

# BANK EXAMS

## GENERAL ENGLISH

### NOUNS

#### Spotting Errors

**Spotting the Error questions are based mainly on simple grammar or on spellings. For this, you just need to know the basics of English grammar like singular/ plural usages and tenses. Practice is very important.**

1. "Can I (1)/ give you (2)/ an advice?", (3)/ My friend said to me. (4)/ No error (5).
2. He had cut the parcel (1)/ before (2)/ I brought (3)/ scissor. (4)/ No error (5).
3. The Director (1)/ ordered the clerk (2)/ to auction all the furnitures (3)/ since they are outdated. (4)/ No error (5).
4. The principal has asked (1)/ the teacher (2)/ to make the children (3)/ learn alphabets. (4)/ No error (5).
5. If ethics are (1)/ to be injected (2)/ into the people, (3)/ the government should take special measures. (4)/ No error (5).
6. The court has sent (1)/ summons (2)/ to the manager (3)/ to attend the court. (4)/ No error (5).
7. He sent (1)/ a word to me (2)/ to attend the meeting (3)/ without fail. (4)/ No error (5).
8. A country's (1)/ defence forces (2)/ need strong infantries (3)/ with men of patriotism and sacrifice. (4)/ No error (5).
9. Prepare an invoice (1)/ for poultry (2)/ which is (3)/ to be dispatched tomorrow. (4)/ No error (5).
10. A farmer seeking (1)/ to improve returns (2)/ from his crops (3)/ must work hard. (4)/ No error (5).
11. Some Non-governmental organisations (1)/ are actively engaged (2)/ in rooting out (3)/ certain abuses. (4)/ No error (5).
12. The stainless-steel glass (1)/ gleamed (2)/ as (3)/ it caught the light. (4)/ No error (5).
13. The manners (1)/ in which the task (2)/ was taken up (3)/ was criticised by all the members. (4)/ No error (5).
14. He left (1)/ for his quarter (2)/ after completing (3)/ his assignment. (4)/ No error (5).
15. The spectacles (1)/ which we saw (2)/ during our visit to (3)/ different places were enthralling. (4)/ No error (5).

#### Substitutions

16. **He has completed two - fifths of the work.**
  - 1) completed two fifth of work.
  - 2) had completed two-fifth of the work.
  - 3) will be completing two-fifth of the work.
  - 4) has completed two and fifth of the work.
  - 5) No correction required
17. **Mouses move freely** during nights in this street.
  - 1) Mice move freely
  - 2) Mousus move freely
  - 3) Mices move freely
  - 4) Mouses are moving freely
  - 5) No correction required
18. **The tail of a dog** is crooked.
  - 1) A dog's tail
  - 2) A tail of a dog
  - 3) The tail belonging to a dog
  - 4) A tail which a dog has
  - 5) No correction required

19. **Kalidasa's works have won** reputation all over the world.
- 1) The Kalidas works have won
  - 2) Works of Kalidasa's have won
  - 3) Kalidas works won
  - 4) The works belonging to Kalidasa have won
  - 5) No correction required
20. **The President of India's speech** was very interesting.
- 1) India President's speech
  - 2) India's President speech
  - 3) President India speech
  - 4) The Indian speech of the President
  - 5) No correction required
21. **Ravi and Rajan's shoes are** very expensive.
- 1) Ravi's and Rajan's shoes are
  - 2) Ravi's and Rajan shoes are
  - 3) Ravi and Rajan's shoes have been
  - 4) Ravi Rajans shoes were
  - 5) No correction required
22. **Wren and Martin's grammar book is** easy to follow.
- 1) Wren's and Martin's grammar book is
  - 2) Wren and Martin grammar book are
  - 3) Wren and Martin grammar book is
  - 4) Wren and the Martin's grammar books are
  - 5) No correction required
23. That is **Tagore the poet's house**.
- 1) Tagore poet's house
  - 2) The poet Tagore's house
  - 3) Poet Tagore's house
  - 4) Tagore's the poet's house
  - 5) No correction required
24. **Syllabi for all the courses** have been announced.
- 1) Syllabusses to all the courses
  - 2) Syllabuses for all the courses
  - 3) Syllabus for all the courses
  - 4) Syllabases for all the courses
  - 5) No correction required
25. **Woman students are protesting** against the decision.
- 1) Women student are protesting
  - 2) Woman students have protested
  - 3) Womens students are protesting
  - 4) Women students are protesting
  - 5) No correction required
26. **Synopses for all the topics** are meticulously prepared.
- 1) Synopsis for all the topics
  - 2) Synopsus for all the topics
  - 3) Sinopses for all the topics
  - 4) Synopsiis for all the topics
  - 5) No correction required

