

SSC ENGLISH

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Coverage of all Questions asked
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CGL (Tier I & II),
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Stenographer Grade
'C' & 'D', FCI,
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Contents

1 Common Error	01-69
2 Fill in the Blanks	70-104
3 Synonyms	105-136
4 Antonyms	137-167
5 Spelling Test	168-189
6 One Word Substitution	190-215
7 Idioms and Phrases	216-247
8 Transformations of Sentences	248-328
9 Sentence Arrangement	329-380
10 Sentence Improvement	381-424
11 Cloze Test	425-485
12 Comprehension	486-566

CHAPTERWISE TREND ANALYSIS

SSC EXAMS

Held in 2022 - 2020

S. No.	Topic	SSC CGL Tier I (Dec. 22)	SSC MTS (July 2022)	SSC CGL Tier-II (Dec. 2022)	SSC CPO (Nov. 2022)	SSC Steno (Nov. 2022)	SSC (10+2) (June 2022)
1.	Common Error	2	3	20	1	12	2
2.	Fill in the Blanks	2	6	5	2	5	3
3.	Synonyms	1	2	3	7	6	1
4.	Antonyms	2	2	3	5	8	2
5.	Spelling Test	2	2	3	5	-	2
6.	One Word Substitution	1	1	13	12	-	3
7.	Idioms and Phrases	3	2	10	6	5	3
8.	Transformations of Sentences	3	-	46	2	24	2
9.	Sentence Arrangement	3	-	20	-	3	-
10.	Sentence Improvement	1	2	22	-	7	2
11.	Cloze Test	5	5	25	5	15	5
12.	Comprehension	-	-	30	5	15	-
	Total	25	25	200	50	100	25

S. No.	Topic	SSC CGL Tier-I 2021 (April 2022)	SSC Steno (Nov. 2021)	SSC MTS (Nov. 2021)	SSC CGL Tier-I 2020 (Aug. 2021)	SSC (10+2) (Aug. 2021)	SSC Steno 2019 (Dec. 2020)
1.	Common Error	4	10	3	2	2	10
2.	Fill in the Blanks	1	5	4	2	2	5
3.	Synonyms	2	5	2	2	2	5
4.	Antonyms	2	5	2	2	2	5
5.	Spelling Test	1	-	2	2	2	-
6.	One Word Substitution	2	1	2	2	2	-
7.	Idioms and Phrases	2	5	2	2	2	5
8.	Transformations of Sentences	3	20	-	2	2	20
9.	Sentence Arrangement	1	5	-	2	2	5
10.	Sentence Improvement	2	9	3	2	2	10
11.	Cloze Test	5	20	5	5	5	20
12.	Comprehension	-	15	-	-	-	15
	Total	25	100	25	25	25	100



S. No.	Topic	SSC CPO 2020 (Nov. 2020)					
1.	Common Error	5					
2.	Fill in the Blanks	5					
3.	Synonyms	5					
4.	Antonyms	5					
5.	Spelling Test	5					
6.	One Word Substitution	5					
7.	Idioms and Phrases	5					
8.	Transformations of Sentences	-					
9.	Sentence Arrangement	-					
10.	Sentence Improvement	5					
11.	Cloze Test	5					
12.	Comprehension	5					
	Total	50					



Common Error

Noun

Noun is the name of a person, place, thing, idea or concept.

Kinds of Noun

There are following kinds of Noun

Proper Noun

The name of a particular person, place or thing is called proper noun.

e.g.,

- (i) Delhi is the capital of **India**.
- (ii) Ravi is the brother of **Meera**.

1. Proper nouns are written in capital letters.
2. Proper nouns can be sometimes used as common nouns.

e.g.,

Coorg is often called the 'Scotland of India'.

Here, 'Scotland' is a proper noun, which has been used as a common noun.

Common Noun

Name which is given in common to the things or persons of a same class.

e.g.,

- (i) Girls are honest.
- (ii) Monkeys are naughty.

