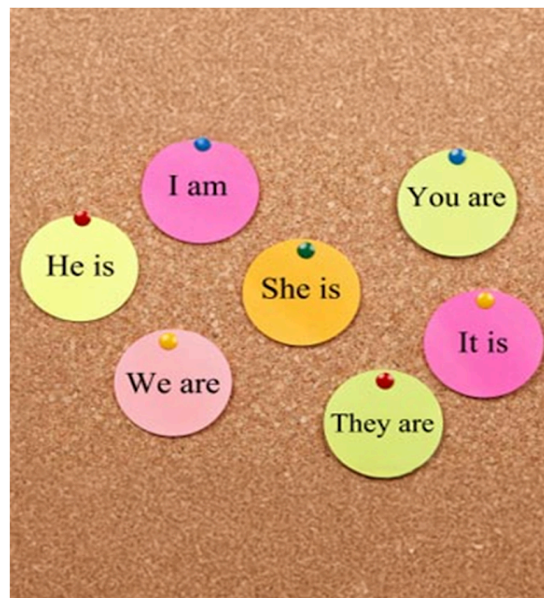


# English Grammar

## STUDY NOTES

### Sentence Improvement (II)



❖ These fifteen 'fill in the blanks' sentence improvement problems center on **adverbs** and come with thorough answers.

1. The constable was a so big man that he could not run fast enough to catch the thief.
  - 1) a such big man
  - 2) so big man
  - 3) so big a man
  - 4) No correction required

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 3) 'so big a man'.**

**a such big man** - Incorrect because "such" should be used with a noun without an article, but "a" is needed before "such."

**so big man** - Incorrect because "so" requires "a" before "man" to form a correct phrase.

**so big a man** - Correct because "so...a" is the correct construction when emphasizing the size or extent of something in this context.

**No correction required** - Incorrect because the sentence "so big man" is grammatically incorrect; it requires "a" before "man."

2. "Under no circumstances we can help you in this work", said the team lead.
  - 1) Under no circumstances can we help
  - 2) Under circumstances we can help
  - 3) Under no circumstances we could help
  - 4) No improvement required

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 1) 'Under no circumstances can we help'.**

**Under no circumstances can we help** - Correct, as it correctly inverts "can we" after the negative phrase.

**Under circumstances we can help** - Incorrect, as it removes "no," changing the meaning.

**Under no circumstances we could help** - Incorrect, as "could" is incorrect and does not follow the required inversion.

**No improvement required** - Incorrect, as the original lacks inversion after the negative phrase.

3. Paridhi has no right to take a claim on her mother's property because she did not look after her mother in her old age.

- 1) to stake a claim to
- 2) to make a claim
- 3) to ask
- 4) No improvement required

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 1) 'to stake a claim to'.**

**to stake a claim to** - Correct, as "stake a claim to" is the correct idiomatic expression.

**to make a claim** - Incorrect, as it doesn't fit the context of claiming ownership or rights.

**to ask** - Incorrect, as it changes the meaning entirely.

**No improvement required** - Incorrect, as the original phrasing is not idiomatic.

4. My mother looked at Sana and me with her mouth slight openly.

- 1) an openly slight
- 2) No improvement required
- 3) open slight
- 4) slightly open

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 4) 'slightly open'.**

**an openly slight** - Incorrect, as it makes no grammatical sense in this context.

**No improvement required** - Incorrect, as "slight openly" is incorrect.

**open slight** - Incorrect, as it is not grammatically correct or meaningful.

**slightly open** - Correct, as it is the appropriate phrase to describe her mouth being partially open.

5. Getting a good night's sleep has a positively effect on our well-being.

- 1) have a positively affect
- 2) has a positive effect
- 3) No improvement required
- 4) has a positive affects

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 4) 'has a positive effect'.**

**have a positively affect** - Incorrect, as "have" doesn't agree with the subject "Getting a good night's sleep," and "affect" is also incorrectly used.

**has a positive effect** - Correct, as "has" agrees with the subject, and "positive effect" is the correct phrase.

**No improvement required** - Incorrect, as "positively effect" is grammatically incorrect.

**has a positive affects** - Incorrect, as "affects" should be singular "effect" and is also used incorrectly in this context.

