

MISCELLANEOUS TEST
ENGLISH

FOR FURTHER CLARIFICATION CONTACT 8617739622 BETWEEN 10 am AND 6pm

ANSWERS WITH EXPLANATION

In each of the questions, there are 4 sentences or parts of sentences that form a paragraph. Identify the sentence/s or part/s that is/are correct in terms of grammar and usage and choose the answer accordingly.

1. I. A week ago newspapers reported that a handful of the big Western oil companies
II. were close to unveiling contracts for work in Iraq,
III. whose underexploited oil reserves are probably second
IV. only to Saudi Arabia.

- (a) I only
- (b) II only
- (c) IV only
- (d) III and IV only
- (e) No error

Ans. (C) There is an error of comparison in fragment IV. In the sentence underexploited oil reserves of Iraq must be compared to those of Saudi Arabia but 'those of' is missing in the fragment. Option C is hence the correct answer.

2. I. The translation isn't great and some of the local officials
II. have a tendency to go off at tangents, but it's
III. have found to gather opinion, and the Afghans have learnt
IV. to be forthright with the straight-talking Americans.

- (a) I only
- (b) II only
- (c) III only
- (d) II and IV only
- (e) No error

Ans. (b) The idiom 'go off on a tangent' means to suddenly start talking about a different subject.

Ex. We were talking about property prices and you went off on a tangent.

But, in fragment II the preposition 'on' is missing in the idiom – which is an error.

The correct sentence would therefore be, "The translation isn't great and some of the local officials have a tendency to go off at tangents, but it's have found to gather opinion, and the Afghans have learnt to be forthright with the straight-talking Americans."

Option B is hence the correct answer.

- 3. I. So once an economy is actually in recession,
- II. the authorities can, in principle, move the economy
- III. out of slump – assuming hypothetically
- IV. that they know how to – by a temporary stimuli.

- (a) III only
- (b) IV only
- (c) I and II only
- (d) I, III and IV
- (e) No error

Ans. (d) Fragment I is incorrect as the usage of the word 'so' is redundant and inappropriate in the context.

Fragment III is also erroneous because the use of 'assuming hypothetically' makes it redundant. Once can either assume or hypothesize, but 'assuming hypothetically' is absurd. Fragment IV is incorrect too as the noun 'stimuli' is used with the article 'a'. It must therefore be replaced by its singular form 'stimulus' to make it grammatically correct.

The correct sentence would therefore be, "Once an economy is actually in recession, the authorities can, in principle, move the economy out of slump – assuming hypothetically that they know how to – by a temporary stimuli."

Option D is hence the correct answer.

- 4. I. The idea proposed has been put into practice by everyone
- II. from eight year old children who recycle, and major companies
- III. that desperately trying to perfect
- IV. alternative fuels for human use.

- (a) I only
- (b) II only
- (c) III only
- (d) II and III only
- (e) No error

Ans. (d) The fragment II is erroneous as a range should be expressed from x to y, not from y to x. The word "And" right before 'major companies' in the fragment II must therefore be replaced by the preposition "to" to make it grammatically correct.

Further, fragment III also has a tense error as it lacks the helping verb "are".

The correct sentence would therefore be, "The idea proposed has been put into practice by everyone from eight year old children who recycle, and major companies that desperately trying to perfect alternative fuels for human use."

Option D is hence the correct answer.

- 5. I. If the energy legislation had
- II. a chance of passing, it would have
- III. stirred tens of billions of dollars of energy investment
- IV. toward efficiency projects, renewable resources such as solar, wind and nuclear power.

- (a) I only
- (b) II only
- (c) III only
- (d) II and IV only
- (e) No error

Ans. (a) The sentence has tense error in fragment I. The sentence is clearly the type 3 conditional one and therefore the 'if' clause must be in perfect tense (had + past participle of the verb).

All other fragments are absolutely correct.

The correct sentence would therefore be, "If the energy legislation had had a chance of passing, it would have stirred tens of billions of dollars of energy investment toward efficiency projects, renewable resources such as solar, wind and nuclear power."

Option A is hence the correct answer.

Read the following passage and answer the questions given below it in the context of the passage.

Our voyage was very prosperous, but I shall not trouble the reader with a journal of it. The captain called in at one or two ports and sent in his long-boat for provisions and fresh water, but I never went out of the ship still we came into the Downs, which was on the 3rd day of June, 1706, about nine months after my escape. I offered to leave my goods in security for payment of my freight, but the captain protested he would not receive one farthing. We took kind leave of each other, and I made him promise that he would come to see me at my house in Redriff. I hired a house and a guide for five shillings which I borrowed from the captain.

