

## **SUBJECT-VERB AGREEMENT**

### **1. D**

The subject is 'a particular species' – so singular 'is' is required – options A,B and E are out. The correct idiom is 'susceptible to' and not 'of' – this is also wrong in C and E. So, D is the right answer. B also has 'this being the' and C has 'particularly' – both are awkward.

### **2. E**

The subject here is "initiatives" –for simplicity, you can ignore the non-essential modifier 'an important...1980's'. So a plural verb 'have' is required – so A, B, C are out. The plural 'gaps' is also unnecessary – another error in B and D. Logically, there's just one gap. Thus, E is the answer. A and D also cause a subtle shift in meaning – the intended meaning is that the gap has been decreased, but not sufficiently decreased. i.e. not to an expected/acceptable level. Both A and D imply that the initiatives have not been enough (sufficient) to reduce the gap. i.e. the gap wasn't reduced at all. Look at a simpler example:

Diet and exercise have not sufficiently reduced Diana's weight. → Diana's weight has decreased, but not sufficiently.

Diet and exercise are not sufficient to reduce Diana's weight. → Diana's weight has not decreased, despite diet and exercise.

### **3. E**

The Subject of the sentence is "The merger". Hence all the options with the plural verbs (B,C, and D) can be eliminated.

A changes the intended meaning of the sentence. We are talking about 2 different companies ( as in E ) but A makes it seem like one.

### **4. C**

The first subject is 'historical era' – this requires a singular verb 'has' – so A, D and E are all incorrect. The subject of the second half of the sentence is 'what is much more difficult to establish...', which again requires a singular verb 'is' – so B is incorrect.

**5. B**

The subject is 'resulting flow pattern', which requires a singular verb 'is' – so C, D and E are incorrect. A introduces a subtle meaning shift – the intended meaning is that though the pattern is formed by rapidly moving air, it remains stationary. This is evident through the use of the contrasting keyword 'although'. Option B brings out this contrast more clearly than A does.



**CHALLENGER QUESTION**

**6. B**

The subject 'Mercury and the other terrestrial planets' requires the plural verb 'rotate'. So A, C and D are incorrect. Similarly, the subject 'speed' requires a singular verb 'was' – C and D have this error also. In E, the use of 'as a result of' is incorrect. Let us take this example: Would you say, 'The speed of the vehicle is determined by the engine's power' or 'The speed of the vehicle is determined as a result of the engine's power? The former is correct. Apply the same logic here.