

Odd Sentence

'Sentence Exclusion' or 'Odd Sentence'

'Sentence Exclusion' or 'Odd Sentence' is a recent addition to banking competitive exams. Many aspirants are not well acquainted with these types of questions. In fact, odd sentence is nothing but a new way of presenting the old concept of Parajumbles. Aspirants are advised not to attempt questions without understanding the concept properly as it could be counter-productive.

In these types of questions, four sentences are given; out of which three of them when arranged in a logical sequence form a coherent paragraph, but one of them does not fit into the sequence. You have to choose the sentence which does not fit into the sequence.

Hence, to deal with the odd sentence, the aspirants should strategize in the following way -

1. Spot the sentence that is most likely to start a paragraph, that sentence which introduces an idea, or a concept, and which is not abrupt often starts a paragraph.
2. Now you have to establish a connecting link; here the parajumbles come into the picture. The sentence that is taking the idea forward on similar lines will come next in the sequence. Also, check whether the subjects in the sentences are linked or not.
3. Now repeat the step 2, see if there is some coherence to the paragraph that is formed after the logical arrangement of the sentences.
4. The sentence that is left from fitting into the sequence is your answer.

Keep in mind that the subject matter of odd sentence may be very similar to that of the other sentences but you have to see if it is logically related. Aspirants are advised not to make any haste while attempting this question because a little haste may cost you a question. So, if you are not convinced of the logical connectivity, you should not mark the answer. For this, develop your reading habit and practise a lot.

Here we give some examples which will make things clear:

Example 1: (d). The computer took 45 hours of non-stop computation.

- (c) Charles Babbage proposed the first general mechanical computer, the Analytical Engine in 1837.
- (a) This is not really surprising, because with eleven items of clothing the number of possible combinations is given by multiplying 11,10,9,8 and so on, which gives over 39 million combinations.
- (b) Someone once used the IBM computer to work out the number of ways of getting dressed with eleven items of clothing.

Answer : (c) b is the opening sentence, since it introduces the narrative. d will follow b, as it tells the chronology of the event. That is what happened next. This will be followed by a. Since a begins with the reflective pronoun, that indicates the action that happened in d. Anyways, the statement in 'c' does not relate to the passage, hence, an odd sentence.

Example 2 : (d) When briefing Kennedy, Eisenhower emphasized that the communist threat in Southeast Asia required priority.

- (a) John F. Kennedy, Democratic victor in the election of 1960, was at 43, the youngest man ever to win the presidency.
- (b) On television, in a series of debates with opponent Richard Nixon, he appeared able, articulate and energetic.
- (c) In the campaign, he spoke of moving aggressively into the new decade, for "the New Frontier is here whether we seek it or not".

Answer: (d) The statement 'd' just looks odd as it does not make a coherent paragraph with the other three sentences.

Example 3: (c) One day, a 17-year old shepherd boy came to visit his brothers and asked, "Why don't you stand up and fight the giant?"

- (d) We all know the story of David and Goliath, in which there was a giant who was bullying and harassing the children in the village.
- (b) But David said, "Okay! Let's go to the town and buy some eatables".
- (a) The brothers were terrified and they replied, "Don't you see he is too big to hit?"

Answer : (b) The sentence beginning with David saying that they should go to the town and buy some eatables does not fit into the above paragraph, hence, may be excluded.

EXERCISE

Directions: Four sentences are given below a, b, c and d. Of these, three statements are in logical order and form a coherent paragraph/ passage. From the given options, choose the option that does not fit into the sequence.

