

# GENERAL ENGLISH

## Sentence Arrangement

Sentence arrangement, jumbled sentences and reconstruction of paragraphs all come under the same category. In the last session we have seen the different forms in which the questions may appear in different competitive examinations. In continuation of that let us see a technique which helps us to solve this section.

### TIME-SAVER CQE TECHNIQUE- Clue Qualifier Elimination Technique

This technique is applicable to type one and type two and will also be helpful in type three of sentence arrangement. In most cases the first and the last sentences are specified and the remaining four are to be arranged. Four answer sets are provided as the alternative choice to the candidates. Only one choice is correct which the candidates have to spot out. First of all, we shall find some clues in the set. On the basis of the clue we shall locate a qualifier. A qualifier is a sentence that is telling us something about another sentence. That another sentence is the qualified sentence. The qualifier will be placed by the side of the qualified. It is just possible that there may be two qualifiers of the same sentence. In that case we have to decide the preference based on the sequence.

Now there are three possibilities.

**Possibility (1)** The qualifier may be qualifying the first sentence. In this case our answer choice will begin with the qualifier.

**Example 1: Duryodhana was a wicked prince.**

P. One day Bhima made Duryodhana fall from a tree from which Duryodhana was stealing fruits.

Q. He did not like Pandavas being loved by the people of Hastinapur.

R. Among the Pandavas, Bhima was extraordinarily strong and powerful.

S. Duryodhana specially hated Bhima.

6. This enraged Duryodhana so much that he began to think of removing Bhima from his way.

Options:    A) PSQR                      B) QRSP                      C) QSRP                      D) PSRQ

Here Q is the qualifier of sentence (1) because he is the pronoun used for Duryodhana. So our answer will begin with Q. But both choices B and C begin with Q. Therefore we have

to decide by sequence and then B will be the correct answer.

**Possibility (2)** Our qualifier may qualify any sentence other than the first and last. In this case we have to spot out the answer where the qualifier is by the side of the qualified.

**Example 2: Love for the country is a necessity.**

P. But it should in no way exceed the limits and take the shape of jingoism.

Q. Similarly nationalism has to be satisfied at the altar of internationalism.

R. There is no reason why the nations of the world cannot treat one another as belonging to one family of nations.

S. Provincialism has to be sacrificed in the interest of the nation as a whole.

6. God created the globe, but man drew lines on it to demarcate countries and sow the seeds of hatred and enmity on it.

Options: A) QRSP      B) PSQR      C) RQPS      D) SPRQ

Q is the qualifier of S because as it connects the word nationalism to provincialism. Thus our answer should show SQ together. Among the four choices only B has SQ together. Therefore B is the answer.

**Possibility (3)** The last sentence may be a qualifier in some cases. In that situation our answer should end with the qualified sentence.

**Example 3: Once king Shantanu met a young and beautiful fisher girl.**

P. He went to the fisherman and asked him for her hand in marriage.

Q. The king was extremely sad and returned to the palace.

R. He fell in love with the fisher girl.

S. The fisherman agreed to it on the condition that the son of his daughter should be the heir to the throne of Hastinapur.

