhaguru2022



Spardhaguru Current affairs



Spardhaguru1



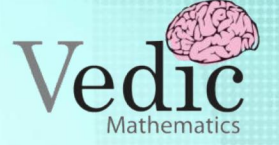
SpardhaGuru



Spardha.guru



www.spardha.guru



35. In **quick time** he got attached to a renowned leader and politician.

- (1) in enough time
- (2) In brief time
- (3) in not time
- (4) On time only
- (5) No correction required

36. Your statement that you were **through ignorant** of the consequences cannot be trusted.

- (1) throughly in ignorance
- (2) throughly ignorance
- (3) through of ignorance
- (4) throughly ignorant
- (5) No correction required

37. The man to **who I sold** my house was a cheat.

- (1) to whom I sell
- (2) to who I sell
- (3) who was sold to
- (4) to whom I sold
- (5) No correction required

38. If you get confused while performing the act, just **don't stop to try**.

- (1) keep your try on
- (2) continue you tries
- (3) not give up trying
- (4) keep on trying
- (5) No correction required

39. Books for the used-book sales should be in good condition **and should have no writing in them or be underlined**.

- (1) without having any writing or no underlining in them
- (2) and contain no writing or underlining
- (3) without containing writing or be underlined
- (4) and should not have writings written or not be underlined
- (5) No correction required

40. We must **fight shy from** wicked company.

- (1) fight shy with
- (2) fight shy off
- (3) fight shy of
- (4) shy from
- (5) No correction required

41. When it was dark they decided to put at an inn.

- (1) put up at
- (2) put in at
- (3) put off with
- (4) put out in
- (5) No correction required

42. A true soldier is always **prepared to lie** down his life for the sake of the nation.

- (1) prepared to lay
- (2) preparing to lie
- (3) preparing to be laid
- (4) prepared to be laying
- (5) No correction required

43. The assistant was asked that why he was generally late.

- (1) why was he
- (2) why that he was
- (3) why he was
- (4) that why he had been
- (5) No correction required

44. Our departure from this place now depends on **their coming** here.

- (1) they come
- (2) them coming
- (3) they coming
- (4) their's coming
- (5) No correction required





spardhaguru2022



Spardhaguru Current affairs



Spardhaguru1



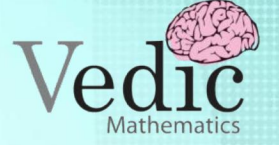
SpardhaGuru



Spardha.guru



www.spardha.guru



45. Don't forget to telephone me after you **reach** Delhi.

- (1) shall reach
- (2) you have reached
- (3) would reach
- (4) will have reached
- (5) No correction required

46. He **should not had** done it.

- (1) should had not
- (2) should not have
- (3) should have
- (4) had not
- (5) No correction required

47. We **have heard** her lecture yesterday.

- (1) were hearing
- (2) would have heard
- (3) heard
- (4) had been hearing
- (5) No correction required

48. They were all charmed by the **sweet and soothing** music.

- (1) sweet and soothingly
- (2) sweetly but soothing
- (3) sweetened and soothing
- (4) sweetly and soothing
- (5) No correction required

49. Desertification, **condition of the desert spreading into previously arable land**, is threatening the planet.

- (1) spread of desert conditions into previously arable land
- (2) condition where the desert spreads into previously arable land
- (3) spread of conditions of desert where land was previously arable
- (4) the situation when desert conditions spread into previously arable land
- (5) No correction required

50. Anand has the guts **to rise from** the occasion and **come out successful**.

- (1) to rise against
- (2) in rising from
- (3) to rise to
- (4) to raise with
- (5) No correction required

51. He is **too kind** man to refuse to help in such a case.

- (1) a too kind
- (2) a too kindly
- (3) too kind a
- (4) too kindly a
- (5) No correction required

52. **If you have been** careful, you could have avoided the accident.

- (1) Have you had been
- (2) if you are
- (3) Had you have been
- (4) Had you been
- (5) No correction required

53. Had we been alone, we would have contended ourselves with any plain food that **give** us strength.

- (1) should give
- (2) would give
- (3) gives
- (4) would have given
- (5) No correction required

54. He has been receiving no other message that an urgent telegram **asking him to rush his village immediately**.

- (1) asking him rushing at his village
- (2) asked him to rush his village
- (3) asking him to have rush his village
- (4) asking him to rush to his village
- (5) No correction required





spardhaguru2022



Spardhaguru Current affairs



Spardhaguru1



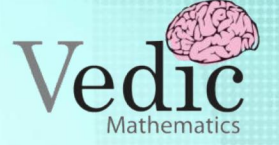
SpardhaGuru



Spardha.guru



www.spardha.guru



55. He has been living in Delhi **since** the last two years.

- (1) from
- (2) ever since
- (3) for
- (4) since about
- (5) No correction required

