

CDS

Combined Defence Services

EXAM

2025

English

Time Allowed : 2 hours

M. M. : 100

Instructions

1. This Test Booklet contains **120** items (questions). Each item comprises four responses (answers). You will select the response which you want to mark on the Answer Sheet. In case you feel that there is more than one correct response, mark the response which you consider the best. In any case, choose **ONLY ONE** response for each item.
2. You have to mark all your responses **ONLY** on the separate Answer Sheet provided. See the directions in the Answer Sheet.
3. All items carry equal marks.
4. **Penalty for wrong answers :**
THERE WILL BE PENALTY FOR WRONG ANSWERS MARKED BY A CANDIDATE IN THE OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTION PAPERS.
 - (i) There are four alternatives for the answer to every question. For each question for which a wrong answer has been given by the candidate, **one-third** of the marks assigned to that question will be deducted as a penalty.
 - (ii) If a candidate gives more than one answer, it will be treated as a **wrong answer** even if one of the given answers happens to be correct and there will be same penalty as above to that question.
 - (iii) If a question is left blank, i.e., no answer is given by the candidate, there will be **no penalty** for that question.

Directions: Each of the sentences in the following items has an underlined word, followed by four choices. Select the most appropriate option that is an improvement of the underlined word in the context of the sentence, and mark your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

1. The officer under suspension felt intimated by the committee members during his interrogative regarding the allegation against him.
(a) inculcated (b) intimidated
(c) asphyxiated (d) annulled
2. Amongst them all, she was the only one with the perquisite to understand the complexity of the situation.
(a) perspicacity (b) perniciousness
(c) peremptoriness (d) presumptuousness
3. At the official function organised for the attending dignitaries, guests arrived in scrumptious attire for the banquet.
(a) synergistic (b) stentorian
(c) sumptuous (d) scrumpy
4. The lake atop the mountain has always been the lyre for intrepid hikers.
(a) link (b) line
(c) life (d) lure
5. The candidates went through an intensive instruction process before their absorption into the service.
(a) immersion (b) intimation
(c) induction (d) unction
6. The office memorandum directed personnel to minimise their consumption of office stationery

by up to twenty per cent.

- (a) supervise (b) surmise
 - (c) lower (d) reduce
7. The announcement of an unexpected bonus led to great tumult among the staff.
(a) merriment (b) trepidation
(c) upheaval (d) uproar
 8. The scurrilous remarks in the article were met with great joy by the leadership of the company.
(a) laudatory (b) reviling
(c) scathing (d) upbraiding
 9. His inappropriate behaviour earned plaudits from his colleagues.
(a) sanctimoniousness (b) triumph
(c) opprobrium (d) banter
 10. The enormity of mountain range stunned the visitors to the hill station.
(a) eternity (b) enormousness
(c) extremity (d) simulacrum

Directions: Each item in this section has a sentence with underlined parts labelled (a), (b) and (c). Read each sentence to determine whether there is an error in any underlined part and indicate your response on the Answer Sheet against the corresponding letter, i.e., (a), (b) or (c). If you determine there is no error, indicate your response as (d).

11. The accusation of abatement to the crime

(a)

that had been levelled at him

(b)

was eventually not proven in court

(c)

No error.

(d)

12. The unintentional mistakes

(a)

made by the clerical staff

(b)

was overlooked batsman by the officer

(c)

No error.

(d)

13. The opening batsman was famous

(a)

for the imperial stokes

(b)

he played on the cricket field

(c)

No error.

(d)

14. Each student was meant to receive

(a)

an equal share of the scholarship but the
eventual distribution

(b)

was found to be iniquitous.

(c)

No error.

(d)

15. No one turned up

(a)

to claim the stowed away piece of baggage

(b)

which was discovered on the luggage
compartment of the bus.

(c)

No error.

(d)

16. Certain animals have a tendency

(a)

to communicate only with

(b)

its own species and none other.

(c)

No error.

(d)

17. As soon as the clock

(a)

chimed to announce the hour at midnight

(b)

she sprung up from her bed.

(c)

No error.

(d)

18. There are people who are likely

(a)

to fraternise with their

(b)

own community yet none other.

(c)

No error.