1. (a) The list of horrors goes on.
(c) And one in every five is malnourished.
(d) Nobody has been able to figure out a way to reduce the speed that is at the root of India's over-population problems: a baby born every second.
(b) Foods with a high content of absorbable micronutrients are considered the best means for preventing micronutrient deficiencies.
2. (b) In fact, it suites the purpose of the politicians, they can drag the people into submission by appealing to them in the name of religion.
(a) In order to inculcate, the unquestioning belief, they condemn the other states which do not follow their religion.
(d) The emergence of the theocratic states, where all types of crimes are committed in the name of religion of the Middle Ages is dangerous.
(c) Monarchy thus entails not only a political-administrative organization but also a "court society".
3. (d) It was something I knew that it would give me a chance to be my own boss.
(b) Today I have 800 on my staff, office and members.
(c) Although if you work for an ad agency in the 1960s, evidently it isn't there either.
(a) I was sick of working for others.
4. (d) Fire ripped through another pipeline in southern Nigeria, killing at least 40 people.
(b) Fuel is supplied not only to homes, but also to a variety of businesses and commercial establishments without any difficulty.
(a) The explosion was the third in two weeks.
(c) Police were deployed to stop villagers from stealing fuel from other pipelines.
5. (d) You would be very surprised indeed to find it hot.
(b) Cold, of course.
(c) Rivers are the most obvious and significant feature of the landscape.
(a) When you go bathing in a river or a pond, do you expect the water to be hot or cold?
6. (b) In a number of cases, the drivers have refused to carry passengers according to the meter reading despite it being in working condition.
(a) Refusal to carry commuters to their respective destinations is another common complaint which has been lodged with the call centres.
(d) The most shocking is the complaints about misbehaviour by the rickshaw drivers with the passengers.
(c) It's hard to reconcile the image of the paan-chewing driver greeting you with 'Good morning'.
7. (b) Finish specialists recommended a chewing gum containing xylitol - a natural sweetener present in birch, maple, corn and straw - to be used several times a day by young children.
(c) Chewing gum is a new solution that "may work for parents whose children suffer from chronic ear infections.
(a) Sugared gums can with heavy use cause tooth decay, gum disease and cavities.
(d) After Finish studies showed that xylitol is effective in preventing cavities, a team of researchers decided to investigate its effects on a very similar type of bacteria which causes ear infections.
8. (d) The CEO's leadership role also entails being ultimately responsible for all day-to-day management decisions.
(a) The chief executive had done an excellent job in welding a group of motley and successful companies into one profitable company.
(b) It is not surprising that company had been sitting on a cash hoard of about \$24 billion year after year without any attempt to use it for growth or development.
(c) The chief executive of the General Electric Company in England once told me that he was very happy when there were no problems in any of his many divisions.
9. (d) Businesses often feel that since they have a lot of market muscle and in such a dominant position, maintenance will be enough.
(b) IBM fell behind on the concept of "connectivity" and has suffered as a result.
(a) In recent years, however, even mighty IBM found that market domination was not enough if you fall behind on concept.
(c) IBM has been well known through most of its recent history as one of the world's largest computer companies.
10. (b) In the past, the customised tailoring units were localised to the township or city and catered exclusively to domestic demand.