6. He blew out the candle and went to sleepy.

- 1) went to sleep
- 2) go on sleep
- 3) No improvement required

4) gone to sleep

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 1) "went to sleep".**

**went to sleep** - Correct, as it is the appropriate phrase to indicate that he went to bed.

**go on sleep** - Incorrect, as it is not a correct English expression.

**No improvement required** - Incorrect, as "went to sleepy" is grammatically incorrect.

**gone to sleep** - Incorrect, as it does not match the past tense structure of the sentence.

7. I think I have enough heard of your lies.

1) No improvement

2) enough have heard

3) has enough heard

4) have heard enough

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 4) 'have heard enough'.**

**No improvement** - Incorrect, as "enough heard" is grammatically incorrect.

**enough have heard** - Incorrect, as it is an awkward and incorrect word order.

**has enough heard** - Incorrect, as it uses the wrong verb form ("has" instead of "have").

**have heard enough** - Correct, as it places "enough" correctly after "heard" to convey the intended meaning.

8. He's not so friendly like she is.

1) so friendly as

2) as friendly like

- 3) so friendly that
- 4) No improvement required

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 1) 'so friendly as'.**

**so friendly as** - Correct, as "so...as" is the correct comparative structure in negative sentences.

**as friendly like** - Incorrect, as "like" is unnecessary and grammatically incorrect here.

**so friendly that** - Incorrect, as it changes the intended meaning to a cause-effect relationship.

**No improvement required** - Incorrect, as "so friendly like" is grammatically incorrect in comparisons.

9. Karan was so deep effected by the film that he didn't speak a word.

- 1) deeper affect
- 2) deeply affected
- 3) deeply effective
- 4) No substitution required

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 2) 'deeply affected'**

**deeper affect** - Incorrect, as "affect" is the wrong form and "deeper" does not fit here.

**deeply affected** - Correct, as "deeply" is the correct adverb to describe "affected."

**deeply effective** - Incorrect, as "effective" changes the meaning and does not fit the context.

**No substitution required** - Incorrect, as "so deep effected" is grammatically incorrect.

10. I have lost my school diary; I can't find it nowhere.

- 1) wherever
- 2) everywhere
- 3) anywhere
- 4) somewhere

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 3) 'anywhere'.**

**wherever** - Incorrect, as it does not fit the context of searching.

**everywhere** - Incorrect, as it implies that the diary has been found in all places.

**anywhere** - Correct, as "can't find it anywhere" is the appropriate expression in negative sentences.

**somewhere** - Incorrect, as it implies a specific unknown location, not a negative search context.

**11.** You must return back the book you borrowed last month.

- 1) must be returned back
- 2) No substitution required
- 3) must return
- 4) must be returned

