

Style in Writing

CAT poses questions that contain no grammatical errors but ask you to pick an option that is correct, concise and clear. Such sentences may contain many types of errors: redundancies, wordiness, voice, narration, faulty style, omission, ellipsis, slang, colloquialism, diction, word misuse and so on.

Tips in clarity, brevity and precision

One tip you must follow: where you can replace a phrase of several words with one word, DO so. We tend to believe that many common, wordy phrases are more sophisticated or intelligent. You have a good opportunity to correct that misconception. Keep it simple and you can't go wrong.

Instead of

owing to the fact that
in spite of the fact that
in connection with
with respect to
as a result of
for the reason that
due to the fact that
in the month of May
at the present time
at this point in time
be in a position to
in the event that
make a decision
in order to
by means of
in view of the fact that
during the time that
held a meeting
expert in the field of
means to imply
because of the fact that
have need of
give encouragement to
for the purpose of
make an adjustment in/to
seems/appears to be
give consideration to
consider to be
is of the opinion
along the lines of
in the amount of
make inquiry regarding
on the occasion of
in the case/event that

Use

since
although
about
about
because
because
since
in May
now
now
be able to
if
decide
to
by
since
while/when
met
expert in
implies
because
need
encourage
for
adjust
seems/appears
consider
think/believe
thinks/believes
like
for
inquire/ask
when
if

Avoid redundancies

Redundancy is a particular form of wordiness. It means repeating the idea you want to convey (as opposed to just puffing it up with extra words).

Redundant

attractive in appearance
green in colour
tall in height
charming in character
suspicious in nature
in an eager manner
endorse on the back
end result
final outcome
advance notice
general consensus
advance warning
young juvenile
refer back
return back
revert back
reflect back
cooperate together
descending down
ascending up
consensus of opinion
fundamental principles
root cause
repeat again

Concise

attractive
green
tall
charming
suspicious
eagerly
endorse
result
outcome
notice
consensus
warning
juvenile
refer
return
revert
reflect
cooperate
descending
ascending
consensus
principles
cause
repeat

Avoid double comparisons

You must avoid usages like more smarter, more nicer, more funnier, most handsomest and most tallest.

Misused abbreviations and acronyms

We misuse abbreviations and acronyms when we don't know what the initials stand for or when we don't stop to think what we're saying or writing.

Why do you think the following expressions are wrong?

HIV virus, NATO organisation, NAFTA agreement, SALT talks, CAT test, ATM machine

More clichés to avoid

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| ➤ tired but happy | ➤ miss the forest for the trees | ➤ sheets of rain |
| ➤ happy as a clam | ➤ take it with you | ➤ a pillow of earth |
| ➤ young at heart | ➤ a giant step forward | ➤ a bolt from the blue |
| ➤ old as the hills | ➤ leaps and bounds | ➤ broad daylight |
| ➤ bored to tears | ➤ the bottom line | ➤ the calm before the storm |
| ➤ sadder but wiser | ➤ brute force | ➤ shelter from the storm |
| ➤ slippery as a goose | ➤ acid test | ➤ steaming jungle |
| ➤ free as a bird | ➤ a long row to hoe | ➤ teeming jungle |
| ➤ high as a kite | ➤ a hue and cry | ➤ blazing sun |
| ➤ a diamond in the rough | ➤ the powers that be | ➤ blistering heat |
| ➤ a disaster waiting to happen | ➤ a word to the wise | ➤ the frozen North |
| ➤ thick as thieves | ➤ a sea of faces | ➤ howling wind |
| ➤ all thumbs | ➤ a cloud of suspicion | ➤ raging wind |
| ➤ all ears | ➤ the tip of the iceberg | ➤ endless sea |
| ➤ sleep like a log | ➤ a blessing in disguise | ➤ uncharted seas |
| ➤ nip it in the bud | ➤ a fresh start | ➤ cool as a cucumber |
| ➤ fall through the cracks | ➤ the bitter end | ➤ apple-cheeked |
| ➤ come to a head | ➤ black as night | ➤ bone of contention |
| ➤ draw a blank | ➤ green as grass | ➤ a hill of beans |
| ➤ make a killing | ➤ pale as a ghost | ➤ you can't make an omelette without breaking eggs |
| ➤ play hardball | ➤ white as a sheet | ➤ his goose is cooked |
| ➤ beat a dead horse | ➤ red as a rose | ➤ two peas in a pod |
| ➤ chomp at the bit | ➤ soft as silk | ➤ sweet as sugar |
| ➤ bite the bullet | ➤ hard as a diamond | ➤ sweet as honey |
| ➤ tip your hat to | ➤ sturdy as an oak | ➤ sweet as pie |
| ➤ harbour an illusion | ➤ clear as a bell | ➤ sweeter than wine |
| ➤ push the envelope | ➤ quick as a bunny | ➤ Life is a bowl of cherries. |
| ➤ toe the line | ➤ cold as ice | ➤ It takes one to know one. |
| | ➤ good as gold | ➤ A rolling stone gathers no moss. |
| | ➤ a blanket of snow | |