6. Devavrata, the king's son, asked him the reason of his sadness.

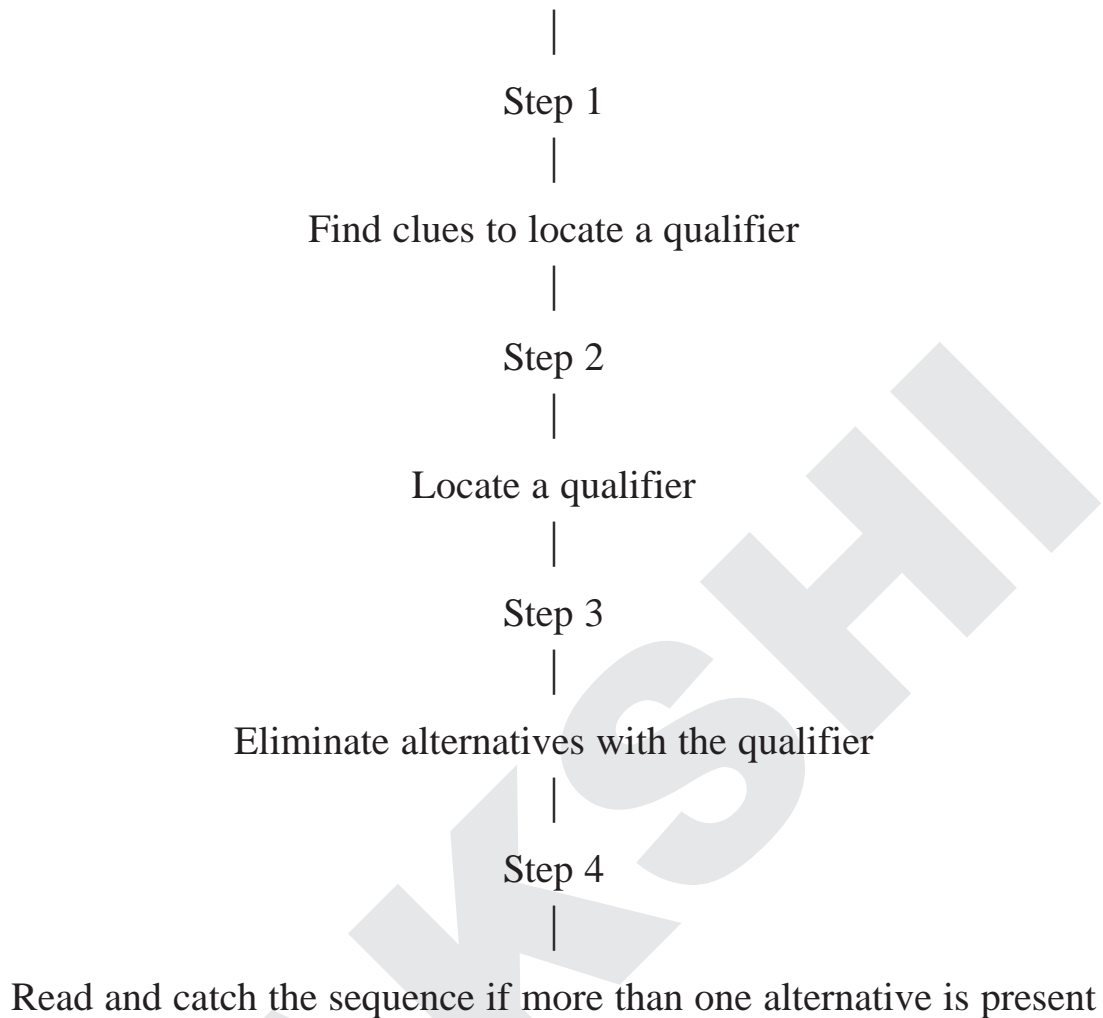
Options A) PQRS      B) RPSQ      C) QSPR      D) PSQR

Here, sentence number 6 is the qualifier of Q because sadness and sad are connected. Thus our answer will end with Q. Among the choices given only B ends with Q. Therefore B is the answer.

Whenever we have more than one choice we have to depend on our sense of sequence.

This technique can be illustrated with a figure.

### TIME-SAVER CQE TECHNIQUE



### PRACTICE TEST

#### 1. Why are horses the same?

- P. It may be old and lame, and in time it will die.
- Q. A particular horse 'flows', naturally.
- R. But there is something all horses have in common.
- S. You probably don't think they are at all.
- 6. But the form of the horse is eternal and immutable.

Options: a) SRPQ      b) RPQS      c) RQSP      d) SRQP

#### 2. The headmaster looked at the boy more closely.

- P. Although he must have been about eighteen years old, he wore a child's suit.
- Q. He noticed the strange mixt-ure of clothes that he wore.
- R. His shoes were too broken and old even for a beggar.
- S. It was amazingly short in the arms and legs and yet wide enough for his thin body.

