

## PRODUCTIVE ENGLISH GRAMMAR RULES FOR ALL SSC EXAMS

### 1. Uses of 'That'

(a) **For persons, lifeless things and small animals** in the singular or in the plural number.

Example- (i) This is the girl that failed in the exam.

(ii) This is the Radio that I bought yesterday.

(b) **As a substitute for a singular noun** already mentioned.

Example- The weather of Hyderabad is far better than Chennai. (Incorrect)

The weather of Hyderabad is far better than that of Chennai. (Correct)

### 2. After 'But', 'Except', 'Between' and 'Let' the pronoun is used in the objective case.

Example- (a) Everyone laughed but I. (Incorrect)

Everyone laughed but me. (Correct)

(b) None attended the meeting except he. (Incorrect)

None attended the meeting except him. (Correct)

(c) Let we laugh away our sorrows. (Incorrect)

Let us laugh away our sorrows. (Correct)

(d) This is between you and I. (Incorrect)

This is between you and me. (Correct)

### 3. When any pronoun functions as the complement of the verb 'to be', it is always in the **nominative case**.

Example- (a) It is me who have to go. (Incorrect)

It is I who have to go. (Correct)

(b) It is him who is to blame. (Incorrect)

It is he who is to blame. (Correct)

### 4. The use of 'few', 'a few' and 'the few' should be used carefully. They denote 'number'.

**'Few' means 'not many', 'almost nothing'. 'A few' is positive and means 'some at least'. 'The few' means 'whatever there is'.**

(a) A few men are free from fault. (Incorrect)

Few men are free from fault. (Correct)

(Here the sense is negative and thus 'a few' is wrong.)

(b) Few teams will qualify for the world cup. (Incorrect)

Here the sense is positive and thus 'few' is incorrect.

(c) I have already read a few books that are in the library. (Incorrect)

I have already read the few books that are in the library. (Correct)

Here the sense is 'whatever there is'. 'everything that is in the library'.

5. The **Singular Countable Nouns** used after 'With' or 'Without' take **Indefinite Article** i.e 'A' or 'An' before them.

Example-(a) I saw a thief with a bag.

(b) I always go to school without an umbrella.

6. 'Like' is used before a Noun or a Pronoun while 'As' is used before a Clause of Comparison.

Example. (a) She is as her mother. (Incorrect)

She is like her mother (Correct)

7. Article 'The' is not used before the object of the following Verbs **Elect, Select, Make, Become, Crown, Appoint** etc.

Example.(a) In the meeting Sahil was selected the Chairman yesterday. (Incorrect)

In the meeting Sahil was selected Chairman yesterday. (Correct)

8. **Prepositions are not used before an Adverb**

Example. He heard with patiently. (Incorrect)

He heard patiently. (Correct)

9. Adverbs 'Away', 'Down', 'In', 'Off', 'Out', 'Over', 'Round' etc. can be used before a verb.

Example. (a) Down fell a dozen pens.

(b) Round and round flew the plane.

10. **Early, Late, Before, Immediately**, are always used at the end of a sentence but 'Before' and 'Immediately' on being used as a Conjunction can be used in the beginning of a sentence as well.

Example. (a) I shall meet him immediately. (Correct)

(b) Immediately the rains stops, we shall go out. (Correct)

11. **Prepositions like On, At, In** etc are not used before **Today, Tomorrow, Yesterday, the following day, the next day, last night, this morning, this afternoon, Tonight, Tomorrow morning, Yesterday evening** etc.

Example. (a) He will go there on tomorrow (Incorrect)

He will go there tomorrow. (Correct)

12. Preposition 'To' is used after Verbs like **Speak, Reply, Explain, Complain, Talk, Listen, Write** if **their object is a person**.

Example. (a) He did not reply to me.

(b) She never writes to me.



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**13.** If we use **article 'A'** before **Cardinal Adjectives (one, two, three)** or use **hyphen (-)** after them, then the noun used after them is always Singular.

Example. A four man Committee, A five-day journey.

**14. 'Majority' can be singular or plural.** If it is alone it is usually singular, if it is followed by a plural noun, it is usually plural.

NOTE: Majority by itself is singular but when majority refers to a set of people it is plural.

Example- (a) A majority is always right.

(b) A majority of students are right.

**15. (i) In sports,** while referring to the players, **the name of the country** is followed by **plural verb**.

Example- (a) England have won the World Cup.

(ii) When the word **ENEMY** is used **in the sense 'Armed forces' of a nation** with which one's country is at war, **we have to use the plural verb**.

Example- (a) The enemy were forced to Retreat.