(d)

19. The mime show attracted

(a)

a huge audience despite the high price of tickets

(b)

which defied the purpose of the public event.

(c)

No error.

(d)

20. He was unable to recall

(a)

where he had hanged his shirt

(b)

after returning home from office.

(c)

No error.

(d)

Directions: Each of the following sentences in this section has a blank space with four options. Select whichever preposition, determiner or phrasal verbs you consider the most appropriate for the blank space and indicate your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

21. There is no truth in.....claims even though they have been cleverly stated.

(a) thus

(b) there

(c) supposed

(d) these

22. The bridge was intended to allow people to cross.....to the other side of the river and get to work.

(a) on

(b) over

(c) across

(d) down

23. I shall not rest I have gone to the bottom of this matter and found the truth.

(a) after

(b) while

(c) for

(d) until

24. There are several reasons behind my choice of location the family visit.

- (a) to (b) in
(c) for (d) from

25. All human beings ought to have a moral centre to fall back..... in times of crisis.

- (a) on (b) into
(c) over (d) along

Directions: In the following items, similar-sounding words are given, followed by sentences wherein in each sentence one of these words has been underlined. You are required to identify those sentences in which these words have been used correctly and mark your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

26. Pare, pair, pear

1. It is important to pare the branches of a tree to prevent excessive growth.
2. The pair of trees looked identical from a distance.
3. The pear tree was revered by the children of the locality for the bounty it offered each year.

In which of sentences given above has/have the words been used correctly ?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

27. Seance, Sconce, Scone

1. Those who practise spiritualism are at times seen to participate in a seance.
2. They enjoyed eating the sconce that were served to them in the exclusive club.
3. The scone reading on the graph indicated the correct value output of the experiment.

In which of the sentences given above has/have the words been used correctly?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 only
(c) 1 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

28. Truism, Altruism

1. That one has to reap what one sows is a truism.
2. The altruism uttered by the seer covered the higher levels of spiritual knowledge.

In which of sentences given above has/have the words been used correctly ?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

29. Consequent, Consequence

1. Consequent to the decisions taken by the committee a new set of procedures was brought into force.
2. The past is of little consequence when one is willing to bravely face the challenges of the future.

In which of sentences given above has/have the words been used correctly ?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

30. Seize, Cease, Crease

1. The customs department decided to seize the consignment of contraband goods.
2. To improve relations the two parties decided that the hostilities between them should cease.
3. Military personnel are required to be attired in trousers with a knife-edge-like crease.

In which of the sentences given above has/have the words been used correctly ?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 (d) 1, 2 and 3

Directions: In the following items, an idiom or a proverb is given. Select the response that correctly describes the meaning of the idiom or proverb and mark your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

31. Listen with half an ear

- (a) Not pay full attention
(b) Being impartial
(c) Being imperious
(d) Listening with ironic distaste.

32. Dyed in the wool

- (a) Changing notions because of a fluffy mind.
(b) Assuming a different colour.
(c) Adapting to conditions.
(d) Unchanging and firm in belief and conviction.

33. Let sleeping dogs lie

- (a) Let things remain as they are because of laziness.
(b) Not interfere in situations where interference may exacerbate matters.
(c) Not stoke a dangerous situation.
(d) Lie about the past.

34. A stitch in time saves nine

- (a) Tying up complex matters with clever manoeuvres.
(b) Poking at something repeatedly to rescue a situation.
(c) Making unlikely connections connections among disparate subjects.
(d) Timely addressal of a problem prevents future exacerbation of the same.

35. Fight fire with fire

- (a) Use the same force or strategy of one's opponent to counter them.

- (b) Use incendiary tactics to destroy by fire.
 (c) Add fuel to further escalate a fiery situation.
 (d) Scorch one's opponent with a barrage of firing
36. Straight and narrow
 (a) Be excessively careful.
 (b) Honest and morally acceptable way of being.
 (c) Follow the straight path defined by society.
 (d) To not deviate from one's goal.
37. Someone's ears are burning
 (a) The feeling when someone thinks others are talking about them.
 (b) Being excessively jealous of others.
 (c) Being angry due to unfair criticism.
 (d) Itching to enter into argument.
38. Turn one's stomach
 (a) Being nauseated by something or someone.
 (b) Being plagued by a stomach upset.
 (c) Unable to cope with the changes.
 (d) Switch sides while asleep.
39. The world is your oyster.
 (a) You have all the opportunity to obtain what you wish from life.
 (b) Life is a precious gift.
 (c) Life is a puzzle you cannot ever unravel.
 (d) The world will dazzle you if you are not not careful.
40. Cast one's bread upon the waters
 (a) To dilute one's intentions.
 (b) To do good without seeking reward.
 (c) To while away one's time in unfruitful activity.
 (d) To misdirect one's efforts in life.