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 3) 'must return.'**

**must be returned back** - Incorrect, as "back" is redundant, and "must return" is simpler.

**No substitution required** - Incorrect, as "return back" is redundant.

**must return** - Correct, as "return" already implies giving back, making "back" unnecessary.

**must be returned** - Incorrect, as it changes the sentence structure unnecessarily.

12. Our house was awkwardly damaged during the floods.

- 1) badly
- 2) imperfectly
- 3) suitably
- 4) No improvement required

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 1) 'badly.'**

**badly** - Correct, as "badly damaged" is the appropriate phrase to describe severe damage.

**imperfectly** - Incorrect, as it implies incomplete or flawed, not severe damage.

**suitably** - Incorrect, as it suggests appropriateness, which does not fit the context.

**No improvement required** - Incorrect, as "awkwardly damaged" is not a standard expression.

13. He can run very speedily.

- 1) rapidly
- 2) directly
- 3) fast
- 4) No improvement required

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 3) 'fast.'**

**rapidly** - Incorrect, as it can refer to quickness but is not the best word for running speed.

**directly** - Incorrect, as it implies a sense of direction rather than speed.

**fast** - Correct, as "fast" is the most suitable and commonly used adverb to describe running speed.

**No improvement required** - Incorrect, as "very speedily" is less natural and less commonly used.

**14.** That mistake will be hopeful be fixed in the next edition.

- 1) will hope
- 2) will hoped
- 3) will hopefully
- 4) No error

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 3) 'will hopefully.'**

**will hope** - Incorrect, as "will hope" does not convey the intended adverbial meaning.

**will hoped** - Incorrect, as "hoped" is grammatically incorrect in this context.

**will hopefully** - Correct, as "hopefully" is the correct adverb to express expectation.

**No error** - Incorrect, as "hopeful" should be replaced with "hopefully."

**15.** Seldom do we find so many birds nesting during this season.

- 1) No substitution required
- 2) Seldom does we find
- 3) Seldom we do find
- 4) Seldom did we found

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 1) 'No substitution required'.**

**No substitution required** - Correct, as the sentence "Seldom do we find" uses the correct inversion for emphasis with "seldom."

**Seldom does we find** - Incorrect, as "does" does not agree with the subject "we."

**Seldom we do find** - Incorrect, as it lacks the necessary inversion after "seldom."

**Seldom did we found** - Incorrect, as "found" is the wrong tense here.

❖ These fifteen 'fill in the blanks' sentence improvement problems center on **prepositions** and have thorough answers for each.

1. The staff here are barely coping all the work over.

- 1) coping all the work
- 2) coping with all the work
- 3) No improvement
- 4) coping at all the work

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 2) 'coping with all the work.'**

**coping all the work** - Incorrect, as "coping" requires the preposition "with" when referring to managing tasks.

**coping with all the work** - Correct, as "coping with" is the proper phrasing to indicate handling work.

**No improvement** - Incorrect, as "coping all the work over" is not standard usage.

**coping at all the work** - Incorrect, as "coping at" is not a correct collocation in this context.

2. The melodious song reminded Revathi on the nostalgic moments of her past.

- 1) by the nostalgic moments in
- 2) at the nostalgic moments of
- 3) of the nostalgic moments at

4) of the nostalgic moments of

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 4) "of the nostalgic moments of."**

3. Not only composition, but also the wrong choice of Sridhar as the singer destroyed the sweetness on the song.

1) destroyed the sweetness of the song

2) destroyed the sweetness in the song

3) destroyed the sweetness by the song

4) destroyed the sweetness around the song

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 1) 'destroyed the sweetness of the song.'**

**destroyed the sweetness of the song** - Correct, as "of the song" is the proper expression to indicate the song's quality.

**destroyed the sweetness in the song** - Incorrect, as it is less commonly used and slightly alters the intended meaning.

**destroyed the sweetness by the song** - Incorrect, as it implies the song itself caused the destruction, changing the meaning.

**destroyed the sweetness around the song** - Incorrect, as it suggests an external context rather than the song's inherent quality.

4. The invitation card very clearly mentions that the entry in the show will be closed at 6 p.m.

1) entry about the show will be

2) entry over the show will be

3) entry on the show will be

4) entry to the show will be

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 4) "entry to the show will be."**

**entry about the show will be** - Incorrect, as "about" does not convey the intended meaning of access.

**entry over the show will be** - Incorrect, as "over" is not appropriate in this context.

**entry on the show will be** - Incorrect, as "on" is not suitable for referring to access.

**entry to the show will be** - Correct, as "entry to" is the proper expression for gaining access to a place or event.

5. His wife has a bad habit for accusing him for others' mistakes too.

- 1) habit of accusing him
- 2) habit at accusing him
- 3) habit on accusing him
- 4) habit in accusing him

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 1) "habit of accusing him"**

**habit of accusing him** - Correct, as "habit of" is the proper phrase to indicate a tendency or regular action.

**habit at accusing him** - Incorrect, as "at" does not fit in this context.

**habit on accusing him** - Incorrect, as "on" is not appropriate here.

**habit in accusing him** - Incorrect, as "in" does not convey the correct meaning.

6. You must aware of friends who speak against you.

- 1) caution of
- 2) beware of
- 3) scarce of
- 4) careful of

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 2) 'beware of'.**

**caution of** - Incorrect, as "caution" does not fit naturally in this context.

**beware of** - Correct, as "beware of" is the appropriate phrase to indicate being cautious of something or someone.

**scarce of** - Incorrect, as "scarce" is unrelated to caution or awareness.

**careful of** - Incorrect, as it does not convey the same level of alertness implied by "beware of."

7. Scores given by the members are to be consolidated and sent in the head office immediately.

- 1) No substitution
- 2) after the head office
- 3) at the head office
- 4) to the head office