Collective Noun

Noun that indicates a group of persons or things as a whole is termed as *collective noun*.

e.g.,

- (i) The class is dispersed.
- (ii) The crowd become furious.

Material Noun

Noun which are names of the materials or substances from which things are made.

e.g.,

- (i) Iron is a very strong material.
- (ii) This window is made of glass.

Abstract Noun

Noun that shows feeling, quality or the state is known as abstract noun.

e.g.,

- (i) Soldiers proved their bravery in the war.
- (ii) His goodness is well-known.

Noun : Number

Number represents if a noun is single or more than one.

There are two numbers in grammar

- (i) **Singular** represents one.
e.g., Ram, boy, girl, etc.
- (ii) **Plural** represents more than one.
e.g., Boys, girls, trees, etc.

Rules for Changing Singular into Plural

Rule 1. If —s, —ss, —sh, —ch, —x and —z are the last letters of noun, add —es to the end to make them plural.

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Class	Classes	Mass	Masses
Match	Matches	Box	Boxes

Exception *Stomach—Stomachs*
Monarch—Monarchs

Rule 2. Add—es to the noun, when it ends up with —o.

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Buffalo	Buffaloes	Hero	Heroes
Potato	Potatoes		

Rule 3. If the noun ends up with two vowels, then —s is added.

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Radio	Radios	Cuckoo	Cuckoos
Bamboo	Bamboos		

Rule 4. If noun ends with —f or —fe, then—f or—fe is changed into—ves.

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Thief	Thieves	Shelf	Shelves
Wife	Wives		

Exception *Belief — Beliefs*
Chief — Chiefs

Rule 5. If noun ends with —y and if there is a consonant before 'y', then plural is made by changing 'y' into—ies.

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
City	Cities	Army	Armies
Sky	Skies		

Rule 6. If the noun ends with —y and before 'y' there is a vowel, then —s is added to make plural.

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Day	Days	Key	Keys
Ray	Rays	Storey	Storeys
Bay	Bays	Clay	Clays

Rule 7. It is found that a few nouns form their plural irregularly.

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Man	Men	Woman	Women
Tooth	Teeth	Goose	Geese
Mouse	Mice	Louse	Lice
Foot	Feet		

Rule 8. Some nouns change their structure by adding —en to form plural.

Exception *Ox — Oxen*
Child — Children

Rule 9. Some nouns have remain same in plural form.

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Swine	Swine	Sheep	Sheep
Deer	Deer	Trout	Trout
Salmon	Salmon	Pair	Pair
Dozen	Dozen	Stone (unit)	Stone
Gross	Gross	Score	Score

Rule 10. Some nouns are always used in the form of plural only.

Instruments	pincers, tongs, scissors, spectacles, etc.
Fabrics	drawers, trousers, etc.
Diseases	measles, mumps, etc.
Games	billiards, draughts, etc.

Rule 11. Some nouns are always used in singular form. *e.g., Jewellery, crockery, luggage, baggage, breakage, percentage, knowledge, postage, wastage, furniture, information, traffic, coffee, dust, etc.*

Rule 12. Nouns ending with—um is made plural by adding —s.

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Stadium	Stadiums	Pendulum	Pendulums
Sanatorium	Sanatoriums		

Rule 13. Some nouns are always used in the singular form only. *e.g., Maths, innings, news, politics, ethics, economics, etc.*

Exception *When the noun is possessed or made particular, it becomes plural. My maths is strong.*

↓
Plural number

Rule 14. Compound nouns are made plural by adding —s to the principal word.

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Son-in-law	Sons-in-law	Step-son	Step-sons
Mother-in-law	Mothers-in-law		

Rule 15. Abstract nouns have no plural form. They are used as it is. *e.g., Love, hatred, benevolence, hope, kindness, poverty, etc.*

Noun : Gender

It denotes the sex of a noun.