Directions: In the following items, a pair of statements (S1, S2) is given to select the most appropriate and relevant co-relationship of the second statement to the first from among the options (a), (b), (c) and (d), and mark your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

41. **S1.** The snowy albatross is among the largest birds that fly in the world.
S2. It has the widest wingspan among all birds, with lengths reaching up to 12 feet.
 The second statement :
 (a) contradicts the first.
 (b) contrasts with the first.
 (c) confirms the first.
 (d) reinforces the first.

42. **S1.** A scientific theory is first proposed as a hypothesis.
S2. After it is subjected to inquiry and is proven, it becomes a thesis.
 The second statement :
 (a) proves the first.
 (b) hypothesises the first.
 (c) challenges the burden of proof.
 (d) extends the first.
43. **S1.** The manhunt for the perpetrator of the crime spread across the entire state.
S2. There was deep public anger triggered by the enormity of the crime.
 The second statement :
 (a) is a precursor to the first.
 (b) follows the first.
 (c) contradicts the first.
 (d) alters the premise of the first.
44. **S1.** Awareness about one's own personality type is very important.
S2. Self-awareness is a difficult goal for most people.
 The second statement :
 (a) contradicts the first.
 (b) is contrapuntal vis-a-vis the first.
 (c) confirms the first.
 (d) contrasts the first.
45. **S1.** Liberalisation changed the contours of India's economy.
S2. India is today poised to become one of the top economies of the world.
 The second statement :
 (a) contradicts the first.
 (b) contrasts with the first.
 (c) correlates to the first.
 (d) coincides with the first.
46. **S1.** The final outcome can never be predicted incontrovertibly.
S2. All outcomes are based on variables that cannot always be fully understood
 The second statement :
 (a) fully reinforces the first.
 (b) reinforces the first to an extent.
 (c) definitely follows the first.
 (d) definitely does not follow the first.
47. **S1.** Mastery over any art form requires years of dedication and perseverance.
S2. It takes 10,000 h of practice to become an expert in a field.
 The second statement :
 (a) is not consistent with the first.

- (b) is fully consistent with the first.
 (c) is marginally consistent with the first.
 (d) is the only possible explanation for the first.

48. S1. The beauty of India's democracy rests in the greatness of its Constitution.

S2. The Constitution of India upholds the collective values of the country's civilisational ethos.

The second statement :

- (a) connects with the mention of Indian democracy in the first.
 (b) provides a reason for the assertion regarding the Constitution in the first.
 (c) contradicts the assertion about democracy in the first.
 (d) has no connection with the first.

49. S1. Roseate is an adjective for the rose flower.

S2. The rose is a powerful poetic symbol in many languages.

The second statement :

- (a) expands the first.
 (b) explicates the first.
 (c) contrasts the first.
 (d) coincides with the first.

50. S1. The early bird gets the worm.

S2. To go about one's tasks expeditiously is to achieve one's goals.

The second statement :

- (a) makes assertions about the first.
 (b) provides a metaphorical reassertion of the first.
 (c) reinforces the assumption of the first.
 (d) contrasts with the first.