- (a) Traditionally, Indians preferred custom-made clothing and the concept of ready-to-wear is a relatively recent one.
- (d) This is contrary to the popular notion that Indian men do not spend as much as women on clothing.
- (c) The customised tailoring outfits have always been a major source of clothing for domestic market.
11. (a) Michael Hofman, a poet and translator, accepts this sorry fact without approval.
- (c) He acknowledges too - in fact, he returns to the point often - the best translators of poetry always fail at some level.
- (b) Poetry typically follows some type of pattern while prose does not follow any formal patterns of verse.
- (d) In terms of the gap between worth and rewards, translators come somewhere near nurses and street cleaners.
12. (b) Reservation should not exceed 50% for the civil services for want of balance and efficiency.
- (a) A common form of caste discrimination in India has been the practice of untouchability.
- (c) The number of aspirants to the civil services in India is very large and they come from various socio-economic backgrounds.
- (d) These aspirants come from both reserved and unreserved category.
13. (d) Almost a century ago, when the father of the modern automobile industry, Henry Ford, sold the first Model T car, he decided that only the best would do for his customers.
- (a) In October 2012, Toyota announced a recall of 7.43 million vehicles worldwide to fix malfunctioning power window switches, the largest recall since that of Ford Motor Company in 1996.
- (b) And for over 90 years, this philosophy has endured in the Ford Motor company.
- (c) Thus a vehicle is ready for the customers only, if it passes the Ford 'Zero Defect Programme'.
14. (a) Because, if the manager's subordinates are inefficient and ineffective and are not helped to increase their efficiency and effectiveness, the task may not be achieved.
- (b) This must be just as true as the responsibility for achieving his prescribed tasks.
- (c) Dealing with employees who don't respect you or your authority can eventually make your job unbearable.
- (d) It is often and that one of the prime responsibilities of a manager is the training and development of his staff.
15. (b) Over the last decade, Australia and India have set up Test cricket's most absorbing rivalry.
- (d) Every champion needs a counterpoint; legacies, defined referentially, draw from the dynamic between world-beater and contender.
- (c) It was tough but India outperformed most of the teams in all three departments of the game in the last two years.
- (a) India, thanks to its natural style of calm aggressive cricket, its distinctive ability to play at the level of the opposition, and the confluence of some of the finest cricketers in the contemporary game, fulfilled this role of contender.
16. (c) Early in August, as his jeep wound its way through the piles of burning tyres that angry protestors had used to barricade the road from Srinagar airport into the city, former Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah, turned to a journalist sitting next to him with a smile on his face.
- (b) "So," he said, "Are you here to write another article about how I don't know how to run a government?"
- (a) More likely than not, Dr. Abdullah's leadership - or that of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference President, his son Omar Abdullah - will soon be put to the test.
- (d) The three time chief minister of Jammu & Kashmir asserted that only dialogue can bring peace in the valley.
17. (a) A nation has gone against its historical record.
- (d) The single undeniable aspect of Obama's legacy is that he demonstrated that a black man can become president of the United States.
- (b) Risen above its worst prejudices in one, emotional incandescent moment.
- (c) Well, at least partly, and for a while Americans have voted in larger numbers than they have in decades, perhaps ever.
18. (d) This is the time of the year when people go out and shop for their winter wear.
- (b) But it seems economic recession has hit the fashion industry as well.
- (a) We haven't seen exclusive fashion shows from big designers this winter.
- (c) Winters for the past two years have been among the warmest, during December to March, in north India that heavily impacted sales of winter clothing by almost 30%.
19. (b) After all, a story told on the large screen inevitably differs from that told on the small screen.
- (c) This critical difference has an impact on viewership in terms of age, income and occupation.
- (a) In this, the age of multimedia, we have to train ourselves to understand that as a rule, the medium is the message.
- (d) In any play you've got to know what's going on around you so you can hear your cue to give a line or move in the scene.

