Sentence Improvement Exercises

Directions (1-166): In the following questions, a sentence/part of the sentence is printed in bold. Below are given alternatives to the bold sentence/part of the sentence at (1), (2) and (3) which may improve the sentence. Choose the correct alternative. In case no improvement is needed, your answer is (4).

1. The train is running late in time.
   (1) after (2) behind (3) off (4) No improvement

2. When the party ended, the band packed up its equipment and left.
   (1) will pack up (2) will have packed up (3) packed up (4) No improvement

3. I made a lecture.
   (1) will make (2) gave (3) would make (4) No improvement

4. They prevented me from danger.
   (1) was preventing (2) were preventing (3) protected (4) No improvement

5. The room is smoky.
   (1) by smokes (2) filled with smoke (3) with smokes (4) No improvement

6. I really enjoyed the way the fashion show was executed and I also very much liked its theme.
   (1) its theme conveyed (2) and the executing of the fashion show theme (3) I really liked its theme (4) No improvement

7. Ronald might fail the test, in which point he’d re-sit it next year.
   (1) Ronald might fail the test, in which case he’d re-sit it next year.
   (2) Ronald might failed the test, in which point he’d re-sit it next year.

8. He saw looking through the window, the beggar standing right there.
   (1) He saw the beggar looking through the window standing right down there.
   (2) He, looking through the window, saw the beggar standing right down there.
   (3) Looking through the window, he saw the beggar standing right there.
   (4) No improvement

9. Only a smaller number of students participated in the 15th August celebration at school.
   (1) constricted (2) little (3) a few (4) No improvement

10. The chairs will be disposed in an auction.
    (1) Disposed off (2) Disposed of (3) Dispose towards (4) No improvement

11. The Chief Minister has promised to commit his department to a renewed effort to clean up the environment.
    (1) administration (2) departmental (3) workers (4) No improvement

12. Both himself and his relations will be invited.
    (1) you (2) she (3) he (4) No improvement

13. As I am suffering from fever, so grant me leave for two days.
    (1) and grant me (2) please grant me (3) grant myself (4) No improvement

14. A man’s life is divided into four stages.
    (1) into (2) as (3) of (4) No improvement

15. On seeing them pathetic child, the child smiled sweetly.
    (1) On seeing (2) On having seen (3) On seen (4) No improvement
16. The three daughters divided the property **between**
  (1) for  (2) to  (3) among  (4) No improvement
  themselves.

17. Hedidnotgivemesome books.
  (1) more  (2) any  (3) much  (4) No improvement

18. Wesawonetiger **approached to us.**
  (1) approachingtous  (2) approachingus
  (3) approachingtowardsus
  (4) No improvement

19. Thereweresomanychildrenatthepartythatit was hardly impossible to keep **account.**
  (1) hardlypossibleforkeeping  (2) hardlyimpossiblekeeping
  (3) hardlypossibletokeep
  (4) No improvement

20. Iamthesecretaryofthesports.clubsinceits formationfiveyears ago.
  (1) was  (2) havebeen  (3) hadbeen
  (4) No improvement

21. Sunilwasactingstrange whenIsawhim.
  (1) strangely  (2) stranger
  (3) more strange  (4) No improvement

22. Ishallnotgo **until** IamInvited.
  (1) till  (2) whether
  (3) unless
  (4) No improvement

23. Thereworkersshould havebeenmore **meticulous.**
  (1) Committed  (2) Precise
  (3) No improvement  (4) Punctual

24. Iwasangryatmyselfformakingsuchabig mistake.
  (1) with  (2) about
  (3) No improvement  (4) on

25. Tortureandtraumahasmadehera **mental patient.**
  (1) No improvement  (2) Lunatic
  (3) Mania  (4) Mad

26. Sheisvery **eccentric woman.**

27. Thechickensinhissfarmarefattedup nicely.
  (1) are fattened  (2) arefattening
  (3) arefattying  (4) No improvement

28. Theuniversityaskedhim to **return back** the fundsallottedforthe project.
  (1) No improvement
  (2) tobringbackthefunds
  (3) tosettlethefunds
  (4) toreturnthefunds

29. Helearnedthelesson **with great care.**
  (1) carefully  (2) carelessly
  (3) with care  (4) No improvement

30. No one cared for the boy after his father died.
  (1) caredfortheboysincehisfatherdied
  (2) No improvement
  (3) tooktheboyforcareafterhisfather'sdeath
  (4) tookcareoftheboyafterhisfatherdied

