

Exercise 1

Rewrite the following sentences by doing away with the adverb 'too'.

1. He speaks too fast to be understood.

Ans 1. He speaks so fast that he cannot be understood.

2. He is too ignorant for a postman.

Ans 2. He is so ignorant that he cannot be a postman.

3. He is too proud to beg.

Ans 3. He is so proud that he cannot beg.

4. She was sobbing too deeply to make any answer.

Ans 4. She was sobbing so deeply that she could not make any answer.

5. It is never too late to mend.

Ans 5. It is never so late that one cannot mend

6. This tree is too high for me to climb.

Ans 6. This tree is so high that I cannot climb it.

Exercise 2

Rewrite each of the following sentences in as many different ways as you can.

1. Beware of pick-pockets, and there will be no further trouble.

Ans 1. a. If you beware of pick-pockets, there will be no further trouble.

b. Unless you beware of pick-pockets, there will be trouble.

c. Provided you beware of pick-pockets, there will be further trouble.

2. But for his shyness, he would certainly have made his mark as a speaker.

Ans 2. Had he been not shy, he would certainly have made his mark as speaker.

3. Had you been less rash, the consequences would not have been so serious.

Ans 3. If you had been less rash, the consequences would not have been so serious

4. If he is seriously ill, I shall call you.

Ans 4. Unless he is seriously ill, I will not wire you.

5. Supposing a taxi is not available, a cab will do.

Ans 5. a. If a taxi is not available, a cab will do.

b. In case a taxi is not available, a cab will do

6. But for your unfortunate remark, the conference would not have ended in a fiasco.

- Ans 6.** If you had not made that unfortunate remark, the conference would not have ended in a fiasco
- 7.** I will not buy the horse unless it is quite sound.
Ans 7. a. I will buy the horse if it is quite sound.
 b. I will buy the house provided it is quite sound
- 8.** If you resist the first temptation the next will be easier to overcome.
Ans 8. a. Provided you resist the first temptation, the next will be easier to overcome.
 b. Resist the first temptation and the next will be easier to overcome.
- 9.** Are you not anxious to make money? Then buy these shares.
Ans 9. a. If you are anxious to make money, buy these shares.
 b. Unless you are anxious to make money, don't buy these shares
- 10.** If money was plenty, nobody would care for it.
Ans 10. Provided that money was in plenty, nobody would care for it

Exercise 3

Rewrite each of the following sentences in as many different ways as you can.

- 1.** This man is never satisfied however much I pay him.
Ans 1. a. Though I pay he man much, he is never satisfied.
 b. Admitting that I pay the man much he is never satisfied.
 c. In spite of paying the man much he is never satisfied.
- 2.** Though he is his brother, he does not resemble him.
Ans 2. a. Although he is his brother, he does not resemble him.
 b. In spite of being his brother, he does not resemble him.
- 3.** He finished first though he began late.
Ans 3. Notwithstanding that he began late, he finished first.
- 4.** He has hardly any chance; all the same I shall use my influence on his behalf.
Ans 4. Though he has hardly any chance, I shall use my influence on his behalf.
- 5.** His father still trusted him though he had deceived him.
Ans 5. His father still trusted him in spite of having been deceived by him.
- 6.** He has his weaknesses; all the same he is a kind-hearted man.
Ans 6. He is a kind-hearted man though he has his weaknesses.
- 7.** Although he was maliciously criticized, he never showed any ill will to those who persecuted him.
Ans 7. In spite of being maliciously criticized, he never showed any ill-will to those who persecuted him.
- 8.** Though this be madness, yet there's method in it.

Ans 8. Even if it is madness, there is method in it.

Exercise 4

Change the degree of comparison, without changing the meaning.

1. Akbar was one of the greatest of kings.

Ans 1. Very few kings were as great as Akbar.

Positive

Akbar was greater than most other kings.

Comparative

2. Helen of Troy was more beautiful than any other woman.

Ans 2. No other woman was as beautiful as Helen of Troy.

Positive

3. Very few boys are so industrious as Latif.

Ans 3. Latif is more industrious than most other boys.

Comparative

Latif is one of the most industrious boys of all.

Superlative

4. Samudra Gupta was one of the greatest of Indian kings.

Ans 4. Very few Indian kings were as great as Samudra Gupta.

Positive

Samudra Gupta was greater than most other Indian kings.

Comparative

5. He would sooner die than tell a lie.

Ans 5. He would die soon than tell a lie.

Positive

6. This newspaper has a bigger circulation than any other morning paper.

Ans 6. This newspaper has the biggest circulation of all the morning papers.