Important for :

CDSE

6. When the writer uses the word 'prosperous' to describe the voyage, he means that

- (a) it made him rich
- (b) it made him healthy
- (c) it was very pleasant
- (d) it was uneventful

Ans. (c) With regard to 'journey' it can be said that pleasant journey is being referred here. How can a journey be healthy for someone? In passage as well there is no linkage of journey with the health of writer. So, option B can be rejected. Option D is also wrong as passage has no direct or indirect mention of eventless in the journey. Option A is incorrect for the same reason.

7. On the voyage, the author

- (a) left the ship at intervals
- (b) was not able to leave the ship because it did not stop
- (c) never left the ship at all
- (d) never left the ship till they came into the Downs

Ans. (d) Author has mentioned in third line of passage 'I never went out of the ship till we came into the Downs' So, statement of option D is clearly written and hence the obvious choice.

8. In the context of the passage, the word 'provisions' means

- (a) mainly food
- (b) mainly security
- (c) money
- (d) mainly ammunition

Ans. (a) In a long ship journey which continues for months there is a need of fresh water and food. It can be inferred from the passage that Captain sent in his lifeboat for fresh water and foods. For food and related items word 'provisions' is used which means Cookery, the act of supplying or providing food, etc.

9. For the payment of the author's freight, the captain

- (a) kept his goods as security
- (b) refused to accept any money
- (c) protested against being paid only a farthing
- (d) accepted a sum of money

Ans. (b) 'Farthing' is a unit of money and in the passage captain was not willing to receive any money from the author as a friendly gesture. Farthing means – A coin formerly used in Great Britain worth one fourth of a penny.

10. From the passage, it is clear that the captain's attitude to the author was

- (a) one of hostility
- (b) one of indifference
- (c) one of extreme friendliness and kindness
- (d) one of disgust and irritation

Ans. (c) The passage shows relationship of author and captain in a positive light. As captain refused to take 'single penny for the services', 'author's invitation to captain' and 'borrowing of money from captain for home' are some examples that show that captain's attitude for the author was friendly and kind.

In the following questions, out of the four alternatives, choose the one which can be substituted for the given words/sentence.

11. Property inherited from one's father

- (a) Vale
- (b) Patrimony
- (c) Legacy
- (d) Trench

Ans.(b) Sol. Patrimony: property inherited from one's father or male ancestor.

12. Government by person of highest social order

- (a) Bureaucracy
- (b) Plutocracy
- (c) Democracy
- (d) Aristocracy

Ans.(d) Sol. Aristocracy: the highest class in certain societies, typically comprising people of noble birth holding hereditary titles and offices.

13. Study of ancient things like tombs, buried towns

- (a) Paleontology
- (b) Nomology
- (c) Archaeology
- (d) Genealogy

Ans.(c) Sol. Archaeology the study of human history and prehistory through the excavation of sites and the analysis of artefacts and other physical remains.

14. To banish or turn out of society and fellowship

- (a) Acrobat
- (b) Diatribe
- (c) Ostracise
- (d) Jurist

Ans.(c) Sol. Ostracise: exclude from a society or group

15. One who is neither intelligent nor dull

- (a) Tolerable
- (b) Commoner
- (c) Mediocre
- (d) Diligent

Ans.(c) Sol. Mediocre: of only average quality; not very good.

16. Carefully performing duties

- (a) Punctual
- (b) Punctilious
- (c) Sincere
- (d) Pugnacious

Ans.(b) Sol. Punctilious: showing great attention to detail or correct behavior.

17. To mediate between two parties in a dispute

- (a) Interfere
- (b) Interact
- (c) Interrupt
- (d) Intercede

Ans.(d) Sol. Intercede: intervene on behalf of another.

18. A thing liable to be easily broken

- (a) Breakable
- (b) Ductile
- (c) Brittle
- (d) Delicate

Ans.(c) Sol. Brittle: hard but liable to break easily.

19. The place where bricks are baked

- (a) Foundry
- (b) Mint
- (c) Cemetery
- (d) Kiln

Ans.(d) Sol. Kiln: a furnace or oven for burning, baking, or drying, especially one for calcining lime or firing pottery.

