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English for Competitive Exams Module 3

Whether you are trying to learn English for competitive exams or simply trying to improve your language skills, this module is the ideal way to master the language. Learn different concepts in one place for Banking & SSC Exams. Learn something new about grammar, vocabulary and verbal skills every day. Before you attempt English for Competitive Exams Module 3, **try previous modules as well.**

Read the short passage below. Pay special attention to the highlighted words and phrases. Then read the discussion below.

English for Competitive Exams Module 3 - PASSAGE

Energy conservation refers to reducing energy **consumption** by using **less** of an energy service. Energy conservation **differs from** efficient energy use, which refers to using less energy for a constant service. For example, driving less is an example of energy conservation. Driving the same amount with a higher mileage vehicle is an example of energy efficiency. Energy conservation and efficiency are both energy reduction techniques.

Even though energy conservation reduces energy services, it can result in **increased** environmental quality, national security, personal financial security and higher savings. It is at the top of the sustainable energy hierarchy. It also lowers energy costs by preventing future resource **depletion**.

DISCUSSION:

Consumption



There is an alternative use of the word ‘consumption’ in old English. It was used to refer to a wasting disease like tuberculosis.

E.g. *His father died of consumption.*

Less

‘Less’ is the comparative degree of ‘little’. *Little-Less-Least*. These words are used when talking about uncountable nouns like ‘energy’. You can tell it’s an uncountable noun when you can either not count it, or measuring it requires a unit like ‘kg’.

By now, you may have also noticed that not all comparative degrees will take the ‘-er’ form. This is an example of such a word.

The comparison here may also not be very clear at first glance. There is an implicit comparison between consumption of an energy service now compared to consumption of the same energy service previously.

E.g. *There were fewer rolls in my basket today.* (than there were previously)

Differs from

When differences are being pointed out, the preposition to follow is always ‘from’.

E.g. *The sister differs from the brother only in her way of dressing.*

When there is a difference of opinion, then ‘differ’ uses the preposition ‘with’.

E.g. *I differ with you on this matter.*

Increased

‘Increased’ has been used as a participle in the sentence. The sentence can be rephrased by using the noun form of the word followed by the preposition without changing the meaning thusly -



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