Read and learn

The best way to learn to spot and correct such errors is to practise. Ready? Here we go.

Wordy: This rather serious breach of etiquette may possibly shake the very foundations of the corporate world.

Concise: This serious breach of etiquette may shake the foundations of the corporate world.

Weak: Novak is a very good pianist.

Strong: Novak is a virtuoso pianist.

Weak: I am of the opinion that air pollution is a more serious problem than the government has led us to believe.

Forceful: Air pollution is a more serious problem than the government has led us to believe.

Passive: The estimate of this year's tax revenues was prepared by the General Accounting Office.

Active (desirable): The General Accounting Office prepared the estimate of this year's tax revenues.

Vague: Brown is highly educated.

Precise: Brown has a master's degree in business administration.

Weak: She is a great communicator.

Forceful: She speaks persuasively.

Weak: Performance in a crisis is the acid test for a leader.

Forceful: Performance in a crisis is the best indicator of a leader's abilities.

Weak: The international banks are cognizant of the new law's significance.

Forceful: The international banks are aware of the new law's significance.

Wrong: The new law would negatively impact each of the nations involved.

Correct: The new law would hurt each of the nations involved. (*Impact* is also used to mean *affect* or *benefit*.)

Inappropriate: He is really into gardening.

Correct: He enjoys gardening.

Inappropriate: She plays a wicked game of tennis.

Correct: She excels in tennis.

Inappropriate: Myra has got to go to Memphis for a week.

Correct: Myra must go to Memphis for a week.

Inappropriate: Joan has been doing science for eight years now. (Meaning, she has been working in the field of science.)

Correct: Joan has been a scientist for eight years now.

Redundant: *The reason that* we stopped for the night was *because* we were sleepy.

Redundant: *Because* we were sleepy, we *therefore* stopped for the night.

Better: We stopped for the night because we were sleepy.

Redundant: The *underlying* motive *behind* his seemingly generous offer was old-fashioned greed.

Better: The motive behind his seemingly generous offer was old-fashioned greed.

Redundant: One of the fossils is twenty thousand years old *in age*.

Better: One of the fossils is twenty thousand years old.

Redundant: The German Oktoberfest takes place *each October of every year*.

Better: The German Oktoberfest takes place *every October*.

Redundant: *At the same time* that lightning struck, we *simultaneously* lost our electric power.

Better: At the same time that lightning struck, we lost our electric power.

Redundant: *Both* unemployment *as well as* interest rates can affect stock prices.

Better: Both unemployment levels and interest rates can affect stock prices.

Better: Unemployment levels as well as interest rates can affect stock prices.

Redundant: Not only does dinner smell good, but it *also* tastes good *too*.

Better: Not only does dinner smell good, but it tastes good too.

Superfluous: The warmer the weather *is*, the more crowded the beach *is*.

Concise: The warmer the weather, the more crowded the beach.