ORDERING OF WORDS IN A SENTENCE

Directions: Each of the following items in this section consists of a sentence, parts of which have been jumbled. These parts have been labelled as P, Q, R and S. Given below each sentence are four sequences, namely (a), (b), (c), and (d). You are required to rearrange the jumbled parts of the sentence and mark your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

51. Considered to be paradigmatic

P

Sociological study of peasant movements in India

Q

The Telangana peasant revolt against the Nizam of Hyderabad in the in 1940 is often

R

and the only instance worthy of attention in a comparative

S

(a) RQSP

(b) RQPS

(c) RPSQ

(d) RSPQ

52. social movements nonetheless

P

their political institutions, process and parties

Q

one of the major attributes of and with

R

Is their coexistence with national states and

S

(a) RQSP

(b) RPSQ

(c) RSPQ

(d) QSRP

53. most of the minerals are nationalised

P

is possible only after the

Q

government grants permission as

R

extraction of minerals in India

S

(a) SQRP

(b) SQPR

(c) PQRS

(d) RQPS

54. radical or limited change and whether they focus on

P

along two axes, whether they seek

Q

the entire society or on specific individuals

R

sociological theories distinguish social movements

S

(a) PRSQ

(b) QSRP

(c) RPSQ

(d) SQPR

55. are more defensive than offensive and

P

although most social movements

Q

tend to be temporary they

R

are important agents of social transformation

S

(a) PQSR

(b) QPRS

(c) SPQR

(d) RSPQ

56. in India, the automobile industry

P

one of the largest industries

Q

growth during the last two decades

R

has witnessed impressive

S

(a) QPSR

(b) SPRQ

(c) RQSP

(d) PQSR

57. was formed in 1870 to give voice to the demands

P

in western India, the Sarvajanik Sabha

Q

and all classes of people were its members

R

and needs of the people

S

(a) QPRS

(b) PQSR

(c) QPSR

(d) RPSQ

58. the opportunities to the greater triumphs

P

today are but a step towards

Q

the achievements we celebrate

R

and achievements that await us

S

(a) QRPS

(b) SPRQ

(c) PSQR

(d) RQPS

59. and the vision to carry out a full-scale revolution

P

part in revolts against taxes and food

Q

scarcity but they lacked the means, programmes

R

during British rule peasants often took

S

(a) SQRQ

(b) QPSR

(c) RPQS

(d) PQSR

60. its policy and announced reforms

P

that the mounting tension was heading

Q

the colonial Government, now seeing

R

towards a crisis, wisely decided to change

S

(a) PQRS

(b) RQSP

(c) SPRQ

(d) SQRQ

ORDERING OF SENTENCES

Directions: In this section, each item consists of six sentences extracted from a passage. The first and sixth sentences are given in the beginning as S1 and S6. The sequence of the middle four sentences in each has been jumbled up and labelled as P, Q, R and S. You are required to find the proper sequence of the sentences and mark your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

61. **S1** : The minimum thermometer has a large bore and its fluid is colourless alcohol.

S6: The daily temperature is recorded since a permanent, continuous record of temperature is desired.

P When the meniscus moves up the bore it leaves the index behind to register the lowest temperature.

Q Resetting the dumbbell of the minimum thermometer is accompanied by the action of inverting the stem until the index slides down to the meniscus.

R A tiny, dark index in the shape of a long dumbbell is placed in the bore below the top of the alcohol column.

S It is mounted horizontally and as the alcohol contracts with the decreasing temperature the meniscus of the alcohol pulls the index down.

(a) QSRP

(b) QPRS

(c) SQRQ

(d) SRQP

62. **S1** : The Cretaceous period extends from about 146 million years ago to 65 million years ago.

S6: During this period enormous quantity of basaltic lava was poured out to the surface assuming a great thickness of over three thousand meters.

P Apart from deposits this period is marked by the transgression of the sea and outpouring of huge quantity of lava so as to form the Deccan Trap and intrusion of plutonic rocks such as gabbro and granite.

Q Towards the end of the Cretaceous period the peninsula was affected by intense volcanic activity.

R This outpouring has been very widely distributed in the country with divergent facies of deposits being found in different parts of India.

S In contrast to the relatively newer Himalayas, these facies that are found in different parts of India are much older in origin.

(a) QSRP

(b) QPRS

(c) PRSQ

(d) PQSR

63. **S1** : The Central Indian Highlands known as the Vindhyan Mountains occupy a large basin extending from Chittorgarh in the west to Sasaram and Dehri-on-Sone in the east.

S6: The Panna District of Madhya Pradesh and the Kumool District of Andhra Pradesh are well-known for diamond production.

P One branch of the basin extends from Sasaram to Hoshangabad.