Types of Gender

There are four types of gender nouns used in English grammar. *These are as follows*

- 1. Masculine Gender** Noun that denotes the male sex. *e.g., Boy, king, etc.*
- 2. Feminine Gender** Noun that denotes the female sex. *e.g., Girl, queen, etc.*
- 3. Common Gender** Noun that can be used for either sex, male or female. *e.g., Teacher, doctor, professor, etc.*
- 4. Neuter Gender** Noun that is used for non-living things. *e.g., Song, motor, pen, table, etc.*

Rules for Changing Masculine into Feminine

Rule 1. By using a different word.

Masculine	Feminine	Masculine	Feminine
Bull	Cow	Lad	Lass
Gentleman	Lady	King	Queen
Boy	Girl		

Rule 2. By replacing the masculine word with a feminine word.

Masculine	Feminine	Masculine	Feminine
Grand father	Grand mother	Father	Mother
Peacock	Peahen		

Rule 3. Feminine is made by adding—ess to the masculine.

Masculine	Feminine	Masculine	Feminine
Poet	Poetess	Tiger	Tigress
Host	Hostess	Lion	Lioness

Rule 4. Some masculine nouns are used in the common gender. *e.g.*, Teacher, man, tutor, doctor, professor, etc.

Rule 5. Some feminine nouns are used in the common gender. *e.g.*, Duck, cow, bee, etc.

Rule 6. Some masculine have no corresponding feminine nouns. *e.g.*, Judge, captain, parson, etc.

Use of Possessive Case in Noun

1. To show the possession of a noun.

e.g., (i) Ram's car. (ii) Sita's book.

Here, (') with the noun shows the right of the noun.

2. When the noun is already plural, then we put (') to the end, provided the plural noun ends with—s.

e.g.,

(i) Girls' party. (ii) Boss' house.

Pronoun

A word that is used in place of a noun is called pronoun. Use of pronoun restricts the repetition of the noun.

e.g., (i) **Ram** is a boy.



Noun

(ii) Ram is a boy. Ram is honest. Ram studies in class 9th.

Here, to avoid repetition of the noun 'Ram' in the second and third sentences, we can replace it with a pronoun.

Hence, the above example becomes—

Ram is a boy. He is honest. He studies in class 9th.

Kinds of Pronoun

There are following kinds of Pronoun

Personal Pronouns

Words used in place of nouns referring to persons. 'I, we, you, he, she, it, they'.

Person	Subjective Case		Objective Case		Possessive Case	
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
First	I	We	Me	Us	Mine	Ours
Second	You	You	You	You	Yours	Yours
Third	He, She, It	They	Him, Her, It	Them	His, Hers, Its	Theirs

Demonstrative Pronouns

Words used for nouns to point out objects. 'This, that, these, those'.

(i) This is my book. (ii) That is her house.

In the following examples 'This' and 'That' are used as demonstrative adjectives.

(i) **This** book. (ii) **That** house.

Relative Pronouns

Words used for nouns to express functions relating to who, which, that, whose, whom, etc.

(i) The man who has just entered the room is my friend.

(ii) The book that I bought is very costly.

Interrogative Pronouns

Words used for nouns to ask questions. Who? 'What? Which? Whose? Whom?', etc.

(i) Who took my bag? (ii) Whom did you meet?

Indefinite Pronouns

Words used for nouns in vague and general meaning 'everybody, nobody, somebody, either, neither, all, much, several, each, others, another', etc.

(i) All that glitters is not gold. (ii) All of us are ready.

Reflexive Pronouns

Words used as forms of personal pronouns to refer back to the subject. 'Myself, ourselves, himself, themselves, yourself', etc.

(i) History repeats itself.

(ii) She cut her finger herself.

Distributive Pronouns

Used for individuals and objects referring to them as one at a time. 'Either, neither, each, every, none, anyone', etc.

(i) Either of the two sisters is staying here.

(ii) Neither of his arms is defective.

(iii) You can take either room.

(iv) You can talk to each boy.

Reciprocal Pronouns

Words used to point out mutual relationship. 'each other and one another'.

(i) Both the brothers love each other.

(ii) Indians should not fight with one another.

Rules of Pronoun

Rule 1. When the subject of the verb is the receiver of the action, the action is said to be reflected. Such verbs are used reflexively.