Superlative

No other morning paper has as big a circulation as this newspaper.

Positive

7. Some people have more money than brains.

Ans 7. Few people have as much money as brains.

Positive

8. A wise enemy is better than a foolish friend.

Ans 8. A foolish friend is not as good as a wise enemy.

Positive

9. Ooty is as healthy as any hill-sanitarium in India.

Ans 9. Ooty is not healthier than any other hill-sanitarium in India

Comparative

10. Mahatma Gandhi was one of the greatest men in the world.

Ans 10. Mahatma Gandhi was greater than most other men in the world.

Comparative

Very few men in the world are as great as Mahatma Gandhi.

Positive

Exercise 5

Change the following sentences into the passive form.

1. Peter the Hermit preached the first Crusade.

Ans 1. The first Crusade was preached by Peter the hermit.

2. The curator of the museum showed us some ancient coins.

Ans 2. We were shown some ancient coins by the curator of the museum.

Some ancient coins were shown to us by the curator of the museum.

3. Nature teaches beasts to know their friends.

Ans 3. Beasts are taught by nature to know their friends.

4. Lincoln emancipated four million African slaves.

Ans 4. Four million African slaves were emancipated by Lincoln.

5. The public will learn with astonishment that war is imminent.

Ans 5. It will be learnt with astonishment that war is imminent.

6. Macbeth hoped to succeed Duncan.

Ans 6. It was hoped by Macbeth that he would succeed Duncan.

7. We shall hear his voice no more.

Ans 7. His voice will be heard no more.

Exercise 6

Change the following sentences into the active form.

1. The telegraph wires have been cut.

Active form: They have cut the telegraph wires.

2. Without effort nothing can be gained.

Active form: Without effort one can gain nothing.

3. The telephone was invented by Alexander Graham Bell.

Active form: Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone.

4. We shall be blamed by everyone.

Active form: Every one blame us.

5. I was struck by his singular appearance.

Active form: His singular appearance struck me.

6. He was chosen leader.

Active form: they chose him leader.

7. By whom was this jug broken?

Active form: who broke this jug?

8. Harsh sentences were pronounced on the offenders.

Active form: they pronounced harsh sentences on the offenders.

Exercise 7

Express the meaning of the following sentences in a negative form.

1. The rose by any other name would smell as sweet.

Negative form: the rose by any other name would not smell less sweet.

2. The hills of the Highlands I ever will love.

Negative form: I will never hate the hills of the highlands.

3. Only a millionaire can afford such extravagance.

Negative form: None but a millionaire can afford such extravagance.

4. India is the largest democracy in the world.

Negative form: No other democracy in the world is as large as India.

5. These fishing nets are all the wealth I won.

Negative form: I own no wealth other than these fishing nets.

Exercise 8

Convert the following negatives into affirmatives.

1. I am not a little tired.

Affirmatives: I am very tired.

2. There was no one present who did not cheer.

Affirmatives: Everyone present cheered.

3. We did not find the road very bad.

Affirmatives: We found the road rather bad.

4. The two brothers are not unlike each other.

Affirmatives: The two brothers are alike.

5. He has promised never to touch wine again.

Affirmatives: He has promised to abstain from wine in future.

Exercise 9

Transform the following sentences into assertive sentences.

1. Who can touch pitch without being defiled?

Assertive: No one can touch pitch without being defiled.

2. Can any man by taking thought add a cubit to his stature?

Assertive: No man by taking thought can add a cubit to his stature.

3. What though the field be lost?

Assertive: It does not matter even if the field is lost.

4. Is that the way a gentleman should behave?

Assertive: That is not the way a gentleman should behave.

5. Who does not know the owl?

Assertive: Everybody knows the owl.

Exercise 10

Express the meaning of the following sentences as questions.

1. No one can be expected to submit for ever to injustice.

Ans 1. Who can be expected to submit for ever to injustice?

2. There is nothing better than a busy life.

Ans 2. Is there anything better than a busy life?

3. Nowhere in the world will you find a fairer building than the Taj Mahal.
Ans 3. Where in the world will you find a fairer building than the Taj Mahal?
4. It is useless to offer bread to a man who is dying of thirst.
Ans 4. What is the use of offering bread to a man who is dying of thirst?
5. We could have done nothing without your help.
Ans 5. What could we have done without your help?
6. That was not an example to be followed.
Ans 6. Was that an example to be followed?

Exercise 11

Transform the following sentences into assertions.