Q In some of the exposures of the Vindhyan systems, diamond-bearing conglomerates are found.

- R** This branch of this basin occupies a large continuous area stretching over one lakh square kilometre from the Chambal to the Sone.
- S** Several isolated exposures of sedimentary rocks occur in the Bastar area of Chhatisgarh.
- (a) PRSQ (b) QPRS
(c) SPQR (d) PQSR
64. **S1** : Drought is a continuous and lengthy period during which no significant rainfall is recorded during the rainy season.
- S6** : In India, droughts are more frequent in the areas where the average annual rainfall is less than 60 cm and the variability of rainfall is over 20 per cent.
- P** This definition however does not apply to Mawsynram and Cherrapunji, where even one week recording less than 0.25 mm of rainfall may be considered as a drought period.
- Q** In general the areas recording less than 60 cm of rainfall annually and in which the variability of rainfall is more than 20 per cent are the drought prone areas in India.
- R** In India, the Meteorological Department has defined drought as a period of at least 22 consecutive days on none of which there is more than 0.25 mm of rainfall.
- S** Areas where the variability of rainfall varies between 20 to 60 per cent are the chronic drought prone areas.
- (a) QRPS (b) SPQR
(c) PQSR (d) RPQS
65. **S1** : The definition of large farmers differs from state to state in India.
- S6** : This trend increased the income base of those who were already relatively well-off and better placed in society.
- P** In the initial phase of the Green Revolution, the large farmers were able to adopt the High Yielding Varieties easily.
- Q** The new varieties increased their savings, both to buy machinery that can displace labour and to purchase more land.
- R** For example, a farmer having 10 acres in Kerala is a large farmer, while in Rajasthan, Punjab and Haryana he falls under the category of a small or medium farmer.
- S** All the studies conducted in areas where Green Revolution is a success show that the large farmers have been the main gainers of the package programme.
- (a) QPRS (b) RSPQ
(c) PQSR (d) PQSR
66. **S1** : The Great Depression was a period of unemployment, low profits, low prices of goods, high poverty and a stand-still trade market that affected the entire world.
- S6** : Most notably among these was the New Deal, which involved large scale federal relief programmes, aid to agriculture, support for labour unions, etc.
- P** It began around 1929 and lasted till the mid-1930s.
- Q** Though the stock market crash of 1929 did not cause the Depression, it certainly increased the difficulty of recovery.
- R** The worst hit sectors were heavy industry, agriculture, mining and logging.
- S** The Depression ended in 1935 and led to major political initiatives.
- (a) QPRS (b) SQPR
(c) PRQS (d) SQRP
67. **S1** : Resources are essential for sustenance as well as for development.
- S6** : Conservation does not prohibit the use of resources but emphasises judicious and planned use of natural resources.
- P** Over-exploitation and unplanned consumption of resources for development, however, are leading to their depletion.
- Q** These consequences can be tackled by adopting resource conservation as a means to manage and save resources for a better future.
- R** Such depletion has socio-economic and environmental consequences.
- S** Conservation of resources means efficiently using resources that are needed now, without harming future prospects.
- (a) QPRS (b) SQPR
(c) PRQS (d) SQRP
68. **S1** : Land is a very important resource.
- S6** : India has a vast landmass but it is important to ensure careful planning in the utilisation of its land resources.
- P** It is therefore an important asset that needs to be used with care and concern because it is finite in nature.
- Q** All over the world, land supports natural vegetation, wildlife, human life, economic activities, and communication and transport systems.
- R** Hence, land is of great significance for all nations.

S In consequence to all of these careful planning of land use assumes the utmost significance.

- (a) QRPS (b) SQPR
(c) QPSR (d) SQRP

69. **S1** : The National Forest policy (1952) has outlined that the desired forest area of a country must be at least 33 per cent of the geographical area.

S6: Some land is termed as land put to other non-agricultural uses; this includes settlements, roads, railways, industries, etc.

P However the present forest cover is only 23 per cent, much lower than the desired percentage.

Q This was felt to be necessary for maintaining the ecological balance.

R Some land is termed as wasteland; this includes rocky, arid and desert areas.

S This creates difficulties for millions of people who live in the fringe areas of forests and depend upon the forests for their livelihood.

