

Improvement of Sentences

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Practice Problems with Solution

A part of the sentence in the following questions is underlined. Below are given alternatives to the underlined part which may improve the sentence. Choose the option corresponding to the correct alternative that will improve the sentence without losing the meaning. In case no improvement is needed, choose the option accordingly

Question 1: His powerful desire brought about his downfall

- A: his intense desire
- B: his desire for power
- C: his fatal desire
- D: No improvement

Question 2: My opinion of the play is that it will win the National Award.

- A: opinion to
- B: opinion about
- C: opinion on
- D: No improvement

Question 3: One cannot be indifferent to one's health, can't one?

- A: can one
- B: can't it
- C: isn't it
- D: No improvement

Question 4: The mother with her children were expected.

- A: are
- B: was
- C: is
- D: No improvement

Question 5: Sohan is pleased by the news that came yesterday.

- A: has been pleased
- B: had been pleased
- C: was pleased
- D: No improvement

Question 6: She did not like the movie, nor I did.

A: nor did I

B: nor I liked it

C: nor did I like it

D: No improvement

Question 7: Old habits die hardly.

A: hard

B: too hard

C: much hardly

D: No improvement

Question 8: The cook-book is tailor-made for amateur vegan cooks.

A: mass produced

B: customized

C: professionally made

D: No improvement

Question 9: Loss of hair is one of the worst manifestations of aging.

A: indications

B: symbols

C: signs

D: No improvement

Question 10: Impurities in drinking water may be removed by placing small filtration devices at the sink and faucets.

A: sifting apparatus

B: sifting method

C: sifting mechanisms

D: No improvement

Answers and Solutions

1:- B

Solution: “desire for power” is what brought about his downfall. “powerful desire” and “desire for power” are different.

2:- B

Solution: “opinion” is generally followed by the adjective “about”

3:- A

Solution: Two negatives in an interrogative sentence will make it positive. If the sentence is negative, the question tag should be positive.

4:- B

Solution: When two subjects of different numbers are connected by the conjunction “with”, the verb will agree with the main subject. Here the main subject is “mother” and hence the verb will be singular.

5:- C

Solution: The verb is in past tense as “yesterday” is used in the sentence. Hence, “was pleased” is correct.

6:- A

Solution: The correct usage of “nor” is “nor did I”

7:- A

Solution: “hardly” means “almost not”. “hard” is used as an adverb here meaning “with difficulty”.

8:- B

Solution: “customized” means “made according to need” and it is the most suitable word here.

9:- C

Solution: “signs” is the most apt word to replace the underlined word in this context.

10:- C

Solution: “sifting mechanisms” is the apt word to replace “filtration devices”.

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