

SENTENCE CORRECTION – 3

PARALLELISM

1. A.

B(perceive...see...hear...sense...can identify), C (perceive...see...hear...can sense...can identify) violate parallelism. D and E are in passive form and thus, also violate parallelism.

2. A.

B (organized... offered... defining) violates parallelism. C disrupts the meaning – pronouns 'they' and 'its' have no legitimate antecedents. In D, 'whose' is inappropriate and 'their' has an ambiguous antecedent – could refer to rights, duties or resources. In E, meaning is disrupted. Additionally, passive voice is used.

3. B.

A (directed towards...increasing spending) violates parallelism. In C, the use of 'if' is unidiomatic; 'if' is used to indicate conditional statements. In D, 'debate about if' is unidiomatic; D also twists the meaning – seems to imply that 'lower prices' can come from 'spending increases'. In E, 'its direction towards' is unidiomatic, and does not bring out the intended meaning well.

4. E.

Parallel structure should be maintained between crowded and spread – C and D violate this. The canopies can either become too crowded or too spread out – but not both; so the use of conjunction 'and' is incorrect in A and B. Thus, E is the answer. Parallel structure should also be maintained between resulting and producing – B and D violate this.

5. D.

Both weakened and by growing concern is not parallel in A. Also, which refers to "dollar" in options A, B and E. Between C and D, though in both option forcing is an "ing" modifier after a clause that modifies the entire preceding clause correctly, in C, both because it was weakened is not parallel to by growing fears

6. A

First, understand the intended meaning. how did Bronfman astound his family, friends and neighbors? By filing a deed of liberation (thus) setting free... 'and' is usually used to connect separate ideas – here, the ideas aren't separate. 'setting free' describes the deed of liberation. Therefore, C and D are incorrect. "astounded" and "set" should not be parallel – incorrect in C, D, E. In B, "more than the" is unidiomatic and absurd – if he has only 500 slaves, how can he set more free? There is also no need for the "as" at the end. Thus, A is the answer.

COMPARISONS

1. B

'Rate' -> hence singular 'is' – C and E are out. We are comparing rates – in A and D, rate is compared to places. So, B is correct.

2. D

Poems of Keats are being compared with poems of other poets – in A and B, comparison is between poems and poet. So, eliminate these. The correct idiom is more...than – so E is wrong. In C, 'those of any English poet' includes Keats himself – but we cannot compare Keats with himself. The comparison is between him and other poets – so D is the right answer.

3. C

Correct idiom is 'X years older than' (absolute numbers). To use "as old as", you need to have a multiplicative factor. i.e. twice as old as, 3 times as old as etc. So, A, B and D are wrong. 'supposedly' is an adverb and modifies Baltic. But the supposition is regarding the age of the sculptures and not their origins. i.e. there is no doubt that the stalactite sculptures are Baltic – what was originally supposed (and is now disproved because of the radiocarbon dating) was that these were the precursors to the ones in the Baltic region. So, 'Baltic precursors' as a whole must be modified and not 'Baltic' only. Hence, option C with 'supposed' is correct.

4. B

We can compare muscles with muscles and primates with dermoptera. A, D compare primates to dermoptera's muscles; B & E compare muscles to dermoptera. Only B compares primates and dermoptera.

5. A

The complete comparison is "more babies were born to women over the age of thirty than were born to women under the age of thirty" The focus is on the age of thirty and not on the babies. A simple X is more than Y construction will suffice.

6. C

In A, the 'it' doesn't have a clear antecedent – it should refer to the proportion of solar powered electricity in Hungary – but this is not mentioned. Right now, it could refer to solar power also. In B, electricity is compared to Hungary. In D, meaning is ambiguous because of the use of the phrase 'the energy' – which energy are we talking about? It could even mean that "over 2/3rd of Europe's energy comes from solar power in Hungary"! In E, wrong comparison. First half doesn't mention "energy from solar power in Switzerland" – so, improper comparison. Also, the 'it' is ambiguous, just as in A.