20. (d) The size of the carbon footprint of nations in the developing world has again come in for serious international discussion.
 (c) The failed mission of Copenhagen is the immediate cause of the resumption of this debate.
 (b) While the main triggers of the debate are economic, social and cultural factors also have a major role to play.
 (a) There are both natural and human sources of carbon dioxide emissions.
21. (b) For pure vegetarians India is a heaven.
 (a) These are also prepared using different methods of cooking like baking, boiling, frying etc.
 (c) Indians like their vegetable curries real hot 'n' spicy and so add a number of spices to make them really exotic.
 (d) In factory farms around the world, animals are very often treated as commodities just to be exploited for profit.
22. (a) But it's true that Chinese people were well aware about green tea from ancient time.
 (d) We came to know about this green tea very late.
 (b) If I had said that tea is a healthy drink some years before the introduction of green tea, I might have been ridiculed.
 (c) Plain tea doesn't contain any sugar or calories, but many bottled iced teas on the market are loaded with both.
23. (c) Environment Education Unit of Centre for Science and Environment has always been working towards providing easy-to-understand reading material.
 (d) Their new publication on this subject is an attempt to lend teachers a helping hand.
 (a) It unfolds in two sections: Climate Change: how to make sense of it all, and Natural Resources: how to share and care.
 (b) During the past century, human activities have released large amounts of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.
24. (d) A famous Japanese rock garden is at Ryoan-ji in North West Kyoto, Japan.
 (c) A rock garden can also turn an otherwise awkward spot, like a hard-to-mow slope, into a showcase for your more delicate plants.
 (b) The garden is 30 meters long from East to West and 10 meters from North to South.
 (a) There are no trees, just 15 irregularly shaped rocks of varying sizes, some surrounded by moss, arranged in a bed of white gravel/sand that is raked every day.
25. (a) When they gathered together, the Buddha was completely silent and some speculated that perhaps the Buddha was tired or ill.
 (b) It is said that Gautama Buddha gathered his disciples one day for a Dharma talk.
 (d) The Buddha silently held up and twirled a flower and twinkled his eyes; several of his disciples tried to interpret what this meant, though none of them was correct.
 (c) Emperor Ashoka built the first temple near Bodhi tree during the 3rd Century BCE, almost 300 years after Buddha's period (566-486 B.C.E).
26. (a) The band has gone through several drummers over the years, though Travis has held the position since 1989 and is the longest-serving.
 (b) 'Judas Priest' are an English heavy metal band from Birmingham, England, formed in 1969.
 (d) The core line-up consists of lead vocalist Rob Halford, guitarist Glenn Tipton, bassist Ian Hill, and drummer Scott Travis.
 (c) Pop music is a slow and melodious form of music, where you can relax while listening to the refreshing songs sung by mega pop stars.
27. (a) In the past year, CBI has registered 170 cases but most of these relate to middlemen.
 (c) Overall, it is proposed to train nearly 550 investigators and prosecutors in these eminent national institutions over the next three years.
 (d) This is the job only half done as the agency has not been able to find any incriminating documents against the political class so far.
 (b) CBI has made some headway by identifying 121 impersonators after scanning details of over 9.5 lakh medical students.
28. (a) In urban-poor households, it is used for both lighting and cooking.
 (c) A recent report by the CEEW shows how shifting from kerosene to alternatives such as solar-assisted solutions for lighting and LPG for cooking could be economically beneficial for both the government as well as households.
 (d) The CEEW's analysis of National Sample Survey Office data highlights that kerosene is predominantly used as a lighting fuel in rural India.
 (b) LPG is used for cooking in many countries for economic reasons, for convenience or because it is the preferred fuel source.
29. (a) The income-tax department is reportedly on an overdrive to nab tax evaders.
 (d) This is extremely unfortunate and will result in harassment of the middle class.
 (b) It occurs whenever there is a change of national currency.
 (c) Punitive action against non-disclosure should be in consonance with the existing income tax law.

