

## SBI CBO 2026 English Memory Based Paper (14 March 2026)

**Q.1** The librarian arranged the books in strict alphabetical order, carefully dusting each shelf and replacing any damaged covers. In the question below four words are highlighted in the sentence. One of these four words printed in bold may be either wrongly spelt or inappropriate in the context of the sentence. Find out the word which is wrongly spelt or inappropriate, if any. If all the words printed in bold are correctly spelt and also appropriate in the context of the sentence, mark option 'All are correct' as the answer choice.

- A. arranged
- B. strict
- C. carefully
- D. damaged
- E. All are correct

**Answer:** C

**Sol:**

**Correct Answer:** (c) carefully

The word "carefully" is incorrectly spelt. The correct spelling is "carefully."

(a) arranged

**Meaning (English):**

To organize or place things in a particular order or position.

**Meaning (Hindi):**

व्यवस्थित करना या किसी क्रम में लगाना।

**Example (English):**

She arranged the files neatly on the desk.

**Why correct:**

The word "arranged" is **correctly spelt** and appropriately describes the librarian's action of organizing the books.

(b) strict

**Meaning (English):**

Very precise or exact; following rules closely.

**Meaning (Hindi):**

कड़ा, सख्त या नियमों का सख्ती से पालन करने वाला।

**Example (English):**

The school follows strict rules regarding attendance.

**Why correct:**

The word "strict" is **correctly spelt** and appropriate because **alphabetical order requires exact arrangement**.

(c) carefully

**Meaning (English):**

This spelling is incorrect. The correct word is "carefully," which means **in a cautious and attentive manner**.

**Meaning (Hindi):**

सावधानी से या ध्यानपूर्वक।

**Example (English):**

He carefully placed the fragile glass on the table.

**Why incorrect:**

The word "carefully" is a **spelling mistake**. The correct spelling must include **double "l" → carefully**.

(d) damaged

**Meaning (English):**

Harmed or broken so that something is not in perfect condition.

**Meaning (Hindi):**

क्षतिग्रस्त या खराब हो चुका।

**Example (English):**

The storm damaged several houses in the village.

**Why correct:**

The word "damaged" is **correctly spelt** and appropriate because books can have **damaged covers that need replacement**.

**Q.2** The election commission (A)/ has announced that voting (B)/ will held in five (C)/ phases across the state. (D) In the following question, a sentence is divided into four parts. Choose the part of the sentence which may contain a grammatical error in it. If all the parts of the sentence are grammatically correct and contextually meaningful, choose option "No error" as the answer choice.

- A. A
- B. B
- C. C
- D. D
- E. No error

**Answer:** C

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**Sol:** The error lies in part (C) of the sentence.

**Detailed Analysis**

- **Part (A): "The election commission"** — Correct. It identifies the governing body responsible for the action.
- **Part (B): "has announced that voting"** — Correct. The present perfect tense "has announced" is used correctly to indicate a recently completed action with present relevance.
- **Part (C): "will held in five"** — **Incorrect.** This is a common error involving the **Future Indefinite Passive** voice.
  - o The word "held" is the past participle (V<sub>3</sub>) of "hold."
  - o In English, "will" cannot be followed directly by a V<sub>3</sub> verb.
  - o Since the "voting" is the recipient of the action (it doesn't hold itself), we need the passive construction: **"will be held."**
- **Part (D): "phases across the state."** — Correct. This describes the manner and location of the voting process.

**Grammar Rule: Future Passive Voice**

When an action is performed *on* the subject in the future, we must use the following structure:

Subject + will + be + V<sub>3</sub> (Past Participle)

Voice	Structure	Example
<b>Active</b>	\$will + V <sub>1</sub> \$	The commission <b>will hold</b> the elections.
<b>Passive</b>	\$will + be + V <sub>3</sub> \$	The elections <b>will be held</b> by the commission.

**Corrected Sentence:**

The election commission has announced that voting **will be held** in five phases across the state.

**Q.3** Caring (A) children in planting and engaging (B) for a few plants (C) at home can introduce them to the wonders (D) of nature and science. In the question below, a sentence is given with four words highlighted. These four words are may not be in their correct position. The sentence is then followed by options with the correct combination of words that should replace each other in order to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Find the correct combination of the words that replace each other.

- A. A-B
- B. B-C
- C. A-C and B-D
- D. B-D
- E. No interchange required

**Answer:** A

**Sol:**

Correct Answer: (a) A–B  
 This means "Caring" (A) and "engaging" (B) are interchanged.  
 Correctly rearranged sentence (after interchange)  
 Engaging children in planting and caring for a few plants at home can introduce them to the wonders of nature and science.  
 The sentence is now grammatically correct and contextually meaningful.  
 Meanings of the highlighted words (English & Hindi)  
 Caring (A)

**English meaning:**

Looking after or giving attention to someone or something

**Hindi meaning:**

देखभाल करना / परवाह करना

**Example (English):**

She is caring for the injured bird.