- (a) PQRS (b) SQPR
(c) QSPR (d) QPSR

70. **S1** : Trade and transport have been very significant in the progress of human life.

S6: Thus, trade transport and communication complement each other.

P For a long time trade and transport moved within the restricted boundaries of space and time.

Q This has been made possible by the development of a fast and efficient transport and communication system.

R However, with the developments in the field of science and technology trade and transport have spread all over the world.

S The world has, as a consequence, become one big village and distances have become immaterial or, to be more precise, distances seem to have shrunk.

- (a) PSQR (b) PRSQ
(c) QSPR (d) SQRP

Directions: Match list I (word/expression/specialised term) with List II (meaning) and select the answer using the code given below the Lists.

71.

List I	List II
A. Vernacular	1. Language intended to influence people.
B. Rhetoric	2. Language of ordinary people.

C. Parlance	3. Language used for a specialised communication.
D. Jargon	4. Language used by a particular group of people.

Code:

A B C D

(a) 3 4 1 2

(b) 2 1 4 3

(c) 2 4 1 3

(d) 3 1 4 2

72.

List I	List II
A. Internecine	1. Officially cancelling the power of an agreement.
B. Revoke	2. To clear someone officially from an earlier accusation.
C. Exonerate	3. Things occurring between people of same community.
D. Venerable	4. Valued and respected.

Code:

A B C D

(a) 3 1 2 4

(b) 3 2 1 4

(c) 4 2 1 3

(d) 4 1 2 3

73.

List I	List II
A. Atonement	1. Retrieving money already paid.
B. Sacrilege	2. Contaminating a holy place.
C. Clawback	3. Involvement of a large number of people in something.
D. Bandwagon	4. Making amends for mistakes.

Code:

A B C D

(a) 3 1 2 4

(b) 3 2 1 4

(c) 4 2 1 3

(d) 4 1 2 3

74.

List I	List II
A. Felony	1. A long written piece of criticism.
B. Restitution	2. To return a lost or stolen article.
C. Chagrin	3. Serious crime.
D. Diatribe	4. Distressed on account of humiliation.

Code:

A B C D

(a) 1 2 4 3

(b) 1 4 2 3

(c) 3 2 4 1

(d) 3 4 2 1

75.

List I	List II
A. Wrangle	1. Additional piece of information added to the main text.
B. Wacky	2. Amusing and strange.
C. Codex	3. Complicated and prolonged argument.
D. Postscript	4. An ancient text.

Code:

A B C D

(a) 1 4 2 3

(b) 1 2 4 3

(c) 3 4 2 1

(d) 3 2 4 1

76.

List I	List II
A. Inveterate	1. Something that always happens.
B. Sangfroid	2. Ability to express well in speech.
C. Oracy	3. Ability to stay calm in difficult situation.
D. Interment	4. Burying the dead.

Code:

A B C D

(a) 1 2 3 4

(b) 1 3 2 4

(c) 4 2 3 1

(d) 4 3 2 1

77.

List I	List II
A. Ex gratia	1. The right or capacity to bring an action.
B. Suo moto	2. Something that is done for free.
C. Arraignment	3. On his own motion.
D. Locus standi	4. To state the charges in a court of law.

Code:

A B C D

(a) 2 4 3 1

(b) 2 3 4 1

(c) 1 2 4 3

(d) 1 4 2 3

78.

List I	List II
A. Fait accompli	1. Something already decided with no option to deny.
B. Hedonism	2. Government by the military.
C. Hoplarchy	3. Government by the mobs.
D. Ochlocracy	4. Pertaining to pleasure.

Code:

A B C D

(a) 3 2 4 1

(b) 3 4 2 1

(c) 1 2 4 3

(d) 1 4 2 3

79.

List I	List II
A. Nadir	1. Walking slowly.
B. Rhapsody	2. Very small amount of money.
C. Amble	3. Lowest point of something.
D. Pittance	4. Written or expression of praise.

Code:

A B C D

(a) 3 4 1 2

(b) 2 1 4 3

(c) 2 4 1 3

(d) 3 1 4 2

80.