31. He insisted to **go with me.**
  (1) insistedupongoing
  (2) agreedtogo
  (3) No improvement
  (4) insistedthatsheshouldgo

32. Thehawksaidthatthepigeonsanddoveare **meat birds.**
  (1) No improvement
  (2) meekbirds
  (3) meet birds
  (4) weakbirds

33. Thesecondpigeonflewjustasthefirst pigeon had flown.
  (1) No improvement
  (2) onehaddone
  (3) onehadflown away
  (4) hadnndone

34. Theoldmanhas **acquired experience** through age.
  (1) No improvement
  (2) developedexperience
  (3) experienced
  (4) gotexperience

35. Waterandsoilpollutantsfindtheirentryintothe bodysthrough **ingestion of contaminated water or food.**
36. He lives (1) far from the station. (2) away from the station (3) along way from the station (4) off the station

37. Mumbai is famous (1) because of its textiles. (2) for its textiles (3) in its textiles (4) at its textiles

38. They (1) spoke about the weather. (2) said about the weather (3) talked about the weather (4) expressed about the weather

39. Mr. Mukherjee knows ten languages, isn’t it? (1) No improvement (2) doesn’t Mr. Mukherjee (3) hasn’t the (4) doesn’t the

40. It’s the right time that you (1) are going to go home. (2) went home (3) are going home (4) went to home

41. Drinking tea is an English habit. (1) No improvement (2) tradition (3) convention (4) custom

42. He is wanting in a little commonsense. (1) No improvement (2) lacks (3) is lacking in (4) needs some

43. We do not believe in a dual policy of the company. (1) in the dual (2) in these dual (3) in these dual (4) No improvement

44. This news says the good cannot be true. (1) cannot be true (2) so good that should be true (3) No improvement (4) so good that cannot be true

45. The notorious criminal went to the police to go to prison. (1) submitted to the police (2) surrendered himself before the police (3) No improvement (4) gave himself up for the police

46. If he has time he will telephone. (1) could (2) might (3) would (4) No improvement

47. He met a European lady at the conference who works for an NGO. (1) European lady who works for an NGO at the conference (2) European lady who works for an NGO at the conference (3) an European lady at the conference who works for an NGO (4) an European lady at the conference who works for an NGO

48. I did not see you for a long time. (1) haven’t seen (2) saw (3) No improvement (4) haven’t been seeing

49. The glass figurine that was being shown in the store window appealed to me. (1) that was on display (2) that was exhibited (3) that was advertised

50. He is somehow tall for his age. (1) No improvement (2) rather (3) many (4) much

51. The practice of starving the children in order to cure diarrhoea also aggravates the situation. (1) starving the child (2) No improvement (3) starve children (4) starving children

52. She said that she was glad to be here that evening. (1) to come here (2) to be there (3) to have been here (4) No improvement

53. If I will get an opportunity, I shall attend the seminar. (1) get (2) got
54. Both the teams played the game fairly.
   (1) No Improvement
   (2) played afair game
   (3) played fairly the game
   (4) fairly played the game

55. She could not help but laugh.
   (1) but laughing
   (2) laughter
   (3) No Improvement
   (4) laughing

56. We met yesterday. haven’t we?
   (1) didn’t we?
   (2) No Improvement
   (3) hadn’t we?
   (4) isn’t it?

57. I took my mother some grapes when she was in hospital.
   (1) I took formymother some grapes.
   (2) I brought my mother some grapes
   (3) I took some grapes formymother
   (4) No Improvement

58. The others shook their heads and made vague noises of approval.
   (1) hung
   (2) turned around
   (3) No Improvement
   (4) nodded

59. She insisted on she was innocent.
   (1) insisted on that
   (2) No Improvement
   (3) insisted that
   (4) insisted with

60. The world is facing a crisis.
   (1) confronted
   (2) in front of
   (3) No Improvement
   (4) facing

61. You must endure what you cannot endure.
   (1) accept
   (2) suffer
   (3) prevail
   (4) No Improvement

62. He does not laugh, nor he smiles.
   (1) nor hedoesn’t smile
   (2) neither hedoesn’t smile
   (3) nor does he smile
   (4) No Improvement

63. I was struck by his singular appearance.
   (1) struck by his singular appearance
   (2) struck by howhe appears
   (3) No Improvement
   (4) had stricken his singular appearance