56. How one earned money is more important than how much **he earned?**

- (1) he earns
- (2) he has earned
- (3) one earns
- (4) one earned
- (5) No correction required

57. The prisoners walked slowly for they knew that as soon as they **cross** the gate the jailor would ask them to jog.

- (1) crossed
- (2) would cross
- (3) had crossed
- (4) shall cross
- (5) No correction required

58. We **must make for** our foreign policy on the basis of guarding national interest alone.

- (1) must make to
- (2) have made for
- (3) must make
- (4) must be making to
- (5) No correction required

59. To make him succeed, the correct thing to do is to punish him **until he does not try.**

- (1) until he tries
- (2) until he does try
- (3) until he will not try
- (4) until he did not try
- (5) No correction required

60. The custom **of many centuries ago origin** is slowly disappearing.

- (1) which was originated ago many centuries
- (2) originating for many centuries
- (3) which originated many centuries ago
- (4) with many centuries of origin
- (5) No correction required

61. He is not **in the good books** of his master.

- (1) in the good book
- (2) into the good books
- (3) in the better books
- (4) in the best book
- (5) No correction required

62. Rohit assured Sunita that he **would look at** her work while she was on leave.

- (1) would overlook
- (2) would look after
- (3) would look down upon
- (4) will look
- (5) No correction required

63. **Have you not reached** in time, we would have lost our lives.

- (1) Had you not reach
- (2) If you have not reached
- (3) Had you not reached
- (4) If you would not have reached
- (5) No correction required

64. I told what to do and how **he does it.**

- (1) should he do it
- (2) to do it
- (3) should it be done
- (4) he did it
- (5) No correction required





spardhaguru2022



Spardhaguru Current affairs



Spardhaguru1



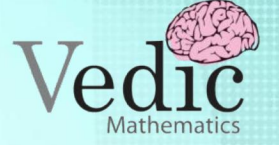
SpardhaGuru



Spardha.guru



www.spardha.guru



65. **By definition, make a map** is to select certain features as relevant and ignore others.

- (1) To make a map by definition
- (2) Map-making is defined as
- (3) In making a map, the definition
- (4) The map making process involves, by defining
- (5) No correction required

66. The experience was as important to the artists as it was to the thousands **who comprise** the audience.

- (1) who did comprise
- (2) who comprised
- (3) who would comprise
- (4) who comprised of
- (5) No correction required

67. The accused now flatly denies **have admitted** his guilt in this first statement.

- (1) has admitted
- (2) having admitted
- (3) had admitted
- (4) have been admitting
- (5) No correction required

68. The Chinese **are said to have** invented ice-cream almost three thousand years ago.

- (1) are said that they
- (2) are saying to have
- (3) have been said to have
- (4) had said to have
- (5) No correction required

69. The roads are wet; it **must had** rained last night.

- (1) might had
- (2) must have been
- (3) must have
- (4) would have
- (5) No correction required

70. You will be late if you **do not leave** now.

- (1) will not leave
- (2) did not leave
- (3) left
- (4) did not happen to leave
- (5) No correction required

71. **If was a week** since he came home to his mother.

- (1) is a week
- (2) shall be a week
- (3) has been a week
- (4) had been a week
- (5) No correction required

72. This project would encourage development and enable villager **to govern their** own destiny.

- (1) to govern his
- (2) to governing his
- (3) may govern there
- (4) have governed their
- (5) No correction required

73. My elder sister and her daughter **helps me in** my domestic work.

- (1) helps me for
- (2) help me in
- (3) help me about
- (4) helped me about
- (5) No correction required

74. Ashutosh **had occupying** this house for over 25 years and has no intention of vacating it now.

- (1) is occupying
- (2) will occupy
- (3) was to occupy
- (4) has been occupying
- (5) No correction required





spardhaguru2022



Spardhaguru Current affairs



Spardhaguru1



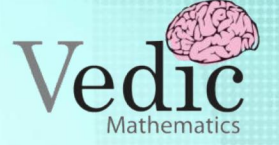
SpardhaGuru



Spardha.guru



www.spardha.guru



75. Hardly had I finished writing the letter **before** Anil arrived.

- (1) then
- (2) while
- (3) when
- (4) as
- (5) No correction required

76. The main point of **his speech** was well understood.

- (1) that he spoke
- (2) in the speech of his
- (3) made when he spoke
- (4) made by his speech
- (5) No correction required

77. After the successful performance of the great actor was over, there was **thunder-struck** applause for a few minutes.