List I	List II
A. Damp squib	1. Small raised platform on a stage.
B. Excerpt	2. Something that causes a great deal of trouble.
C. Rostrum	3. Situations or events that are less impressive.
D. Scourge	4. Small part of a longer text, film or musical piece.

Code:

A B C D

(a) 3 4 1 2

(b) 2 1 4 3

(c) 2 4 1 3

(d) 3 1 4 2

Directions: In this section an underlined word has been used variously in three sentences S1, S2 and S3. You are required to determine in how many sentences has the word been used correctly and mark your answer from the options (a), (b) or (c) given below. If the word has not been correctly used in any one or more of the given sentences mark your response as (d).

81. S1: The cuneiform pattern in the arch of the temples give them a grand appearance.

S2: Cuneiform literally means wedge-shaped and is an ancient form of writing on clay.

S3: Cuneiform-shaped geographical features across the desert bear the mark of vigorous wind erosion.

(a) 1 (b) 2

(c) 3 (d) None

82. S1: He displayed real chutzpah while facing the facing the belligerent opposition all by himself.

S2: The lawyer displayed rare chutzpah in presenting tectonic evidence in court that changed the track of the case entirely.

S3: He ran with chutzpah to secure first prize at the award ceremony.

(a) 1 (b) 2

(c) 3 (d) None

83. S1: It was quotidian on account of the courtiers to take great pains to maintain the dignity of the ailing monarch.

S2: The rules of conduct of the highest judiciary are quotidian principles on which rest the very foundations of justice and democracy.

S3: His quotidian life is, contrary to what people think, rather unexciting.

(a) 1

(b) 2

(c) 3

(d) None

84. S1: The moribund state of the decaying colony depressed everyone.

S2: The strength of the collective remained moribund despite attempts at scuttling unity.

S3: Driven by a common purpose, the moribund group decided it would prevail notwithstanding of the adverseness of the situation.

(a) 1

(b) 2

(c) 3

(d) None

85. S1: The Gangetic plains are blessed with historically-significant fecundity on account of its rich soil.

S2: The couple sought blessings at the temple that was believed to possess the power to transform childlessness into fecundity.

S3: The grass across the prairies made the landscape appear particularly fecund, with cattle grazing by the thousands.

(a) 1

(b) 2

(c) 3

(d) None

Directions: Given below are sentences that use discourse markers/expressions to make them complete. Identify the most appropriate discourse marker/ expression and mark your answer on the Answer Sheet accordingly

86....., the process by which the state took over from the Church the registration of births, death, and marriages was complete by 1792 in Europe.

(a) Besides

(b) However

(c) Later

(d) Instead

87....., the matter cannot be settled that easily.

(a) Unevenly

(b) Unfortunately

(c) Unfortunate

(d) Whatever

88....., the leader's comments came a day after the party's performance in the region was not encouraging.

(a) Despite

(b) Engagingly

(c) Moreover

(d) Endearingly

89....., the squad also has a couple of new faces who are equally well-qualified to play the forthcoming match.

(a) While

(b) Because of

(c) Meanwhile

(d) Kind of

90. The principal was addressing the student on ways and means of conducting the sports meet of the college., responding to the opinion of one of the athletes, she wanted to

learn about about how more sports could be included in the meet.

- (a) In spite of (b) While
(c) Still (d) Further

Directions: In the following items, a pair of words is provided. You are required to select the option that most appropriately describe the meaning of both the words and mark your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

91. Elicit and Illicit

- (a) Elicit is a verb meaning forbidden by law. Illicit is an adjective meaning draw a reaction from someone.
(b) Elicit is an adverb meaning to draw a reaction from someone. Illicit is a determiner meaning forbidden by law.
(c) Elicit is a verb meaning to draw a reaction from someone. Illicit is an adjective meaning forbidden by law.
(d) Elicit is an adverb meaning forbidden by law. Illicit is an adjective meaning to draw a reaction from someone.