### ANSWERS

1-3: Replace 'an' with 'some' or a 'piece of'.

Exp: An article is not used before the Noun 'advice'.

2-4: Replace 'scissor' with 'scissors'.

Exp: Nouns like scissors, spectacles, police, people, trousers are treated as plurals.

3-3: Replace 'furnitures' with 'furniture'.

4-4: Replace 'alphabets' with 'alphabet'.

Exp (3 & 4): Nouns like 'furniture', alphabet, information, scenery, machinery, advice, grain, expenditure are used in singular only. Singular verb is used.

5-1: Replace 'are' with 'is'.

6-5: No error.

**Exp (5 & 6):** Nouns like ethics, summons, measles, optics are plural in form but are used in singular. It will be wrong to use plural verb with these nouns.

**7-2:** Delete 'a'.

**Exp:** 'Word' used in the sense of one's promise, assurance or message is not preceded by 'a'.

**8-3:** Replace 'infantries' with 'infantry'.

**9-3:** Replace 'is' with 'are'.

**Exp:** Collective nouns like cattle, public, poultry, gentry, police, cavalry, infantry etc are always used in plural, therefore plural verb is used.

**10-2:** Replace 'returns' with 'return'.

**Exp:** 'Return' singular means the actions of giving back or coming back. 'Returns' means an official statement that gives particular information to the government. (Eg: Census returns, Election returns etc.)

**11-5:** No error.

**Exp:** 'Abuse' singular means 'wrong use'. 'Abuses' plural means 'unjust customs or practices'.

**12-5:** No error.

**Exp:** 'Light' singular word has two meanings, 'radiance', 'a lamp'. 'Lights' plural word means 'lamps'. Here in this question 'light' means 'radiance'.

**13-1:** Replace 'manners' with 'manner'.

**Exp:** 'Manner' (singular word) means 'way'. Manners (plural word) means 'ways' and 'behaviour'.

**14-2:** Replace 'quarter' with 'quarters'.

**Exp:** 'Quarter' means 'a fourth' part, 'quarters' means 'lodgings'.

**15-5:** No error.

**Exp:** 'Spectacle' carries only one meaning. i.e., 'a sight', but 'spectacles' carries two meanings sights and eye-glasses.

**16-5:** We use 'two-thirds', 'three-fourths', 'two-fifths' etc to refer to fractions.

**17-1: Exp:** 'Mouse' is singular 'Mice' is plural which means 'rats'.

**18-1: Exp:** We use possessive form mainly with people or animals to show possession.

**19-5: Exp:** The possessive case does not always express possession, it also expresses origin. kind, authorship etc.

**20-5: Exp:** When a noun or a title consists of several words, the possessive sign is attached only to the last word.

**21-1: Exp:** Each of two or more connected nouns implying separate possession must take the possessive sign.

**22-5:** When two nouns are closely connected, the possessive sign is put to the latter.

**23-5:** When two nouns are in apposition, the possessive sign is put to latter only.

**e.g.:** Pencilin, the Fleming's discovery.

**24-5:** Some nouns ending in 'us' form their plural by dropping 'us' and adding 'i' or 'uses'. In the given question 'syllabi' or 'syllabuses' are plural of 'syllabus'. Though the second is also correct, we have to opt for No correction required since the given sentence is correct.

**25-4:** Both the elements are made plural where the first word is man / woman.

**26-5:** Nouns ending in 'is' characteristically change to 'es' in plural.

**Writer: B.Krishna Kumar**