6. Besides, one of his feet had been hurt.

Options: a) SQPR                      b) RQSP                      c) QPSR                      d) PRQS

3. So the father gave his younger son a third part of all that he had.

P. Then he left his village and went to the town.

Q. The son sold his share of the land and the animals.

R. Soon all his money was gone.

S. He wasted his money on feasting and drinking.

6. He became poor and returned to the village.

Options: a) QPSR                      b) PQRS                      c) SPQR                      d) RPQS

4.1. It was an impulsive decision.

P. Buying tickets, therefore, was no problem.

Q. Four of us, all room-mates in the hostel, decided to travel by train from Gwalior to Delhi and witness the republic Day parade.

R. Ashok pretended sickness and prevailed upon the man nearest to the window to buy four more tickets one for him and three for his sisters.

S. There was a large crowd in the station and a long queue in front of the ticket window.

6. The train was already on the platform and all the passengers were in a hurry to board the train.

Options: a) PSQR                      b) QSRP                      c) PQRS                      d) SQRP

5.1. Abraham went to the great slave market in New Orleans.

P. From that day onwards he hated the entire slave-trade.

Q. The slaves were auctioned like cattle there.

R. The sight of these miserable human beings made him very sad.

S. He resolved to do every-thing he could to abolish it.

6. He did not rest until he achieved his goal.

Options: a) QRPS                      b) PQRS                      c) SRQP                      d) QPRS

6.1. He was no child prodigy.

P. When soldiers marched through Munich accompanied by drums and pipes, children enthusiastically joined in.

Q. Indeed, it was a very long time before Albert learned to speak.

R. But when little Albert passed such a parade, he began to cry and told his parents, "When I grow up, I don't want to be one of those people".

S. He was always taciturn.

6. He saw the parade as a movement of people compelled by drums and pipes, children enthusiastically joined in.

Options: a) QPSR      b) RQSP      c) SQPR      d) QSRP

### 7.1. I stopped and looked up at the building.

P. I thought I must have imagined the scream.

Q. There were no lights on at all in it.

R. I heard some screams.

S. Everyone seemed to be asleep.

6. Help! Save me!

Options: a) QSRP      b) PQRS      c) QSPR      d) RSPQ

### 8.1. The flight was delayed by a few hours.

P. The caller had given information about the planting of a time bomb in the plane.

Q. The empty plane was subjected to a thorough search.

R. The passengers were asked to vacate the plane.

S. The delay was caused by an anonymous phone call.

6. The threat turned out to be a hoax and the plane took off a few hours behind the schedule.

Options: a) RQPS      b) SPRQ      c) QRPS      d) PQSR

### 9.1. Buddhism is a way to salvation.

P. But Buddhism is more severely analytical.

Q. In the Christian tradition there is also a concern for the fate of human society conceived as a whole, rather than merely as a sum or network of individuals.

R. Salvation is a property, or achievement of individuals.

S. Not only does it dissolve society into individuals; the individual in turn is dissolved into component parts and instants- a stream of events.

6. In modern terminology, Buddhist doctrine is reductionist.

Options: a) RQPS      b) SPRQ      c) QRPS      d) PQSR

10. 1. Until the MBA arrived on the scene, the IIT graduate was king.

P. A degree from one of the five IIT'S was a passport to a well-paying job, great prospects abroad and for some, a decent dowry to boot.

Q.From the day they crack their joint entrance examination, the IIT student commanded the awe of neighbours and close relatives.

R.IIT students had, meanw-hile, also developed their own special culture, comp-lete with lingo and attitude, which they passed down.

S. True, the success stories of IIT graduates are legion and they now constitute the cream of the Indian diaspora.

6. But not many alumni would agree that the IIT undergraduate mindset a serious psychological study let alone an interactive one.

Options: a) QPRS                      b) PQRS                      c) SRQP                      d) PQSR

**KEY:**

- 1) D            2) C            3) A            4) B            5) A            6) C            7) A            8) B  
9) A            10) A