**Solutions: The correct answer is 'to the head office'.**

**No substitution** - Incorrect, as "in the head office" is not the correct preposition in this context.

**after the head office** - Incorrect, as it changes the meaning and does not make sense here.

**at the head office** - Incorrect, as it implies that the scores are to be consolidated at the head office, which is not the intended meaning.

**to the head office** - Correct, as "to" correctly indicates the destination where the scores should be sent.

8. He was sitting besides his best friend during the event.

- 1) was sitting about his
- 2) was sitting beside his
- 3) were sitting besides his
- 4) was sitting besides her

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 2) 'was sitting beside his'.**

**was sitting about his** - Incorrect, as "about" does not indicate location in this context.

**was sitting beside his** - Correct, as "beside" means "next to," which is the intended meaning.

**were sitting besides his** - Incorrect, as "were" does not agree with "he," and "besides" is incorrect.

**was sitting besides her** - Incorrect, as "besides" (meaning "in addition to") is incorrect here.

9. The students were warned on coming late to school.

1) warned against

2) warned at

3) warned in

4) warned with

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 1) 'warned against'.**

**warned against** - Correct, as "warned against" is the appropriate phrase to indicate caution about a specific action.

**warned at** - Incorrect, as "at" does not fit in this context.

**warned in** - Incorrect, as "in" is not appropriate here.

**warned with** - Incorrect, as "with" does not convey the intended meaning.

10. Kranthi loves to swim at the local swimming pool in order that relieve his work stress.

1) in order which

2) No substitution

3) in order as to relieve

4) in order to relieve

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 4) 'in order to relieve'.**

**in order which** - Incorrect, as it is grammatically incorrect and does not make sense.

**No substitution** - Incorrect, as "in order that relieve" is incorrect.

**in order as to relieve** - Incorrect, as "as to" is redundant and awkward here.

**in order to relieve** - Correct, as "in order to" is the correct phrase to indicate purpose.

**11.** We have only just enough money to live on now, and if my husband loses his job, we'll really be up again it.

1) be up gone it

2) be up across it

3) be up cross it

4) be up against it

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 4) 'be up against it'.**

**be up gone it** - Incorrect, as it is grammatically nonsensical.

**be up across it** - Incorrect, as "across" does not fit the idiomatic expression.

**be up cross it** - Incorrect, as "cross" is incorrect in this context.

**be up against it** - Correct, as "up against it" is the correct idiomatic expression meaning to be facing serious difficulties.

**12.** They decided to have a meeting to discuss about the project.

1) to discuss through the project

2) to discuss the project

3) to discuss over the project

4) to discuss beyond the project

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 2) 'to discuss the project'.**

**13.** The yellow dress purchased by you is not much different than the one I have brought.

1) different then the one

2) different as the one

3) different above the one

4) different from the one

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 4) "Different from the one".**

**14.** We congratulated him at his new job. He was delighted.

1) congratulate him up

2) congratulated him on

3) congratulate him with

4) congratulate him along

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 2) "congratulated him on".**

**congratulate him up** - Incorrect, as "up" is not used in this context.

**congratulated him on** - Correct, as "congratulated on" is the correct preposition to use with "job" or similar achievements.

**congratulate him with** - Incorrect, as "with" is not the appropriate preposition here.

**congratulate him along** - Incorrect, as "along" does not fit in this context.

**15.** Rajesh was angry at himself for making a silly mistake during the examination.

1) for

- 2) on
- 3) above
- 4) with

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 4) 'with.'**

**for** - Incorrect, as "angry with himself" is the more idiomatic expression.

**on** - Incorrect, as "on" is not used in this context.

**above** - Incorrect, as "above" does not make sense here.

**with** - Correct, as "angry with oneself" is the appropriate and commonly used expression.

❖ These fifteen 'fill in the blanks' sentence improvement problems center on **conjunctions** and have thorough answers for each.