- (1) fearful
- (2) cheerful
- (3) decisive
- (4) thunderous
- (5) No correction required

78. Despite his old age, his movements were as spirited as **a young man**.

- (1) a young man's
- (2) if a young man
- (3) those of a young man
- (4) of a young man
- (5) No correction required

79. **Not only did he criticise** the party's policies but also the leader's personal matters.

- (1) He criticised not only
- (2) He not only criticised
- (3) Neither did he criticise
- (4) He did not criticise
- (5) No correction required

80. The workers **protested** the Management's decision of not giving bonus that year.

- (1) protested to
- (2) protested against
- (3) protested at
- (4) protested for
- (5) No correction required

81. **All along the journey** she remained silent.

- (1) All along in the journey
- (2) All during the journey
- (3) All through the journey
- (4) Throughout all journey
- (5) No correction required

82. Taxes are high in this country, **aren't they?**

- (1) aren't taxes?
- (2) don't they?
- (3) do they?
- (4) isn't it?
- (5) No correction required

83. To succeed in a difficult task, **persistent is needed**.

- (1) persistence was needed
- (2) persistence is what one needs
- (3) one needs to be persistent
- (4) presistence should have needed
- (5) No correction required

84. You are **a most** unusual person.

- (1) most
- (2) a mostly
- (3) mostly
- (4) the mostly
- (5) No correction required





spardhaguru2022



Spardhaguru Current affairs



Spardhaguru1



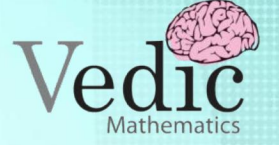
SpardhaGuru



Spardha.guru



www.spardha.guru



85. He never recollected his grandfather **to say** that his job was odd.

- (1) say
- (2) to have said
- (3) saying
- (4) while saying
- (5) No correction required

86. Inspite of all those hurdles, the scheduled day **came of** in a few months.

- (1) came up
- (2) came on
- (3) came off
- (4) came over
- (5) No correction required

87. If you have paid only twenty rupees for this purse, it **has really cheap**.

- (1) has really cheapest
- (2) is really cheap
- (3) has been really cheapest
- (4) is real cheap
- (5) No correction required

88. The artist continues to work **in** the medium he understands best, breathing his inborn individuality and vitality into newer forms.

- (1) within
- (2) for
- (3) into
- (4) with
- (5) No correction required

89. He found the gold coin **as he cleans** the floor.

- (1) while he cleans
- (2) as he had cleaning
- (3) as he was cleaning
- (4) while cleaning
- (5) No correction required

90. We demonstrated to them how we **were prepared** the artistic patterns.

- (1) are prepared
- (2) have prepared
- (3) are preparing
- (4) had prepared
- (5) No correction required

91. I **earnestly believe that** you will visit our relatives during your forthcoming trip to Mumbai.

- (1) certainly believing that
- (2) could not believe
- (3) had hardly believe
- (4) sincerely would believe
- (5) No correction required

92. Why **did you not spoken** to me earlier?

- (1) did you not spoke
- (2) you did not speak
- (3) did you not speak
- (4) were you not spoken
- (5) No correction required

93. Kalidas is the greatest of **all** other dramatists.

- (1) most other
- (2) the other
- (3) any other
- (4) all the
- (5) No correction required

94. The beautiful is not always the same **like the good**.

- (1) as good
- (2) like good
- (3) as the good
- (4) as like the good
- (5) No correction required





spardhaguru2022



Spardhaguru Current affairs



Spardhaguru1



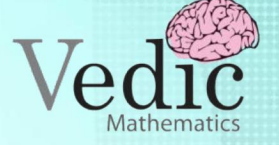
SpardhaGuru



Spardha.guru



www.spardha.guru



95. He dislikes the word dislike, **isn't he?**

- (1) does he
- (2) doesn't he
- (3) didn't he
- (4) hasn't he
- (5) No correction required

96. Try to be diplomatic when you refuse any invitation,
so far not cause bad feelings.

- (1) as far not
- (2) so as not
- (3) if as far not
- (4) since then not
- (5) No correction required

97. You **will have to** return my book whenever I ask for
it.

- (1) will have
- (2) would have to
- (3) will be
- (4) should have to
- (5) No correction required

98. People are **tiring** very soon in an activity which they
don't like.

- (1) tried
- (2) trying
- (3) tired
- (4) tying
- (5) No correction required

99. The question is, **how was** the motive of the robber
in this particular case?

- (1) what was
- (2) where was
- (3) when was
- (4) who was
- (5) No correction required

100. He doesn't hesitate to do whatever his brother
does.

- (1) will do
- (2) would do
- (3) shall do
- (4) would done
- (5) No correction required