64. The blue whale was thriving in all of the world’s oceans until the turn of the century, at which time they became hunted to the point of extinction.
   (1) The blue whale was thriving in all of the world’s oceans up until the turn of the century
   (2) At the turn of the century, blue whales were thriving
   (3) Blue whales were thriving in all of the world’s oceans until the turn of the century
   (4) No Improvement

65. We have been retracing our steps to the log cabin ten minutes ago.
   (1) will bereracing
   (2) havetoretrace
   (3) had to retrace
   (4) No Improvement

66. I hope you will be able to steer ahead of the anti-social elements.
   (1) steer clear
   (2) steer free
   (3) steer out
   (4) No Improvement

67. He bowed down at the altar.
   (1) next to the altar
   (2) No Improvement
   (3) before the altar
   (4) in front of the altar

68. They were being commanded to wait till the signal was given.
   (1) commanded
   (2) command
   (3) given command
   (4) No Improvement

69. River Damodar in West Bengal carries the effluents from the Durgapur Industrial complex for miles.
   (1) carries the effluents
   (2) carried the effluents
   (3) carried the effluence
   (4) No Improvement

70. The climate of Shillong is somewhat like Kohima.
   (1) as Kohima
   (2) as Kohima’s
   (3) No Improvement
   (4) like Kohima’s

71. John decided to go to the Advocate General to clear his name of the accusation.
   (1) to clean his name
72. He **could not be able** to think logically because of his Illness.
   (1) was not able (2) No Improvement (3) cannot be able (4) can be unable

73. He **only married her for her money**.
   (1) Hemarriedherforhermoneyonly. (2) Hemarriedheronlyforhermoney. (3) No Improvement (4) Only for her money he married her.

74. Please send the letter **on** the address given below.
   (1) to (2) No Improvement (3) at (4) upon

75. The two thieves distributed the loot **between them selves**.
   (1) with themselves (2) among themselves (3) among themselves (4) No Improvement

76. The **equipment were** faulty.
   (1) equipment were (2) equipments are (3) equipment was (4) No Improvement

77. Plants **cannot grow without sunshine**.
   (1) No Improvement (2) Plants cannot thrive in the sun. (3) Plants cannot grow on a cloudy day. (4) Plants donot live in darkness.

78. The **gold** is a precious metal.
   (1) No Improvement (2) Agold (3) Anold (4) Gold

79. Old habits **die hardly**.
   (1) No Improvement (2) die much hardly (3) die hard (4) die too hard

80. He is known **by** others.
   (1) for (2) among (3) to (4) No Improvement

81. They tried to **win** control of the company from

82. Mr. Bharath was a professor whom all students **respected**.
   (1) looked up to (2) looked up (3) No Improvement (4) looked over

83. The criminal must be **killed**.
   (1) hanged (2) murdered (3) hung (4) No Improvement

84. My daughter is going to **take** her final examination next month.
   (1) undertake (2) No Improvement (3) appear (4) give

85. My father advised me to **shun** bad peers.
   (1) escape (2) leave (3) avoid (4) No Improvement

86. All these events are associated like links in a chain.
   (1) attached (2) bracketed (3) No Improvement (4) concatenated

87. She is improving her pronunciation of English with a view to **become** a newsreader.
   (1) No Improvement (2) be becoming (3) have become (4) becoming

88. The kingfisher is a bird founded mostly in the Eastern Hemisphere, especially in the southeast Asian countries.
   (1) abirdfind mostly (2) abird mostly founded (3) abird found mostly (4) No Improvement

89. **Instead of** his hard work, he did not succeed.
   (1) Inspite of (2) In case of (3) In respect of (4) No Improvement

90. Seeing now way to escape, the thief **suited** to the Inspector.
   (1) shoted (2) surrendered
91. If you want to catch the first flight you may leave now.
   (1) must    (2) ought to
   (3) No improvement    (4) could

92. Manoj is so credible that he immediately believed my story.
   (1) No improvement    (2) credulous
   (3) innocent    (4) creditable

93. Thomas Caffall the gunman killing two persons near the Texas A & M University, asked forgiveness for shooting the officers.
   (1) who killed    (2) who has killed
   (3) No improvement    (4) who had killed

94. I want to dispose of all my old furniture immediately.
   (1) dispose    (2) disposed off
   (3) dispose of    (4) No improvement

95. He parts his hair in the centre.
   (1) at the centre    (2) near the centre
   (3) in the middle    (4) No improvement