Superfluous: He looks exactly like Francis *looks*.

Concise: He looks exactly like Francis.

Superfluous: That shirt is the ugliest *shirt that* I have ever seen.

Concise: That shirt is the ugliest I have ever seen.

Superfluous: The other children couldn't help *from* laughing at the girl with mismatched shoes.

Concise: The other children couldn't help laughing at the girl with mismatched shoes.

Superfluous: One prominent futurist predicts a nuclear holocaust by the year *of* 2020.

Concise: One prominent futurist predicts a nuclear holocaust by the year 2020.

Superfluous: They made the discovery *in* around December of last year.

Concise: They made the discovery around last December.

Superfluous: The waiter brought half *of a* loaf of bread to the table.

Concise: The waiter brought half a loaf of bread to the table.

Superfluous: My three goals in life are to be healthy, *to be* wealthy, and *to be* wise.

Concise: My three goals in life are to be healthy, wealthy, and wise.

Wordy: Failure can *some of the time* serve as a prelude to success.

Concise: Failure can *sometimes* serve as a prelude to success.

Wordy: As a result of his being a compulsive overeater, it is not likely that he will live past the age of fifty.

Concise: Because he is a compulsive overeater, he is unlikely to live past the age of fifty.

Wordy: Before the mother eats, she feeds *each and every one* of her offspring.

Concise: Before the mother eats, she feeds *each* of her offspring.

Wordy: There are fewer buffalo on the plains today than *there ever were* before.

Concise: There are fewer buffalo on the plains today than *ever* before.

Wordy: Discipline is crucial to *the attainment of* one's objectives.

Concise: Discipline is crucial to *attaining* one's objectives.

Wordy: Her husband was waiting for her on the platform *at the time of the train's arrival*.

Concise: Her husband was waiting for her on the platform *when the train arrived*.

Awkward: Calcification *is when* (or *is where*) calcium deposits form around a bone.

Concise: Calcification *occurs when* calcium deposits form around a bone.

Awkward: *There are* eight cats in the house, *of which* only two have been fed.

Concise: Of the eight cats in the house, only two have been fed.

Awkward: The wind poses a serious threat to the old tree, and *so does* the snow.

Concise: The wind and snow both pose a serious threat to the old tree.

Omission: The newscaster announced the voting results were incorrect. (What did the newscaster announce: the results or the fact that the results were incorrect?)

Clearer: The newscaster announced *that* the voting results were incorrect.

Passive (awkward): The book was read by the student.

Active (better): The student read the book.

Passive (awkward): Repetitive tasks are performed tirelessly by computers.

Active (better): Computers perform repetitive tasks tirelessly.

Mixed (awkward): Although the house was built by Gary, Kevin built the garage.

Passive (less awkward): Although the house was built by Gary, the garage was built by Kevin.

Active (best): Although Gary built the house, Kevin built the garage.

Active (less effective): Yesterday a car hit me.

Passive (more effective): Yesterday I was hit by a car.

Active (less effective): Only the sun itself *surpasses* the Tetons sunrise in beauty.

Passive (more effective): Sunrise over the Tetons *is surpassed* in beauty only *by* the sun itself.

Unbalanced: Julie and Sandy were the first two volunteers for the fund-raising drive, *and* they are twins.

Balanced: Julie and Sandy, *who* are twins, were the first two volunteers for the fund-raising drive.

Commingled (confusing): Julie and Sandy, *who* are twins, are volunteers.

Separated (balanced): Julie and Sandy are twins, *and* they are volunteers.

Equal emphasis (confusing): Jose and Victor were identical twins, *and* they had completely different ambitions.

Emphasis on second clause (better): *Although* Jose and Victor were identical twins, they had completely different ambitions.

Split: The value of the dollar *is not*, relative to other currencies, *rising* universally.

Better: The value of the dollar *is not rising* universally relative to other currencies.

Split: The government's goal this year *is to provide* for its poorest residents *an economic safety net*.