30. (a) Trading or investment ideas come in many ways -from stock brokers, investment advisors, media and in most cases from the man next door who just got rich by following a friend's 'tip.'
- (b) Numerous canteens across the country may soon turn quiet at the lunch hour if the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has its way in regulating the flow of stock tips on social media.
- (d) Sebi, which wants to protect your wellbeing, may unintentionally be preventing you from getting rich.
- (c) The BSE is the world's 11th largest stock exchange with an overall market capitalization of \$1.43 Trillion as of March, 2016.
31. (c) There is no bottle of ink waiting to be typed over on to my writing pad.
- (d) I always read storybooks, newspapers, magazines, and any other material that I find interesting in my free time.
- (b) While it is true that I do most of my writing by hand, this does not mean that I will use any pencil or pen that comes to hand.
- (a) Being one of the clumsiest humans on earth, I am unable to fill or refill or empty a fountain pen of its ink without getting the said ink, black, blue or blue-black, all over my hands or onto my coat-sleeves or shirt front.
32. (a) This message was primarily aimed at China, a country with which India has had differences on the issue of Pakistan-sponsored terrorism against India.
- (c) China portrays itself as a Third World country that pursues "an independent foreign policy of peace."
- (d) China had recently put a technical hold once again at the United Nations and prevented Azhar from being designated a global terrorist, despite JeM being a UN-proscribed terror group.
- (b) The Prime Minister's focus, by and large, remained on the issue of terrorism.
33. (a) Many Indian MNCs with global footprints need linguists to help them in foreign land.
- (b) As the global marketplace expands, the need of personnel who can communicate in foreign language will increase.
- (d) But learning a foreign language is fast becoming a necessary job skill in its own right.
- (c) According to the American Community Survey, more than one in 5 individuals over the age of 5 (21%) speak a language other than English at home.
34. (d) It must be appreciated that there is an imperative need for such special legislations as the normal laws are not adequate to deal with the situation.
- (a) An important issue which has come up in this context relates to the need for special legislation to cope with the situation.
- (b) Any discussion on human rights is incomplete without reference to the security and terrorist threats facing the country.
- (c) But it remains to be seen if the demonetisation really reduced corruption and whether black money hoarders were truly affected by the policy.
35. (c) Else India will continue to be placed in no-win situations, on the outside looking in, as at present.
- (b) Asean's decision to tighten its integration should serve as a wake-up call to India's policy makers.
- (a) The success of regional trade agreements where India is not a party should prod the Centre to quickly move forward with domestic economic reforms.
- (d) The World Trade Organization (WTO) is the only global international organization dealing with the rules of trade between nations.
36. (a) In this particular case FBI has asked Apple to help them crack into one particular phone, not develop a generic backdoor into Apple's encryption.
- (b) This could help authorities unearth terror plots and save lives.
- (c) In these exceptional circumstances, a channel must be available for security agencies to access data on devices used by terrorists.
- (d) Even if it is argued that terrorism is employed by revolutionaries as a 'tactic', such means cannot justify the end.
37. (a) Ambedkar became part of the Constituent Assembly, was assigned the task of preparing the first draft of the Constitution.
- (b) He then joined Nehru's Cabinet as India's first law minister, but quit later over the question of the Hindu Code Bill.
- (d) At that point of time Ambedkar wasn't sure he would be part of the Constitution making body.
- (c) The Constitution applies to the State of Jammu and Kashmir with certain exceptions and modifications as provided in article 370 and the Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Order, 1954.
38. (c) Most heartening is that India is now the 26th easiest place to get an electricity connection, up 25 places from last year.
- (d) That the Bank in its Doing Business 2017 report now ranks India 130 among 190 countries, just one notch higher than last year, is therefore likely to be taken as a signal of the snail's pace of economic reform.
- (a) As proof of its commitment to economic renewal, the Narendra Modi government had set itself the target of breaking into the top 50 in the World Bank's annual ranking of countries on ease of starting and operating a for-profit enterprise.

- (b) After the Modi government came the inflation had come down to around 5% while revised gross domestic product (GDP) data was pointing to a growth at 7.4% and will help India better even China.
39. (d) However, it is vulnerable to deliberate abuse, accidental bungling, and occasional failures.
- (b) Stories of such anomalies are not rare in the criminal justice system of the United States.
- (c) In every nation the justice system strives to be perfect.
- (a) The United States joins other nations in sending a clear message: we will not allow Iran to have a nuclear weapon.
40. (a) The recent announcement of Rs 11,300 crore for the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) in the 2016-17 budget reiterates this.
- (c) There is an urgent need to build greater momentum around a broader understanding of what will make India truly Swachh.
- (d) Nearly 17 months have passed since Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan on October 2, 2014.
- (b) The effects of poor environmental sanitation are numerous and they include human disease, poor overall human health and economic disadvantages as well as social disadvantages.