1. What would I not give to see you happy!
Assertions: I would give anything to see you happy.
2. O what a fall was there my countrymen!
Assertions: There was a great fall, my countrymen.
3. What sweet delight a quiet life affords!
Assertions: A quiet life affords very sweet delight.
4. What a delicious flavor these mangoes have!
Assertions: These mangoes have a very delicious flavour.
5. Shame on you to use a poor cripple so!
Assertions: It is shameful of you to use a poor cripple so.
6. O for a draught of ice-cold water!
Assertions: It is not for a draught of ice-cold water.

Exercise 12

Transform the following into exclamatory sentences.

1. It is a horrible night.
Exclamatory: What a horrible night it is!
2. It was extremely base of him to desert you in your time of need.
Exclamatory: How base of him to desert you in your time of need!
3. It is hard to believe that he did such a deed.
Exclamatory: How hard to believe that he did such a deed!
4. I wish I had met you ten years ago.
Exclamatory: If only I had met you ten years ago!
5. It is very stupid of me to forget your name.
Exclamatory: How stupid of me to forget your name!
6. He leads a most unhappy life.
Exclamatory: What an unhappy life he leads!

Exercise 13

In the following sentences replace the nouns in italics by verbs.

1. Steel gains *strength* from the addition of nickel.
Ans 1. Steel is strengthened by the addition of nickel.
2. He made an *agreement* to supply me with firewood.
Ans 2. He agreed to supply me with firewood.
3. He rejected all our *proposals*.
Ans 3. He rejected all that we proposed.
4. His *purpose* is not clear from his letter.
Ans 4. What he purposed is not clear from his letter.
5. You cannot gain *admission* without a ticket.
Ans 5. You cannot be admitted without a ticket.
6. He has no *intention* of leaving the city.
Ans 6. He does not intend to leave the city.

Exercise 14

Rewrite the following sentences replacing the adverbs in italics by verbs.

1. This scene is *surpassingly* beautiful.
Ans 1. This scene surpasses all others in beauty.
2. The defenders *successfully* repelled every attack on the city.
Ans 2. The defenders succeeded in repelling every attack on the city.
3. He is *admittedly* the greatest general of the century.
Ans 3. It is admitted that he is the greatest general of the century.
4. They welcomed the good news most *joyfully*.
Ans 4. They rejoiced most at the good news.

Exercise 15

Rewrite the following sentences replacing the verbs and adjectives in italics by corresponding nouns.

1. Though the ant is small it is as *intelligent* as the elephant.
Ans 1. Though the ant is small it has as much intelligence as the elephant.
2. He was so *active* in his old age that everybody *admired* him.
Ans 2. He was so full of activity in his old age that he won everybody's admiration.
3. He said he *regretted* that he had *acted* so hastily.

Ans 3. He expressed regret for his hasty act.

4. Before I pay you what is *due* you must *sign* this receipt.

Ans 4. Before I pay you your dues, you must affix your signature on this receipt.

5. The best way to be healthy is to be *temperate* in all things.

Ans 5. The best way to maintain health is to observe temperance in all things.

Exercise 16

Rewrite the following sentences replacing noun and adverbs in italics by adjectives of similar meaning.

1. In all *probability* the day will be fine.

Ans 1. It is quite probable that the day will be fine.

2. The rats gave us a great deal of *trouble*.

Ans 2. The rats were greatly troublesome to us.

3. He was dismissed for *negligence rather than* incompetence.

Ans 3. He was dismissed for being negligent rather than for being incompetent.

4. He was admittedly clever, but he *evidently* lacked industry.

Ans 4. It was an admitted fact that he was clever, but it was evident that he lacked industry.

5. The merchant had great *success* in all his dealings, and was *naturally* esteemed by his fellow citizens.

Ans 5. The merchant was greatly successful in all his dealings, and it was natural that he was esteemed by his fellow citizens.

Exercise 17

Rewrite the following sentences replacing nouns and adjectives in italics by adverbs of similar meaning.

1. Her dress was *poor* and *mean*.

Ans 1. She dressed poorly and meanly.

2. He broke the rules without any *intention* of doing so, but it does not follow that his punishment was *wrong*.

Ans 2. He did not break the rules intentionally, but it does not follow that he was wrongly punished.

3. His mistake was *evident*, but his sincerity was also *obvious*.

Ans 3. He was evidently mistaken, but obviously sincere.

4. By a *careful* analysis of these substances you will see that they differ in *essence*.

Ans 4. If you analyse these substances carefully, you will see they are essentially different.