96. I can't allow to make jokes in the class.
   (1) cut    (2) crack
   (3) break    (4) No improvement

97. Shut the window. It is fairly cold.
   (1) quiet    (2) quite
   (3) rather    (4) No improvement

98. She is the lady who will inaugurate the exhibition.
   (1) declare the exhibition open
   (2) start the exhibition
   (3) begin the exhibition
   (4) No improvement

99. He avoids to speak to me.
   (1) talk    (2) speaking
   (3) speech    (4) No improvement

100. A major water pollutant due to the growth of large cities is the sewages.

101. I have just taken my meals.
   (1) I have just had my food
   (2) I am done with my meals
   (3) I finished my meals
   (4) No improvement

102. I stayed at Henry's house for a week.
   (1) Henry's home
   (2) Henry's
   (3) Henry home
   (4) No improvement

103. The wardentold the boys to quickly clean their rooms.
   (1) clean their rooms hastily
   (2) clean their rooms quickly
   (3) cleanse their rooms quickly
   (4) No improvement

104. I needn't get up early tomorrow, shouldn't I?
   (1) don't I
   (2) do I
   (3) need I
   (4) No improvement

105. Covering thirty kilometres in thirty minutes are not a great distance using a brand new car.
   (1) aren't a great distance
   (2) is not a distance
   (3) No improvement
   (4) is not a great distance

106. Years ago, I met a man who was President and Chairman of the board of a company.
   (1) Whom
   (2) No improvement
   (3) Who
   (4) Whose

107. Where are you coming from?
   (1) No improvement
   (2) do you come from
   (3) were you from
   (4) you are coming from

108. Journalism and medicine would be two of his career options.
   (1) No improvement
   (2) could be
   (3) will be
   (4) might be

109. No economist can accurately foresee whether the tax will go up or down.
   (1) expect
   (2) anticipate
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<th>Sentence Improvement Exercises</th>
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<tr>
<td>110. One should keep their word.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(1) One’s  (2) his  (3) everyone’s  (4) No Improvement</td>
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<td>111. Many a man have died of cancer.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(1) No Improvement  (2) have died from  (3) have been dying of  (4) has died of</td>
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<td>112. I want to admit in a university in the US.</td>
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<td>(1) go  (2) enter  (3) enrol  (4) No Improvement</td>
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<td>113. He was a failure at art but his last piece was so beautiful that no one could believe he had painted.</td>
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<td>(1) breathtaking enough to be unreal  (2) indeed a masterpiece  (3) very realistic and unbelievable  (4) No Improvement</td>
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<td>114. This matter admits no excuse.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(1) admits for  (2) No Improvement  (3) admits of  (4) admit to</td>
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<td>115. I was greatly shocked by the most ruthless murder.</td>
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<td>(1) gruesome  (2) shocking  (3) loathsome  (4) No Improvement</td>
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<td>116. She is annoying that her father had not accepted her suggestion.</td>
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<td>(1) waste to annoy  (2) had to annoy  (3) No Improvement  (4) was annoyed</td>
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<td>117. If the room had been brighter, I would have been able to read for a while before going to bed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(1) If the room was brighter  (2) If the room were brighter  (3) Had the room been brighter  (4) No Improvement</td>
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<td>118. He has composed a beautiful song.</td>
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<td>(1) penned  (2) written  (3) jotted down  (4) No Improvement</td>
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<td>119. The old car thumped along over the stony road.</td>
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<td>(1) creaked  (2) crawled  (3) chugged  (4) No Improvement</td>
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<tr>
<td>120. No sooner had he reaching the station than the train began to move.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(1) No sooner had he reached the station than the train began to move.  (2) No sooner had he reached the station than the train had begun to move.  (3) No sooner had he reached the station than the train had begun to move.  (4) No Improvement</td>
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<td>121. My father has been advised to reduce smoking.</td>
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<td>(1) cut down  (2) No Improvement  (3) lower down  (4) reduce down</td>
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<td>122. Sincerity is always appreciated.</td>
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<td>(1) enhanced  (2) enjoyed  (3) waited  (4) No Improvement</td>
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<tr>
<td>123. Listen attentively to what I say.</td>
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<td>(1) attentively  (2) attend  (3) attentive  (4) No Improvement</td>
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<td>124. My sister does not know whether tomorrow can be a holiday for her.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(1) whether tomorrow is a holiday for her  (2) whether tomorrow will be a holiday for her  (3) No Improvement  (4) whether tomorrow is a holiday for her.</td>
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<td>125. Honesty is more superior than riches.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(1) far superior than  (2) No Improvement  (3) more superior to  (4) superior to</td>
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<td>126. A hand pump is very easy to work and it can be fitted in every house.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(1) No Improvement  (2) can be fitted  (3) could be fitted  (4) can be fitted</td>
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<td>127. The criminal was hung to death.</td>
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<td>(1) hung  (2) hang  (3) No Improvement  (4) hanged</td>
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<td>128. What does agonise me most is not this criticism, but the trivial reason behind it.</td>
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<td>(1) No Improvement  (2) most agonising me</td>
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129. They **have not and cannot be** in the good books of the coach because they lack discipline.