ANSWER KEY

1	(b)	6	(c)	11	(b)	16	(d)	21	(d)	26	(c)	31	(d)	36	(d)
2	(c)	7	(a)	12	(a)	17	(d)	22	(c)	27	(c)	32	(c)	37	(c)
3	(c)	8	(d)	13	(a)	18	(c)	23	(b)	28	(b)	33	(c)	38	(b)
4	(b)	9	(c)	14	(c)	19	(d)	24	(c)	29	(b)	34	(c)	39	(a)
5	(c)	10	(d)	15	(c)	20	(a)	25	(c)	30	(c)	35	(d)	40	(b)

Hints & Explanations

- (b) Statement b is just out of context; hence, excluded.
- (c) The monarchy does not find mention in the paragraph, so, excluded and an odd sentence.
- (c) The sentence stating working for an ad agency does not part of the paragraph.
- (b) Statement b just looks odd in the paragraph. Hence, can be the answer.
- (c) Statement c does not connect with other three sentences, so, excluded.
- (c) The statement about the paan-chewing driver greeting you with 'Good morning' does not fit into the passage.
- (a) Sentence a seems to be out of context, hence, the odd one.
- (d) 'd' stating CEO's leadership role seems to be unfit in the paragraph, hence, can be excluded.
- (c) 'c' is the odd sentence which does not fit into the arranged paragraph, hence, the answer.
- (d) The statement denoting that Indian men do not spend as much as women on clothing seems to be out of context.
- (b) 'The difference between prose and poetry' has no mention in other sentences; hence, b is an odd sentence.
- (a) Sentence a does not match with the core issue of the paragraph, so, excluded.
- (a) The statement a seems to be unfit into the paragraph; so, excluded.
- (c) Sentence c does not match with the paragraph; hence, excluded.
- (c) Statement c does not seem to belong to the paragraph.
- (d) Statement d is not the part of the conversation between the chief minister and reporter.
- (d) The statement which talks of Obama's legacy does not seem to be the part of the paragraph.
- (c) Statement c talks of the winter season and not winter wear; hence, odd sentence.
- (d) Statement d does not match with other three sentences and is excluded.
- (a) Sentence a talks of the sources of carbon dioxide emissions which does not fit into the paragraph.
- (d) Statement d seems to be odd in the paragraph.
- (c) Sentence c talks of the demerits of the tea which is not the issue in the paragraph.
- (b) Statement b seems to be out of context, hence, may be excluded.
- (c) Statement c seems not to be so close to the paragraph, so, excluded.
- (c) Statement c talks of Ashoka building the first temple near Bodhi tree which is out of context.
- (c) Statement about pop singers is not relevant to the paragraph; so, excluded.
- (c) Proposing to train investigators and prosecutors seems to be out of context.
- (b) LPG does not find mention in the other three sentences; hence, an odd sentence.
- (b) Statement b talks of change in national currency which is irrelevant to the paragraph.
- (c) Statement c talks of Bombay Stock Exchange which is not relevant to the paragraph.
- (d) This sentence mentions writer's hobbies which is not relevant to other sentences.
- (c) Sentence c addresses China's foreign policy while other sentences discuss the terrorism issue with India.
- (c) Statement c about individuals speaking a language other than English at home is out of context.
- (c) Statement c talks of demonetization while others discuss handling terrorism by making legislations.

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| <p>35. (d) Statement d is about WTO whereas all three sentences talk of ASEAN.</p> <p>36. (d) Statement d does not match with other three sentences which discuss FBI and international terrorism.</p> <p>37. (c) Statement c talks of Article 370 which is not relevant to the paragraph.</p> | <p>38. (b) Statement b focuses on inflation and GDP while other sentences discuss the ease of doing business.</p> <p>39. (a) Statement a warning Iran about its nuclear ambitions is not relevant to the paragraph.</p> <p>40. (b) Statement b talks of the effects of poor environmental sanitation which is not relevant here.</p> |
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