

# Sentence improvement exercise

In each of the following questions, four sentences expressing nearly the same idea are given. Decide which sentence is the most effective when it comes to grammar and syntax.

## Question 1

- a) We would have won the match if only we would have concentrated.
- b) We had won the match if only we would have concentrated.
- c) We would have won the match if we had concentrated.
- d) We would win the match if only we had concentrated.

## Question 2

- a) Since he wasn't rich by any means, he never turned away anyone who needed help.
- b) He wasn't rich my any means, but he never turned away anyone who needed help.
- c) He wasn't rich by any means, although he never turned down anyone who needed help.
- d) Since he lacked money, he never turned down anyone who needed help.

## Question 3

- a) Since the committee lacked power it could not deliver expected results.
- b) The committee was useless because there was no power to it.
- c) Since the committee did not have the power it has not deliver useful results.

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d) Since the committee lacked power it would not have deliver expected results.

## Question 4

a) By June next year, Sajan will be twenty years working in this office.

b) Till June next year, Sajan will work in this office for twenty years.

c) By June next year, Sajan will have been working in this office for twenty years.

d) Having completed twenty years, Sajan will be working in this office till next year.

## Answers

1. c) We would have won the match if we had concentrated.

2. b) He wasn't rich my any means, but he never turned away anyone who needed help.

3. a) Since the committee lacked power it could not deliver expected results.

4. c) By June next year, Sajan will have been working in this office for twenty years.