

## Explanatory notes for SCHO2011103

### Explanatory notes for questions 1 to 30:

1. The adjective 'close' has 'closer' as its comparative form and 'closest' as its superlative. Mono syllabic adjectives usually form their comparatives and superlatives with -er and -est and not with 'more' and 'most'. The use of 'most close' is incorrect. The correction is '..... closest advisers'.
2. 'Much' is used before the comparative form of the adjective. 'This is much bigger/taller than .....'. Before the base form of the adjective we generally use 'very'. The correction is '..... was not very difficult, but ..... was much more difficult than .....
3. We use 'specially' to emphasize that something is done for a specific person or a particular reason. (Ex) This dress is specially designed for the queen. When we mean 'above all' we use 'especially'. In the given context it is more apt to use 'especially', in place of 'specially'.
4. The opposite of 'the most' is 'the least' and not 'the fewest'. Hence the correction is, '..... Harish the least'.
5. Not all words ending in 'ly' are adverbs. Some words ending in 'ly' can also be adjectives like friendly, likely, lonely, fatherly, silly, ugly, womanly etc. Here, 'lonely' is used as an adjective and it is incorrect to say, 'behaved unfriendly.' It has to be that 'his behaviour was unfriendly' or that he 'behaved in an unfriendly manner'.
6. The use of 'quietly', the adverb which means making very little noise, is inapt in this context. The use of the adverb 'quite' can suit the context. The sentence can be rewritten as either 'she is capable of .....
7. The use of the adverb 'calmly' is incorrect in this context. It has to be 'calm' meaning not showing anger.
8. 'Long' means of a specified distance or duration and 'far' means at/to a great distance. In this context, the appropriate adverb to be used is 'far' and not 'long'. The correction is, 'How far can you .....
9. The crowd is 'unusually large' and hence the use of 'unusually' before the verb 'came' is incorrect. "Unusually" is an adverb which is generally used only before adjectives. The correction is, '..... An unusually large crowd .....
10. 'Already' is an adverb of time which shows 'when' an action takes place. Here, he had completed the homework before his parents arrived. Hence 'already' is associated with the verb 'finish'. The correction is, 'Ravi had already completed his .....
11. The sequence of adjectives is incorrect in the given sentence. When two or more adjectives are used before a noun, we normally put those which express opinions or impressions (attractive) before those which express facts (young). Hence the correction in the first part is, 'The attractive, young woman .....
12. The adjective 'older' is used to refer to outsiders and 'elder' is used to refer to people within a family. Hence the correction is, '..... my elder sister .....
13. Adjectives are generally used before a noun or after a linking verb (eg, be, look, seem etc). However, some adjectives like afraid, alike, alive, alone, asleep, awake, content, ill, lit, sorry, sure, upset, well etc. are never used before a noun. It is incorrect to say, 'ill people', 'asleep man' or 'alive child'. The correction is '..... found a child which was alive .....
14. Certain adjectives like complete, favourite, ideal, perfect, inferior, superior, unique etc., are not used either with -er/-est or with more/most as they already have a comparative/superlative meaning. Hence the correction is, 'You have a unique handwriting .....
15. There are some adjectives that are generally used before a noun and not after a linking verb. For example it is incorrect to say, 'This certificate is medical' or, 'This energy is atomic'. It has to be 'a medical certificate' or 'atomic energy'. The correction in the given sentence is '..... facing an economic crisis.'
16. The superlative degree of bad is 'worst'. It is bad, worse and worst. 'Baddest' is incorrect. The correction is, "..... the worst film I've seen'.
17. The adjective 'big' which has a qualifier 'enough' normally goes after the noun. (Ex) 'a house big enough for his family', 'a vessel big enough to hold .....
18. There are two adjectives mentioned here, 'old' and 'forgetful'. When 'forgetful' is given in comparative, old is given as a plain adjective which is incorrect, as the sentence brings out a comparison. The correction is, '..... get older, you get more forgetful .....
19. We use little/less with uncountable nouns and few/fewer with plural countable nouns. Ex - a few minutes/a few of the passengers etc. The correction is ... has very little chance of ...'
20. In some contexts 'each' and 'every' can be used without much difference in their meaning. Ex - I feel like hitting her each/every time I see her. But we prefer each when we are thinking of people or things separately, one at a time. 'Every' is more common when we are thinking of people or things together, in a group like when we mean 'all' of them. Also 'every' and not each is used when it is followed by a number. Hence the correction is, '... leave every five minutes'.
21. We normally use 'some' in positive contexts. We use 'any' in negative contexts. The sentence suggests that there was 'no bread available' which is negative and hence the use of 'some' is incorrect in the first part of the sentence. 'A few' is not used with uncountable nouns like milk or water. Hence the corrections are, '... not got any bread ... got some milk .....
22. The use of 'much' meaning 'a lot' is incorrect. It is incorrect to say 'much fast'. Ex: He doesn't play much/eat much etc. The correction is, '..... doesn't speak very fast.'
23. 'Never' is used with an affirmative verb and 'ever' with a negative verb. Usually 'haven't ever' can be replaced by 'have never', but using negative in both places is ungrammatical. The correction is, 'He has never missed .....
24. When a comparison is made using 'than', the thing compared must be excluded from the class of things with which it is compared by using 'other'. The correction is, "..... all the other girls ....."