Split: *The government's goal* is to provide an economic safety net *this year* for its poorest residents.

Better: The government's goal this year is to provide an economic safety net for its poorest residents.

Improper (split): The executive was compelled *to*, by greed and ambition, *work* more and more hours each day.

Correct: The executive was compelled by greed and ambition, *to work* more and more hours each day.

Improper (split): Meteorologists have been known *to* inaccurately *predict* snowstorms.

Correct: Meteorologists have been known *to predict* snowstorms inaccurately.

Awkward: Barbara's academic major is history, *which* is a very popular course of study among liberal arts students, *who* are also contributing to the popularity of political science as a major.

Better: Barbara's academic major is history, which along with political science, is a very popular course of study among liberal arts students.

Wordy: There are many children who believe in Santa Claus but there are few adults who do.

Concise: Many children believe in Santa Claus but few adults do. "*There is/are*" sentences are often needlessly wordy and therefore wrong.

Wordy: The country's procedures for the processing of visas are extremely inefficient.

Concise: The country's procedures for processing visas are extremely inefficient.

Wordy: The shrine is at least 2,000 years old or older.

Concise: The shrine is at least 2,000 years old. *The redundant phrase "or older" is already implied by "at least".*

Wordy: Because I have studied the rules of the CAT grammar, therefore I will do well in English.

Concise: Because I have studied the rules of CAT grammar, I will do well in English. "Because" implies that the second part of the sentence is the conclusion, so "therefore" here is redundant and wrong.

Wordy: *A Confederacy of Dunces* has been bought and enjoyed by millions of readers since it was first published in 1974.

Concise: Millions of readers have bought and enjoyed *A Confederacy of Dunces* since it was first published in 1974.

Got a hang of it? Sharpen your skills by doing these exercises.

Exercises

Exercise 1: Wordy Phrases

Improve the following sentences by omitting or replacing wordy phrases.

1. In view of the fact that he has prepared with much care for this presentation, it would be a good idea to award him with the project.
2. The airline has a problem with always having arrivals that come at least an hour late, despite the fact that the leaders of the airline promise that promptness is a goal which has a high priority for all the employees involved.
3. In spite of the fact that she only has a little bit of experience in photography right now, she will probably do well in the future because she has a great deal of motivation to succeed in her chosen profession.
4. Accuracy is a subject that has great importance to English teachers and company presidents alike.
5. The reason why humans kill each other is that they experience fear of those whom they do not understand.

Exercise 2: Redundancy

Repair the following sentences by crossing out redundant elements.

1. All these problems have combined together to create a serious crisis.
2. A staff that large in size needs an effective supervisor who can get the job done.
3. He knows how to follow directions and he knows how to do what he is told.
4. The recently observed trend of spending on credit has created a middle class that is poorer and more impoverished than ever before.
5. Those who can follow directions are few in number.

Exercise 3: Excessive Qualification

Practise achieving concision by eliminating needless qualification in the sentences below.

1. She is a fairly excellent teacher.
2. Ferrara seems to be sort of a slow worker.
3. You yourself are the very best person to decide what you should do for a living.
4. Needless to say, children should be taught to cooperate at home and in school.
5. The travel agent does not recommend the trip to Tripoli, since it is possible that one may be hurt.

Exercise 4: Unnecessary Sentences

Rewrite each of these multiple-sentence statements as one concise sentence.

1. What's the purpose of getting rid of the chemical pollutants in water? People cannot safely consume water that contains chemical pollutants.
2. I do not believe those who argue that some of Shakespeare's plays were written by others. There is no evidence that other people had a hand in writing Shakespeare's plays.
3. Which point of view is closest to my own? This is a good question. I agree with those who say that the United States should send soldiers to areas of conflict.
4. Frank Lloyd Wright was a famous architect. He was renowned for his ability to design buildings that blend into their surroundings.
5. A lot of people find math a difficult subject to master. They have trouble with math because it requires very precise thinking skills.

Exercise 5: Needless Self-Reference

Eliminate needless self-references in these sentences.