20. That is no longer in use

- (a) Exotic
- (b) Primitive
- (c) Obsolete
- (d) Ancient

Ans.(c) Sol. Obsolete: no longer produced or used; out of date.

21. Select the antonym of Evanescent

- (a) Clean
- (b) Tight
- (c) Eternal
- (d) Cheap

Ans.(c) Sol. Evanescent- soon passing out of sight, memory, or existence; quickly fading or disappearing. Eternal: lasting or existing forever; without end.

In the following questions, out of the four alternatives choose the one which can be substituted for the given words/sentence.

22. The internal destruction of a human foetus in the uterus (infant in womb)

- (a) noticed
- (b) fortitude
- (c) poetized
- (d) foeticide

Ans.(d) Sol. Foeticide: destruction or abortion of a foetus

23. A poem in praise

- (a) Elegy
- (b) Sonnet
- (c) Pun
- (d) Ode

Ans.(d) Sol. Ode- a classical poem of a kind sung in praise.

Elegy- a poem for dead.

Sonnet- a poem of fourteen lines using any of a number of formal rhyme schemes.

Pun- the use of words that are alike or nearly alike in sound but different in meaning

In this question, four words are given out of which only one is correctly spelt. Find that correctly spelt word.

24. (a) assasination
(b) assassination
(c) asaassination
(d) assessination.

Ans. (b) Sol. Assassination- killing of a person for political reasons.

In these questions, sentences are given with blanks to be filled in with an appropriate word. Four alternatives are suggested for each question. Choose the correct option out of the four alternatives.

25. All jobs are respectable _____ of their nature.
(a) immaterial
(b) irresponsible
(c) irrespective
(d) irrelevant

Ans. (c) Sol. Irrespective: not taking (something) into account; regardless of.

Improve the bracketed part of the sentence.

26. Kabir agreed (from me) on that point.
(a) to me
(b) at me
(c) with me
(d) No improvement

Ans.(c) Sol. To agree with someone is to share a point of view with him/her. Hence option C improves the sentence.

27. Raja (not only passed and won) a scholarship.
(a) not passed but won
(b) not only passed but also won
(c) not only passed and also won
(d) No improvement

Ans.(b) Sol. 'Not only.....but also' is the right compound conjunction pair and hence improves the sentence.

In the following question, some parts of the sentences have errors and some are correct. Find out of which part of a sentence has an error and choose corresponding to the appropriate option. If a sentence is free from error choose corresponding to 'No Error'.

28. (a) The economic depression is
(b) looming large not only over
(c) but also over the third-world countries
(d) No Error

Ans.(d) Sol. No error.

29. (a) By the time
(b) the corn was harvested
(c) the grass seed covered the ground
(d) No Error

Ans.(c) Sol. Use 'had' before covered.

Four alternatives are given for the Idiom/Phrase. Choose the alternative which best expresses the meaning of Idiom/Phrase.

30. With a fine-tooth comb

- (a) carelessly
(b) hastily
(c) carefully
(d) unnecessarily

Ans.(c) Sol. Option C is the correct meaning

31. (P) Also excluded are people whose families.
(Q) A gross annual income of Rs.8 lakh or more will be excluded from the quota.
(R) Own five acre or more of agriculture land.
(S) Families in the general category earning.

- (a) PQRS
(b) RPSQ
(c) SRQP
(d) SQPR

Ans.(d)

32. (P) It merely glows a bright orange when a low-intensity beam of ultraviolet light is shone on it.
(Q) When applied on the finger, doesn't leave a trace –
(R) Indelible ink, the purple stain that billions of Indians show off during elections, may face an invisible challenger in the near future.
(S) The Delhi-based National Physical Laboratory (NPL), the creator of indelible ink, has a new concoction that,

- (a) PQRS
(b) RPSQ
(c) RSQP
(d) SQPR

Ans.(c)

33. (P) The question was vital to the Ayodhya case and.
(Q) The three-judge Bench, holding that.
(R) Should be answered by a Constitution Bench.
(S) Justice Nazeer had delivered the dissenting opinion on.

- (a) PQRS

- (b) RPSQ
- (c) SRQP
- (d) SQPR

Ans.(d)

In the following questions, sentences are given with blanks to be filled in with an appropriate word(s). Four alternatives are suggested for each question. Choose the correct alternative out of the four as your answer.

34. _____ the people looked well enough, but when one looked more closely one saw that their faces were filled with despair.