Acquit, absent, avail, reconcile, amuse, resign, avenge, revenge, enjoy, exert, apply, adapt, adjust, pride, overreach, etc. are used reflexively.

e.g., (i) You should avail yourself of every chance in life.

(Correct)

- (ii) They enjoyed picture last evening.
(No reflexive pronoun is needed)
- (iii) They enjoyed during summer vacation.
(Place 'themselves' after 'enjoyed')
- (iv) He resigned himself to his failure. (Correct)

Rule 2. The following verbs are not used reflexively.

Keep, stop, turn, qualify, bathe, move, rest, hide, etc.

- e.g., (i) You should keep yourself from bad boys.
(Drop 'yourself')
- (ii) He has qualified himself for the post.
(Drop 'himself')
- (iii) He hid himself in the room. (Drop 'himself')
(Int. verb)
- (iv) The thief hid money under the carpet.
(Correct) (Tran. verb)

Rule 3. A reflexive pronoun cannot act as a subject or object of a verb unless it is preceded by pronoun or noun concerned.

- e.g., (i) Myself will see to it that you get your share of property.
(Change 'myself' into 'I')
- (ii) Yourself and he reached there in time.
(Change 'yourself' into 'you')
- (iii) I myself like him. (Correct)
- (iv) Raj will do it for myself and my sister.
(Change 'myself' to 'me')

Rule 4. The verb 'to be' should be followed by subjective form, when the complement is pronoun.

- e.g., (i) It is me who have brought you home.
(Change 'me' into 'I')
- (ii) Was it her who did it for you?
(Change 'her' into 'she')
- (iii) It will be us who will buy a new house.
(Change 'us' into 'we')

Rule 5. Verbs and prepositions are followed by objective case of a pronoun.

- e.g., (i) Between you and I, Suhani is intelligent.
(Say 'me')
- (ii) She is teaching Rohit and 'she'. (Say 'her')
- (iii) Let they go. (Say 'them')

Rule 6. The order of singular pronouns is second person, third person and first person. But in plural, 'we' is used before 'you' and 'they' after 'you'.

- e.g., (i) I and you will attend her wedding tomorrow.
(Correct use is 'You' and 'I')
- (ii) She and you will share the mangoes.
(Use 'You' and 'She')
- (iii) You, Mohan and I will watch movie tonight.
(Correct)

- (iv) We, you and they are leaving for Mumbai tomorrow. (Correct)

Rule 7. A pronoun in the possessive case should not be used sometimes with the nouns such as separation, leave, excuse, mention, report, pardon, sight, favour.

- e.g., (i) Your separation is very painful to me.
(Say 'separation from you')
- (ii) At his sight, the robbers fled.
(Say 'At the sight of him')
- (iii) I beg your favour, please. (favour off from you)
- (iv) She did make mention of you.
(Correct, 'your mention' is wrong.)

Rule 8. While writing question tag, the subject and verb must be according to the main sentence.

- e.g., (i) Our teacher is intelligent, isn't it? (Use 'isn't he?')
- (ii) The boys are not going on picnic, are they? (Correct)
- (iii) They went to Delhi yesterday, isn't it?
(Use 'didn't they (correct)?')
- (iv) She comes here daily, does she? (Use 'doesn't she')
- (v) She will help me, won't she? (Correct)
- (vi) The negative statements having words such as hardly, seldom, barely, scarcely, few, little are followed by ordinary question tag. (Affirmative)

Rule 9. 'Which' is used in place of 'Who' when we are referring to a choice between two or more than two things or persons.

- e.g., (i) Of the two sisters, who is the more intelligent?
(Use 'which' in place of 'who')
- (ii) Who is your father in the crowd?
(Use 'which' in place of 'who')
- (iii) Who is better of the two dancers in our society?
(Place the before better and change 'who' into 'which')

Rule 10. The possessive pronoun (or possessive case of a pronoun) is used in place of the noun.

- e.g., (i) This book is Pooja's.
This book is hers.
- (ii) Mr. Yadav has an expensive car.
His is an expensive car.