1. I do not think this argument can be generalised to most business owners.
2. My own experience shows me that food is the best social lubricant.
3. Although I am no expert, I do not think privacy should be valued more than social concerns.
4. My guess is that most people want to do good work, but many are bored or frustrated with their jobs.
5. I must emphasise that I am not saying the author does not have a point.

Exercise 6: Undesirable Passives

Replace passive voice with active wherever possible.

1. The politician's standing in the polls has been hurt by recent allegations of corruption.
2. The bill was passed in time, but it was not signed by the president until the time for action had passed.
3. Advice is usually requested by those who need it least; it is not sought out by the truly lost and ignorant.
4. The minutes of the City Council meeting should be taken by the city clerk.
5. The report was compiled by a number of field anthropologists and marriage experts.

Exercise 7: Weak Openings

Rewrite these sentences to eliminate weak openings.

1. It would be unwise for businesses to ignore the illiteracy problem.
2. It would be of no use to fight a drug war without waging a battle against demand for illicit substances.
3. There are many strong points in the candidate's favour; intelligence, unfortunately, is not among them.
4. It has been decided that we, as a society, can tolerate homelessness.
5. There seems to be little doubt that Americans like watching television better than conversing.

Exercise 8: Needlessly Vague Language

Rewrite these sentences to replace vague language with specific, concrete language.

1. Water is transformed into steam when the former is heated up to 100° C.
2. The diplomat was required to execute an agreement that stipulated that he would live in whatever country the federal government thought necessary.
3. The principal told John that he should not even think about coming back to school until he changed his ways.
4. The police detective had to seek the permission of the lawyer to question the suspect.
5. Thousands of species of animals were destroyed when the last Ice Age occurred.

Exercise 9: Clichés

Make the following sentences more forceful by replacing clichés.

1. Beyond the shadow of a doubt Jefferson was a great leader.
2. Trying to find the employee responsible for this embarrassing information leak is like trying to find a needle in a haystack.
3. The military is putting all its eggs in one basket by relying so heavily on nuclear missiles for the nation's defence.
4. Older doctors should be required to update their techniques, but you can't teach an old dog new tricks.
5. A ballpark estimate of the number of fans in the stadium would be 120,000.

Exercise 10: Jargon

Replace the jargon in the following sentences with more appropriate language.

1. We anticipate utilising hundreds of paper clips in the foreseeable future.
2. Education-wise, our schoolchildren have been neglected.
3. Foreign diplomats should always interface with local leaders.
4. There is considerable evidentiary support for the assertion that Vienna sausages are good for you.
5. In the case of the recent railway disaster, it is clear that governmental regulatory agencies obfuscated in the preparation of materials for release to the public through both the electronic and print media.

Exercise 11: Slang and Colloquialisms

Replace the informal elements of the following sentences with more appropriate terms.

1. She sure knows her stuff.
2. Normal human beings can't cope *up* with repeated humiliation.
3. If you want a good cheesecake, you must make a top-notch crust.
4. International organisations should try and cooperate on global issues like hunger.
5. The environmentalists aren't in it for the prestige; they really care about protecting the yellow-throated hornswoggler.

Exercise 12: Usage

Can you steer clear of improper usage? Pick the right option in the following sentences.