1. The place was not cold only and also damp.

- 1) only cold not also
- 2) No improvement
- 3) not only cold but also
- 4) not only cold and both

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 3) "not only cold but also".**

**only cold not also** - Incorrect, as it is not the correct structure for this expression.

**No improvement** - Incorrect, as the original sentence is grammatically awkward.

**not only cold but also** - Correct, as "not only...but also" is the correct correlative conjunction pair.

**not only cold and both** - Incorrect, as "and both" is not correct in this context.

2. The song was so moving as all eyes became wet.

- 1) that
- 2) No substitution required
- 3) when
- 4) then

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 1) 'that'.**

**that** - Correct, as "so...that" is the proper structure to indicate a cause and effect.

**No substitution required** - Incorrect, as "so...as" is incorrect in this context.

**when** - Incorrect, as it does not convey the cause-effect relationship properly.

**then** - Incorrect, as it does not fit the sentence structure or meaning.

3. It was too late for anyone that try and save the house from burning down.

- 1) so, if
- 2) too, to
- 3) so, to
- 4) No improvement

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 2) "too, to".**

**so, if** - Incorrect, as it changes the meaning of the sentence.

**too, to** - Correct, as "too late to" is the appropriate structure to express inability due to lateness.

**so, to** - Incorrect, as "so to" is not a proper combination here.

**No improvement** - Incorrect, as "that try" is incorrect in this context.

4. Radha has found that she is neither willing or capable.

- 1) she is neither willing nor capable
- 2) she did neither willing or capable
- 3) she was neither willing nor capable
- 4) No improvement

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 1) 'she is neither willing nor capable'**

**she is neither willing nor capable** - Correct, as "neither...nor" is the correct pairing to indicate two negative options.

**she did neither willing or capable** - Incorrect, as "did" is unnecessary and grammatically incorrect here.

**she was neither willing nor capable** - Incorrect, as it changes the tense unnecessarily.

**No improvement** - Incorrect, as "neither...or" is grammatically incorrect.

5. No sooner had Radhika arrived then she was asked to leave again.

- 1) arrived then she were
- 2) arrived than she was
- 3) arrived than she were
- 4) No improvement

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 2) 'arrived than she was'**

**arrived then she were** - Incorrect, as "then" is incorrect, and "were" does not agree with the subject.

**arrived than she was** - Correct, as "No sooner...than" is the correct structure for this expression.

**arrived than she were** - Incorrect, as "were" does not agree with the singular subject "she."

**No improvement** - Incorrect, as "then" should be replaced with "than" in this context.

6. Ram walked as faster as he could so that he would not miss the bus to work.

- 1) walked as fast as he
- 2) walked as fastest as he
- 3) walked as the faster as he
- 4) No improvement

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 1) 'walked as fast as he'**

**walked as fast as he** - Correct, as "as fast as he could" is the appropriate comparative structure.

**walked as fastest as he** - Incorrect, as "fastest" is not used in this comparative structure.

**walked as the faster as he** - Incorrect, as it is grammatically incorrect.

**No improvement** - Incorrect, as "as faster as" is not the correct expression.

7. Cyclone Amphan killed at least 85 people in India and Bangladesh although it tore across the Bay of Bengal.

- 1) Thus
- 2) Since
- 3) Thought
- 4) No Improvement

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 2) 'Since'.**

**Thus** - Incorrect, as it implies a cause-effect relationship that doesn't fit the context.

**Since** - Correct, as it properly indicates the reason for the casualties due to the cyclone.

**Thought** - Incorrect, as "thought" is grammatically incorrect and irrelevant here.

**No Improvement** - Incorrect, as "although" implies contrast, which does not match the intended meaning of causation.

8. The assignments have consequences other but legislation.

- 1) other then legislation
- 2) other than legislation
- 3) No substitution required
- 4) others than legislation

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 2) "other than legislation".**