- (a) At first looking
- (b) At first observations
- (c) On first sight
- (d) At first sight

Ans. (d) Sol. At first sight is an idiomatic expression which means 'immediately; at first glance; when you see somebody or something for the first time'. Hence, 'At first sight' is the right usage.

35. Our monthly expenditure _____ by five hundred rupees when we decided to buy milk from the milkman.

- (a) shot up
- (b) got up
- (c) moved
- (d) grew up

Ans. (a) Sol. Shot up (phrasal verb): rose suddenly by a large amount. Hence, shot up is the right usage.

36. Raj was tired of Puja's _____ approach, so he asked her to make her final decision by that evening.

- (a) silly-willy
- (b) dilly-dally
- (c) wasting
- (d) dilly-nally

Ans. (b) Sol. Dilly-dally: to take too long to do something. Hence dilly-daily is the right usage

Select the most appropriate word to fill in the blank.

37. Leopards have learned to _____ to semi-urban living near Mumbai and Gurugram.

- (a) adapt
- (b) adopt
- (c) change
- (d) prepare

Ans. (a) Sol. Adapt: make (something) suitable for a new use or purpose; modify.

38. Select the wrongly spelt word.

- (a) scenary
- (b) scarce
- (c) scheme
- (d) scanty

Ans. (a) Sol. Scenery is the correct spelling.

39. Select the most appropriate word to fill in blank Darkness _____over the forest increasing the danger of wild animals.

- (a) collapsed
- (b) descended
- (c) grounded
- (d) declined

Ans. (b) Sol. If darkness or night descends, it becomes dark and day changes to night.

40. Identify the segment which contains the grammatical error.

The Principal requested to the Chief Guest to inaugurate the sports meet.

- (a) The principal requested
- (b) the sports meet
- (c) to the Chief Guest
- (d) to inaugurate

Ans. (c) Sol. Remove preposition 'to' after requested to make the sentence grammatically correct

41. His maid servant behavior (A)/ is undoubtedly indecent (B)/ but I don't understand how he tolerates it (C)/ No Error (D).

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D

Ans.(a) Sol. Replace "servant" with "servant's". The presence of the noun 'behavior' after 'servant' justifies the use of 's and meaning of the sentence. Hence option 'A' has the error.

42. The issues are very complex (A)/ and the problem is that they are bound to be obscured (B)/ by these hypocritical politicians (C)/ No Error (D)

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D

Ans.(d) Sol. No Error

43. Beside (A) / his mother he has two aunts (B) / who stay with him. (C) / No error (D)

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D

Ans.(a) Sol. Replace 'beside' with 'besides'. 'Besides' mean 'in addition to'

44. Either the operator (A) / or the foreman are (B) / to blame for the accident. (C) / No error (D)

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D

Ans.(b) Sol. Replace 'are' with 'is'. As subject 'foreman' after 'or' is singular. Hence singular verb will be used.

45. She dislikes (A) / you being most organized (B) / than she is. (C) / No error (D)

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D

Ans.(b) Sol. Replace 'most' with 'more'. As the comparison is between only 'two persons'.

46. The new device (A)/aims at eliminating (B)/the risk of short-circuiting. (C)/No error (D)

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D

Ans.(c) Sol. 'Short-circuiting' is a present participle form of the verb 'short-circuit' while we need a noun to make a 'noun' of 'noun' composition. Hence noun 'short-circuit' will replace verb 'short-circuiting'.

47. I wish to heartily (A)/congratulate you for (B)/your astounding success. (C)/No error (D)

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D

Ans.(b) Sol. The correct preposition to use with 'congratulate' is 'on'. Hence replace 'for' with 'on'.

48. The efforts made by the charity (A) / were aimed to provide shelters (B) / to the

homeless people (C) / No Error (D)

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D

Ans.(b) Sol. Use 'aimed at providing' in place of 'aimed to provide' as aim will take appropriate preposition 'at' with it. And after prepositions, the use of Gerund (V1+ing) is must. Hence 'aimed at providing' is the correct usage.

49. Seldom or ever have I (A)/ tried my best to defend my friends, (B)/ who are after all guilty to some extent. (C)/ No Error (D)

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D

Ans.(a) Sol. Replace 'or' with 'if' / 'ever' with 'never'. 'Seldom, if ever' and 'seldom or never' are the correct phrases.

50. I was more thrilled (A) / in anticipation (B) / of a long journey (C) / by train. (D)

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D

Ans.(a) Sol. Replace 'more' with 'very'.