1. Richard Gere portrays not only an officer (and also, and as well, but also) a gentleman in this film.
2. I respect Jerry Hallowell, a.k.a., Ginger Spice, both as an entertainer (and also, and as, but also as) a humanitarian.
3. I must have either Twinkies™ (or else, or, and) Dingdongs™ for lunch.
4. You must decide (between, among) the hot and sour soup (or, and) the egg drop soup.
5. (Between, Among) the three starting pitchers, Martinez is generally (considered, considered to be, considered as) the (more, most) reliable.
6. There were (less, fewer) immigrants entering the country last year than the previous year.
7. The (number, amount) of students in my class (has, have) gone up.
8. I regard the movies of Mamie Van Doren (as, to be, as being) superior (when compared to, over, to) those of Jayne Mansfield.
9. Poor Zeppo is often perceived (as, to be, as being) the least talented of the Marx Brothers.
10. According to exit polls, a majority of those who voted for the winning candidate viewed him (as, to be, as being) the lesser of two evils.
11. Adam Sandler's movies are not very different (than, from) those of Paulie Shore.
12. It was so quiet (you, that you, as a result you) could hear a pin drop.
13. Barbra Streisand and Neil Diamond (each, both) went to the same high school.
14. Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis (both had their, each had his) own take on why the two split up.
15. Some pundits like to associate the 1960s (with, and) the decline of Western civilisation.
16. We held a spirited debate (over, about, concerning) the place *of Married with Children* within the pantheon of classic situational comedies.
17. I can assure you that it was not a dispute (over, about, concerning) trivial issues.
18. Gharles was forbidden (to enter, from entering) the Temple of Doom.
19. He was also prohibited (to visit, from visiting) the Garden of Earthly Delights.
20. I hereby define a "baker's dozen" (to be, as, as being) thirteen.
21. Yogi Bear was clearly more intelligent (compared to, as, than) your average bear.
22. Studying grammar is about as pleasant (when compared to, as, than) going to the dentist.
23. I attribute my stunning success (as due to, because of, to) good looks and native intelligence.
24. I attribute my good looks not so much to exquisite grooming (as, but, but rather) to an inner radiance.
25. Most people credit Philo Taylor Farnsworth (as, for, with) having invented the television back in the 1920s while he was still a teenager.

26. Swing dances from the 1940s (like, such as) the Jitterbug and the Hucklebuck have recently become popular again.
27. (Similar to, Like, As with) many female supermodels, Fabio (is also, is) known by his first name alone.
28. I did not try the clam dip, (as, like) my roommate who got sick did.
29. I've finally decided (on going, to go) camping over the holidays but I still haven't figured out (whether, if) I need to buy a tent.
30. Resistance (against, to) assimilation by the Borg is futile.
31. Matthew Brady is regarded (as, to be) one of the greatest nineteenth-century American photographers.
32. The destruction of the tropical rainforest is generally (considered, considered as, considered to be) a major threat to the environment.
33. It took me four times as long to write the report collaboratively (as, than) it would have taken by myself.
34. Her client didn't tell her (if, whether) he had sent his payment yet.
35. The movie's ending was different (than, from) that of the book.
36. Jewel is not only a great singer, (and also, but also, but is also) a talented poetess.
37. I (either must read, must either read, must read either) the newspaper or listen to the radio before I go to work.
38. The Geneva Convention covers such questions (like/as) the proper treatment of prisoners of war.
39. Hiram plays the guitar (like/as) his father does.
40. The gas was being produced (in/at) a rate of twelve million cubic feet a day.
41. I prefer Korean food (to/over) Japanese.
42. My mother tried to discourage me (from attending/to attend) law school.
43. Many consumers buy inferior products when forced to choose (among/between) price and value.
44. Off-Broadway theatres seat significantly (fewer/ less) patrons than do Broadway theatres.

Solutions

Exercise # 01 to 12

Exercise # 01

1. Since he has prepared for this presentation so carefully, we should award him the project.
2. Flights are always at least an hour late on this airline, though its leaders promise that promptness is a high priority for all its employees.
3. Although she is inexperienced in photography, she will probably succeed because she is motivated.
4. Accuracy is important to English teachers and company presidents alike.
5. Humans kill each other because they fear those whom they do not understand.

Exercise # 02

1. All these problems have combined to create a crisis.
2. A staff that large needs an effective supervisor.
3. He knows how to follow directions.
4. The recent trend of spending on credit has created a poorer middle class.
5. Few people can follow directions.