**other then legislation** - Incorrect, as "then" is grammatically incorrect here.

**other than legislation** - Correct, as "other than" is the appropriate phrase to indicate exception.

**No substitution required** - Incorrect, as "other but" is not a correct phrase.

**others than legislation** - Incorrect, as "others" does not fit the structure.

9. No sooner had the football match started when it began to rain.

- 1) Then it began
- 2) Than it began
- 3) when it begin
- 4) No improvement

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 2) 'Than it began'**

**Then it began** - Incorrect, as "then" does not follow the correct grammatical structure in this context.

**Than it began** - Correct, as "No sooner...than" is the proper phrase to indicate the sequence of events.

**when it begin** - Incorrect, as "begin" is in the wrong tense.

**No improvement** - Incorrect, as "when" should be replaced with "than" to make the sentence grammatically correct.

**10.** My brother is allergic to dogs, so I'm a dog lover.

- 1) and
- 2) as well as
- 3) whereas
- 4) No improvement

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 3) i.e. whereas.**

**and** - Incorrect, as it does not indicate contrast between the brother's allergy and the speaker's preference.

**as well as** - Incorrect, as it implies similarity rather than contrast.

**whereas** - Correct, as "whereas" indicates a contrast between the brother's allergy and the speaker's love for dogs.

**No improvement** - Incorrect, as "so" does not properly convey the contrast intended in the sentence.

**11.** Alphabet Inc's Google will keep its employees home until, at least next July or, the company recover.

- 1) unless, recover
- 2) until, recovers
- 3) unless, recovers

4) until, doesn't recover

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 2) Until, recovers.**

**unless, recover** - Incorrect, as "unless" changes the intended meaning and "recover" does not agree with "company."

**until, recovers** - Correct, as "until" is appropriate here and "recovers" correctly agrees with "company."

**unless, recovers** - Incorrect, as "unless" alters the intended meaning of the sentence.

**until, doesn't recover** - Incorrect, as it introduces a double negative, which is unnecessary here.

**12. Scarcely I did** open the door when my cousins rushed in.

- 1) Scarcely I
- 2) Scarcely did I
- 3) No sooner did I
- 4) No improvement

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 2) 'Scarcely did I.'**

**Scarcely I** - Incorrect, as it lacks the correct inversion needed after "scarcely."

**Scarcely did I** - Correct, as "Scarcely did I" follows the proper inversion structure, often used with "when" to indicate immediacy.

**No sooner did I** - Incorrect, as "No sooner" would require "than" instead of "when."

**No improvement** - Incorrect, as "Scarcely I did" does not follow the correct grammatical structure.

**13. For that uncertainty gets taken out**, we will have a better picture of how people will travel.

- 1) If that uncertainty gets taken out

- 2) But that uncertainty gets taken out
- 3) Neither that uncertainty gets taken out
- 4) No improvement

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 1), If that uncertainty gets taken out**

**If that uncertainty gets taken out** - Correct, as "if" appropriately introduces a conditional statement, aligning with the intended meaning.

**But that uncertainty gets taken out** - Incorrect, as "but" does not convey the conditional meaning intended here.

**Neither that uncertainty gets taken out** - Incorrect, as "neither" changes the meaning and does not fit the context.

**No improvement** - Incorrect, as "For that uncertainty gets taken out" is awkward and does not clearly convey the conditional relationship.

**14.** Don't talk as soon as she is dancing.

- 1) How
- 2) As long as
- 3) But
- 4) No improvement

**Solution: The correct answer is: 2), As long as.**

**How** - Incorrect, as "how" does not fit the context or convey the intended meaning.

**As long as** - Correct, as it implies "while" or "during the time" she is dancing, which makes sense in the sentence.

**But** - Incorrect, as "but" would change the meaning entirely.

**No improvement** - Incorrect, as "as soon as" is not appropriate in this context.

**15.** Political parties usually prefer to keep their goals as vague as possible lest it may count against them at the next election.

- 1) Would
- 2) Should
- 3) Could
- 4) No improvement

**Solutions: The correct answer is: 2) Should**

**Would** - Incorrect, as it does not fit the context of cautious language.

**Should** - Correct, as "lest...should" is the appropriate expression to indicate a possibility they want to avoid.

**Could** - Incorrect, as it does not convey the same level of caution as "should" in this context.

**No improvement** - Incorrect, as "lest it may" is not the correct grammatical structure.