Rule 11. 'What' is used without an antecedent and it refers to things only.

- e.g., (i) It is incredible what she said.
- (ii) I don't believe in the words, what she uttered.
(Use 'which/that' in place of 'what')
- (iii) I don't believe in what you say. (Correct)
- (iv) I know which you say. (Say 'what')

Adjective

Adjective is a word that tells us about or add to the meaning of a noun. *e.g.*,

- (i) She is a kind lady.
- (ii) I like this pen.
- (iii) She lives in a large house.
- (iv) He is a strong player.

Kinds of Adjectives

There are two types of adjectives

Descriptive Adjectives

Adjective of Quality Ugly, heavy, dry, good, red

Determiner Adjectives

1. **Demonstrative Adjectives** This, that, these, those
2. **Distributive Adjectives** Each, every, either, neither
3. **Quantitative Adjectives** Some, any, no, little
4. **Numerical Adjectives** Few, many all, several, one, first
5. **Interrogative Adjectives** Which, what, whose
6. **Possessive Adjectives** My, our, your, his, her, their, its
7. **Present/Past Participle Adjectives** A moving bus, a wounded driver, a burnt man, tiring journey
8. **Relative Adjectives** Who, which, that
9. **Emphatic Adjectives** Own, such, same, very
10. **Proper Adjectives** Indian, Asian, American
11. **Exclamatory Adjectives** What, which, how

Articles as Determiners

A, An and The are determiners.

Distinction Between Adjectives and Pronouns

1. **Demonstrative Adjectives and Demonstrative Pronouns**
 - (i) Please get me that book. (*Adjective*)
 - (ii) That is my book. (*Pronoun*)
2. **Possessive Adjectives and Possessive Pronouns**
 - (i) This is my book. (*Adjective*)
 - (ii) This book is mine. (*Pronoun*)
 - (iii) It is her vanity box. (*Adjective*)
 - (iv) This vanity box is hers. (*Pronoun*)
3. **Distributive Adjectives and Distributive Pronouns**
 - (i) Either boy has stolen my book. (*Adjective*)
 - (ii) Neither book will serve my purpose. (*Adjective*)
 - (iii) I do not like either of the sisters. (*Pronoun*)
 - (iv) We bought neither of the bikes. (*Pronoun*)

Every is only adjective and it cannot be used as determiner. But each can be used both as adjective and pronoun.

- (v) Every boy was present. (*Adjective*)
- (vi) Each boy was present. (*Adjective*)
- (vii) Each of the boys will come. (*Pronoun*)
- (viii) Everyone of them is wasting money. (*Pronoun*)

Formation of Adjectives

1. Adjectives formed from nouns

Noun	Adjective	Noun	Adjective
Sick	Sicken	Glory	Glorious
Gold	Golden	Boy	Boyish
Fool	Foolish	Laugh	Laughable
Play	Playful	Courage	Courageous
Care	Careful	Envy	Envious
Trouble	Troublesome	Man	Manly
Shame	Shameless	King	Kingly
Sense	Senseless	Woman	Womanish

2. Adjectives formed from verbs

Verb	Adjective	Verb	Adjective
Tire	Tiring	Move	Movable
Talk	Talkative	Eat	Edible

3. Adjectives formed from adjectives

Adjective	Adjective	Adjective	Adjective
Colour	Colourful	Black	Blackish
Green	Greenish	Whole	Wholesome
Yellow	Yellowish	Three	Threesome

Degree of Adjectives

There are three degrees of adjectives. These are

1. **Positive Degree** When the quality is directly employed to a noun or a pronoun. *e.g.*,
 - (i) Ramiz is a good boy. (*Quality of Ramiz*)
Positive degree
 - (ii) Sita is a beautiful girl. (*Quality of Sita*)
Positive degree
2. **Comparative Degree** When there is a comparison between two nouns or pronouns. *e.g.*,
Mukesh is richer than Mahesh.
Comparative degree (Comparison of richness between the two nouns).
3. **Superlative Degree** When a quality or an attribute of an individual is employed among a number of individuals of same class. *e.g.*,
Ambani is the richest Indian.
Superlative degree (Reference of 'Ambani' among Indians).