Exercise # 03

1. She is a good teacher.
2. Ferrara is a slow worker.
3. You are the best person to decide what you should do for a living.
4. Children should be taught to cooperate at home and in school. (If there's no need to say it, don't!)
5. The travel agent said not to go to Tripoli, since one may be hurt. *Saying "it is possible that one may be hurt" is an example of redundant qualification, since both "possible" and "may" indicate uncertainty.*

Exercise # 04

1. People cannot safely consume water that contains chemical pollutants.
2. No present evidence suggests that Shakespeare's plays were written by others.
3. The United States should send soldiers to areas of conflict.
4. The architect Frank Lloyd Wright was famous for his ability to design buildings that blend into their surroundings.
5. A lot of people find math a difficult subject because it requires very precise thinking skills.

Exercise # 05

1. This argument cannot be generalised to most business owners.
2. Food is the best social lubricant.
3. Privacy should not be valued more than social concerns.
4. Most people want to do good work, but many are bored or frustrated with their jobs.
5. The author has a point.

Exercise # 06

1. Recent allegations of corruption have hurt the politician's standing in the polls.
2. Congress passed the bill in time, but the president did not sign it until the time for action had passed.
3. Those who need advice least usually request it; the truly lost and ignorant do not seek it.
4. The city clerk should take the minutes of the City Council meeting.
5. A number of field anthropologists and marriage experts compiled the report.

Exercise # 07

1. Businesses ignore the illiteracy problem at their own peril.
2. The government cannot fight a drug war effectively without waging a battle against demand for illicit substances.
3. The candidate has many strong points; intelligence, unfortunately, is not among them.
4. We, as a society, have decided to tolerate homelessness.
5. Americans must like watching television better than conversing.

Exercise # 08

1. When water is heated to 100°C, it turns into steam.
2. The diplomat had to agree to live wherever the government sent him.
3. The principal told John not to return to school until he was ready to behave.
4. The police detective had to ask the lawyer for permission to question the suspect.
5. The last Ice Age destroyed thousands of animal species.

Exercise # 09

1. Jefferson was a great leader.
2. It may be impossible to find the employee responsible for this embarrassing information leak.
3. The military should diversify its defence rather than rely so heavily on nuclear missiles.
4. Older doctors should update their techniques, but many seem resistant to changes in technology.
5. I estimate that 120,000 fans were in the stadium. (Even when a cliché is used in its original context, it sounds old.)

Exercise # 10

1. We expect to use hundreds of paper clips in the next two months.
2. Education of our schoolchildren has been neglected.
3. Foreign diplomats should always talk to local leaders.
4. Evidence suggests that Vienna sausages are good for you.
5. Government regulatory agencies lied about the recent railway accident in their media releases.

Exercise # 11

1. She is an expert.
2. Normal human beings cannot tolerate repeated humiliation.
3. If you want a good cheesecake, you must make a superb crust.
4. International organisations should try to cooperate on global issues like hunger.
5. The environmentalists are not involved in the project for prestige; they truly care about protecting the yellow-throated hornswogglers.

Exercise # 12

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| 1. but also | 2. and as |
| 3. or | 4. between, and |
| 5. Among, considered, most | 6. fewer |
| 7. number, has | 8. as, to |
| 9. as | 10. as |
| 11. from | 12. that you |
| 13. both | 14. each had his |
| 15. with | 16. over |
| 17. over | 18. to enter |
| 19. from visiting | 20. as |
| 21. than | 22. as |
| 23. to | 24. as |
| 25. with | 26. such as |
| 27. Like, is | 28. as |
| 29. to go, whether | 30. to |
| 31. as | |
| 32. considered (While "considered to be" is also technically correct, it will never be considered correct in CAT.) | |
| 33. as (Use "than" when preceded by an -er word and "as" when preceded by "as" or "so", e.g., longer than, as long as.) | |
| 34. whether (In CAT, "whether" will always beat "if".) | |
| 35. from | |
| 36. but also (not only A but also B) | |
| 37. must either read (either A or B) | |
| 38. as | 39. as |
| 40. at | 41. to |
| 42. from attending | 43. between |
| 44. fewer | |