25. There are two adjectives given which refer to the same noun. They should maintain the same degree of comparison. (i e) both positive, both comparative or both superlative. Here 'expensive' is positive, whereas 'cheaper' is in the comparative degree. The correction is '..... some cheaper, some more expensive'. or '..... some cheap, some expensive.'
26. The comparison is between how much she spends and how much her husband spends. 'She spends more than what her husband does'. The given sentence sounds illogical as the comparison is made between 'the spending' and 'her husband'.
27. The use of 'northernest' or 'southernest' is ungrammatical. It has to be, "..... in the southernmost part of the city". Southernmost place is the one that is further towards the south than any other place.
28. In a comparison by means of a superlative, the latter term should include the former. The correction is, '..... the brightest of all stars.'
29. 'Of any' should not be used with superlatives. The given sentence can be rewritten as, 'He is more arrogant than any other man' or 'No other man is as arrogant as he' or 'He is the most arrogant man'.
30. 'Fast' is an adverb that does not take the 'ly' form. So the correction is ".....very fast".

#### ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR PRACTICE:

##### Explanatory notes for questions 1 to 10:

1. The person's handwriting is compared with the handwriting of all the others in the class. Hence, it has to take the superlative degree. The correction is, '... the worst in the class'.  
Choice (3)
2. Here, only two people are compared. When only two things/people are compared, the superlative degree is not used. The correction should be '... is more talented of the two'.  
Choice (3)
3. 'Elder' and 'eldest' imply seniority rather than age. They are chiefly used for comparisons within a family. But 'elder' is not used with 'than'. 'Elder' takes 'to'. '... am elder to my brother ...'.  
Choice (2)
4. Though 'further' and 'farther' can be used when we refer to distance, 'further' is the one we generally use (with abstract nouns) to mean additional or extra. (Ex) further delay / information / demands etc. It is incorrect to use 'farther' in these contexts. The correction, therefore, is, '... any further discussion ...'.  
Choice (3)
5. 'Well' is used to show degree or manner. In the sentence 'well' is incorrectly associated with 'like'. Removing it makes the sentence right.  
Choice (3)
6. If a sentence has a subject, verb, preposition and object, the adverb can be placed either before the preposition or after the object. (Ex) He looked at me suspiciously or He looked suspiciously at me. So in the given sentence the correction is 'turned out enthusiastically'.  
Choice (2)
7. 'Unfortunately' is a linking adverb which has to be used either in the beginning or at the end of a sentence. Here, there are two sentences linked with 'and' and the adverb goes with the idea given in the second sentence. Hence the correction is, '... and, unfortunately, I had not taken ...'.  
Choice (2)
8. The error is in part 2. Two adjectives are given to describe the player, fast and tall. While the first is given in the superlative (fastest) the second is not, which makes it grammatically incorrect. The correction is '....and the tallest player.....' 'very' can be eliminated  
Choice (2)
9. Part (2) has the error. The statement mentions one quality being 'more' than the other so 'more wise' is right here.  
Choice (2)
10. 'Favourite' is an adjective that logically cannot take a comparative or a superlative degree because we have chosen our 'favourite' subject among those available. So 'most' should be deleted.  
Choice (2)

##### Explanatory notes for questions 11 to 20:

11. The underlined part does not have the verb required.  
Choice (4)
12. The archipelago comprised of 1200 islands and it is fragile. This is the idea conveyed. Hence it is 'the fragile archipelago' and it 'is comprised of' 1200 islands. Option 2 does not have a main clause and hence the sentence remains incomplete.  
Choice (4)
13. 'One of the most' is followed by a plural noun and hence only option 3 is grammatically correct.  
Choice (3)
14. Here two things 'migration' and 'ethnic rivalry' are compared, so the comparative degree 'worse than' should be used.  
Choice (2)
15. The statement talks of something twenty years on, in the present, so the reference is to a past president so 'former' is the right adjective here.  
Choice (3)
16. When we talk of 'news' or 'trends' or 'fashions' the right adjective is 'latest'.  
Choice (1)
17. When we talk of 'quantities of water' we use the adjectives 'large' or 'small' not 'huge' or 'major'.  
Choice (4)
18. The arrangement of adjectives is incorrect here and should be 'the two main causes.....'.  
Choice (1)
19. Here the positioning of the adverb 'obviously' is incorrect. It should be placed immediately after the first element of the verb-'was obviously not...'.  
Choice (2)
20. The statement uses the 'to infinitive' construction so 'too is necessary to make the statement complete in meaning-'was too tired to walk'.  
Choice (3)