**Why incorrect at original position:**

*Caring children in planting...*

- "Caring" cannot directly take "children" as an object in this structure.
- The verb *care* requires "for", and even then it does not fit the intended meaning.

**Why correct after interchange:**

*caring for a few plants*

- "Caring for" correctly expresses **looking after plants**, which fits perfectly.

**Engaging (B)**

**English meaning:**

Involving or attracting someone's attention or participation

**Hindi meaning:**

शामिल करना / संलग्न करना

**Example (English):**

The teacher is engaging students in group activities.

**Why incorrect at original position:**

*and engaging for a few plants*

- "Engaging" does not take "for" in this sense.
- Plants cannot be "engaged for" something.

**Why correct after interchange:**

*Engaging children in planting*

- Correct verb-preposition combination: **engage someone in something.**

**Plants (C)**

**English meaning:**

Living organisms like flowers, herbs, or trees

**Hindi meaning:**

पौधे

**Example (English):**

She waters the plants every morning.

**Position analysis:**

- *a few plants* → grammatically and contextually correct.
- Correct at its position (no change needed)

**Wonders (D)**

**English meaning:**

Things that cause amazement or curiosity

**Hindi meaning:**

अद्भुत बातें / चमत्कार

**Example (English):**

The wonders of space fascinate scientists.

**Position analysis:**

- *the wonders of nature and science* → idiomatic and correct.
- Correct at its position (no change needed)

**Why option (a) A-B is correct**

- Swapping **Caring** ↔ **Engaging** fixes:
  - the wrong verb-object relationship
  - the incorrect preposition usage
- The final sentence becomes:
  - grammatically sound
  - semantically clear
  - idiomatic English

**Final Answer:**

(a) A-B

**Q.4 The port authority seized (A)/ a vessel which was (B)/ carrying illegally goods (C)/ worth crores of rupees. (D)**

**In the following question, a sentence is divided into four parts. Choose the part of the sentence which may contain a grammatical error in it. If all the parts of the sentence are grammatically correct and contextually meaningful, choose option "No error" as the answer choice.**

- A. A
- B. B
- C. C
- D. D
- E. No error

**Answer:** C

**Sol:** The error lies in part (C) of the sentence.

**Analysis**

- **Part (A):** "The port authority seized" — Correct. The subject and the simple past tense verb are used properly.
- **Part (B):** "a vessel which was" — Correct. The relative pronoun "which" correctly refers to the "vessel," and the singular verb "was" matches the singular subject.
- **Part (C):** "carrying **illegally** goods" — **Incorrect.**
  - o The word "goods" is a **noun**.
  - o In English grammar, nouns must be modified by **adjectives**, not adverbs.
  - o "Illegally" is an adverb. It should be replaced by the adjective **"illegal."**
- **Part (D):** "worth crores of rupees" — Correct. This is a standard way to express high value in Indian English.

**Correct Sentence**

The port authority seized a vessel which was carrying **illegal** goods worth crores of rupees.

**Grammar Rule: Adjective vs. Adverb**

To understand why "illegally" is wrong here, look at how we modify different parts of speech:

Part of Speech	Modified by	Example
<b>Noun</b> (e.g., goods)	<b>Adjective</b>	<b>Illegal</b> goods
<b>Verb</b> (e.g., carrying)	<b>Adverb</b>	Carrying them <b>illegally</b>



**Q.5** On the ball

- (A) The new assistant is really on the ball—she anticipates problems before they happen.
  - (B) You need to be on the ball if you want to succeed in a fast-paced work environment.
  - (C) He was truly on the ball during the meeting, answering every question confidently and accurately.
- In the provided question, an idiom is presented, followed by three statements. Identify the statements that correctly use the given idiom.

- A. Both A & B
- B. All A, B, C
- C. Only C
- D. Both B & C
- E. Only A

**Answer:** B

**Sol:**

Idiom: On the ball

- **Meaning (English):** alert, quick to understand, attentive, efficient.
- **Meaning (Hindi):** सतर्क / चौकस / जल्दी समझने वाला

Check Statements:

- (A) The new assistant is really on the ball—she anticipates problems before they happen.
  - Correct use: shows alertness and foresight.
  - Correct.
- (B) You need to be on the ball if you want to succeed in a fast-paced work environment.
  - Correct use: fast-paced environment requires alertness.
  - Correct.
- (C) He was truly on the ball during the meeting, answering every question confidently and accurately.

· Correct use: being attentive and sharp in the meeting.

· Correct.

Correct Answer: (b) All A, B, C

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