130. The Louvre, a **museum known to everyone in the world**, is in Paris.

131. The sun will not rise before an hour.

132. Heartfelt prayers to God will always **have expected results**.

133. The museum’s collection includes artefacts dated back to prehistoric times.

134. He said, ‘**Let the show begin**’

135. **I’m really sorry but I haven’t got much money myself.**

136. Both of them are good, but this is the best of the two.

137. How many **countries are there in Europe?**

138. We stayed in Mumbai in **five days.**

139. The medicine must be **taken by you.**

140. The Sutlej has changed its **course.**

141. She is **willing to help you.**

142. **Being ill, he came to work.**

143. She **had realised that she had seen him before.**

144. Hundredsofchildren **are deaf born every year.**

145. It is not difficult to forgive someone **who says sorry.**

(3) agonises most (4) most agonised me

(4) I’m really sorry but I don’t have much money myself.
147. Ours is a **joined** family.
   (1) joint  (2) jointed  (3) No Improvement  (4) join

148. Be quick **otherwise you would** miss the train.
   (1) otherwise you could have  (2) No Improvement  (3) otherwise you will  (4) otherwise you will have

149. The terrorist as well as his accomplices **was killed** in the encounter.
   (1) have been killed  (2) No improvement  (3) were killed  (4) was being killed

150. The Councillor behaves as if he **is the Chief Minister**.
   (1) has been  (2) were  (3) No improvement  (4) was

151. **Insight of age he is my senior.**
   (1) He is my senior, in keeping with his age.
   (2) He is my senior in regard to his age.
   (3) No improvement
   (4) In respect of age, he is my senior.

152. Rani **has completed** her graduation from a reputed university last year.
   (1) completed  (2) was completed  (3) No improvement  (4) had been completed

153. The President of India **administers the oath of office** to the Council of Ministers.
   (1) imposes the promise
   (2) supervises the oath-taking ceremony
   (3) No improvement
   (4) reads out the oath

154. **Being a wet day, he stayed at home.**
   (1) Though  (2) As it was
   (3) No improvement  (4) Since

155. We’ve got **a new big house.**
   (1) big new house  (2) house big new
   (3) No improvement  (4) house new big

156. I **shall write to you** when I reach Agra.
   (1) will write to you  (2) would write to you  (3) No improvement  (4) should write to you

157. **Either Kiran or Mala is sure to be chosen for the school debate team.**
   (1) Either Kiran or Mala are to be chosen
   (2) Either Kiran or Mala is to be chosen
   (3) Either Kiran or Mala will
   (4) No Improvement

158. Tom was **standing besides the school-house poster**, when the ball rolled towards him.
   (1) standing beside the school-house poster
   (2) stood beside the school-house poster
   (3) No improvement

159. No sane person or government can tolerate terrorism of any degree or kind.
   (1) terrorism of any degree or kind
   (2) torture of any degree or kind
   (3) No improvement

160. Saibal has got an **extensive** to finish writing his thesis.
   (1) an extended
   (2) an extention
   (3) an extension
   (4) No Improvement

161. She stood by him **under all conditions and undaunted by anything.**
   (1) without reserve
   (2) without hesitation
   (3) through thick and thin
   (4) No Improvement

162. Sheelawas reprimanded by the school Marshall for coming **lately to school.**
   (1) to school lately
   (2) latetoschool
   (3) to school later
   (4) No Improvement

163. Kunal looked very **manliness in his police uniform.**
   (1) menliness
   (2) man-like
   (3) manly
   (4) No Improvement
164. The school was very co-operation when we made a documentary film there.
   (1) very co-operator   (2) very co-operative
   (3) very co-operated   (4) No Improvement

165. “I would like to tell you about this my friend,” said John.
   (1) this friend of mine   (2) the friend of mine
   (3) this friend          (4) No Improvement

166. The boat was drowned.
   (1) was sunk           (2) was drown
   (3) was sink           (4) No Improvement