Formation of Degree of Adjectives

- Rule 1.** Comparative and superlative degree are formed by adding -er, -est to positive degree, but it will end with r, st, if 'e' is in the end of the positive degree.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Sweet	Sweeter	Sweetest
Young	Younger	Youngest
High	Higher	Highest
Old	Older	Oldest
White	Whiter	Whitest
Noble	Nobler	Noblest
Wise	Wiser	Wisest
Large	Larger	Largest

Rule 2. If the positive degree ends up with 'y' and any consonant comes before 'y', then 'y' is changed into 'i' and by adding -er comparative degree is formed and by adding -est superlative degree is formed.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Easy	Easier	Easiest
Lovely	Lovelier	Loveliest
Happy	Happier	Happiest
Heavy	Heavier	Heaviest
Healthy	Healthier	Healthiest
Pretty	Prettier	Prettiest
Merry	Merrier	Merriest

Rule 3. If positive degree ends with a single consonant and there is a vowel before that consonant, then the consonant is doubled while making the comparative and superlative degrees.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Wet	Wetter	Wettest
Big	Bigger	Biggest
Hot	Hotter	Hottest
Fat	Fatter	Fattest

Rule 4. In few cases, 'more' and 'most' is added to form comparative and superlative degrees.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Difficult	More Difficult	Most Difficult
Important	More Important	Most Important
Careless	More Careless	Most Careless
Beautiful	More Beautiful	Most Beautiful
Courageous	More Courageous	Most Courageous
Useful	More Useful	Most Useful

Rule 5. Some adjectives have different words in their comparative and superlative degrees.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Bad	Worse	Worst
Much	More	Most
Fore	Former	Foremost, First
Late	Latter	Latest
Good, Well	Better	Best

Rules of Adjective

Rule 1. Adjective is used to describe the quality of a noun or pronoun.

- e.g., (i) She is a skillful dancer. (Quality)
(ii) Sonu's act was thoughtful. (Quality)

Rule 2. There are some adjectives which don't form comparative and superlative degrees. Such adjectives denote absolute position. Perfect, unique, ideal, chief, universal, extreme, complete, entire, excellent, absolute, impossible, eternal, supreme, etc.

- e.g., (i) I have never seen a more complete book on General Studies. (Drop 'more')
(ii) Happiness is the chiefest aim of mankind. (Use 'chief')
(iii) How can divided India become the most supreme power? (Remove 'the most')

Rule 3. The comparative adjectives such as Prior, junior, senior, superior, inferior, prefer (Verb), preferable, elder, etc., are followed by 'to' instead of 'than'.

- e.g., (i) He is senior than me in service. (Use 'to' in place of 'than')
(ii) Lemon juice is preferable than tea. (Use 'to' in place of 'than')
(iii) My sister is elder than me by 2 years. (Use 'to' in place of 'than')
(iv) She prefers coffee rather than tea. (Use rather 'than' in place of 'to' is correct.)
(v) She is more senior to her boss in service. (Remove 'more')
(vi) Milk is more preferable to tea. (Remove 'more')

Note 'Rather than' may be used for 'to' after 'prefer' (iv).

Rule 4. Note carefully the distinction among the following adjectives

Little is used for quantity. (Little, less, least)	Few is used for number. (Few, fewer, fewest)
Little means hardly any. (Negative sense)	Few means hardly anyone/anything. (Negative sense)
A little means not much (Some). (Affirmative meaning)	A few means not many (Some). (Affirmative meaning)
The little means not much but all.	The few means not many but all.
Some is used in affirmative and while making request in interrogative.	Any is used for negative and interrogative sentences and in the sense of every.
Some is used as an adjective.	(No any/Not any are wrong expressions.)
Somewhat is used as an adverb.	If any
Farther means more distant. (Far, farther, farthest)	Further means additional.