92. Ensure and Insure

- (a) Ensure is a transitive verb meaning to make something certain. Insure is a transitive verb meaning to make certain by taking necessary precaution.
(b) Ensure is a determiner meaning to make something certain. Insure is a determiner meaning to make certain by taking necessary precaution.
(c) Ensure is a determiner meaning to make certain by taking necessary precaution. Insure is a determiner to make something certain.
(d) Ensure is an adjective meaning to make certain by taking necessary precaution. Insure is a conjunction to make something certain

93. Imitated and Intimated

- (a) Imitate is an adjective meaning closely acquainted.
(b) Imitate is an adjective meaning closely acquainted. Intimate is a verb meaning take or follow as a model.
(c) Imitate is an interjection meaning take or follow as a model. Intimate is an adverb meaning closely acquainted.
(d) Imitate is a verb meaning take or follow as a model. Intimate is an adjective meaning closely acquainted.

94. Compare and Compere

- (a) Compare is an adjective and it means to estimate or measure something. Compere is a determiner and it refers to the person who introduces the performers.
(b) Compare is a verb and it means to estimate or measure something. Compere is a noun and it refers to the person who introduces the performers.
(c) Compare is a verb and it refers to the person who introduces the performance.. Compere is a noun and it means to estimate or measure something.
(d) Compare is a conjunction and it means to estimate or measure something. Compere is an auxiliary very and it refers to the person who introduces the performers.

95. Precept and Percept

- (a) Precept is a verb and it means a general rule intended to regulate behaviour. Percept is an adjective and it means an object of perception.
(b) Precept is a pronoun and it means a general rule intended to regulate behaviour. Percept is an adjective and it means an object of perception.
(c) Precept is a noun and it means a general rule intended to regulate behaviour. Percept is a noun and it means an object of perception.
(d) Precept is a noun and it means an object of perception. Percept is a noun and it means a general rule intended to regulate behaviour.

Directions: In the following question a word is provided. Four sentences have been framed using the word. In only one of these is the word used correctly. Select the correct option and mark your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

96. Practice

- (a) He would practice for his basketball match for hours every day.
(b) Our neighbour has been practicing acupuncture for a long time.
(c) As she practiced, the sound of music filled the halls.
(d) It is a not good practice to repeat old mistakes.

97. Immensely

- (a) Savita felt immensely happy when she got promoted as one of the Directors.
(b) Ravi's contribution was immensely to the successful completion of the project.
(c) Some countries produce oil immensely which impact the world economy.
(d) He boasts of eating breakfast immensely and falls sick often.

98. Insuperable

- (a) The difficulties presented by the situation seemed to be insuperable.
- (b) The group went insuperable for weeks during the agitation until the demands were met.
- (c) The insuperable element in the whole engagement was the leader herself.
- (d) The hostel administration remained insuperable for a month.

99. Amoral

- (a) Murder can be categorised as an amoral act.
- (b) We must send out a message that we are not an amoral society.
- (c) It is amoral to cheat the one who loves you.
- (d) The pursuit of victory at all costs allows for amoral conduct.

100. Emigrate

- (a) Animals emigrate in search of food from place to place.
- (b) The family decided to emigrate to a safe and secure country.
- (c) Workers emigrate from province to province in search of seasonal jobs.
- (d) New laws were being enacted to control emigration into the country.

Directions: Match List I (Parts of speech) with List II (example) and select the answer using the code given below the Lists.

101.

List I	List II
A. Noun	1. Intentional
B. Verb	2. Intention
C. Present participle of verb	3. Intend
D. Adjective	4. Intending

Code:

A B C D

- (a) 1 3 4 2
- (b) 2 4 3 1
- (c) 2 3 4 1
- (d) 1 4 3 2

102.

List I	List II
A. Noun	1. Experimental
B. Verb	2. Experiment
C. Present participle of verb	3. Experimentation
D. Adjective	4. To experiment

Code:

A B C D

- (a) 1 4 2 3
- (b) 1 2 4 3
- (c) 3 4 2 1
- (d) 3 2 4 1

103.

List I	List II
A. Noun	1. Discriminatory
B. Verb	2. Discrimination
C. Gerund	3. Discriminate
D. Adjective	4. Discriminating

Code:

A B C D

- (a) 1 3 4 2
- (b) 2 4 3 1
- (c) 2 3 4 1
- (d) 1 4 3 2

104.

List I	List II
A. Noun	1. Suppose
B. Verb	2. Supposed
C. Adverb	3. Supposition
D. Adjective	4. Supposedly

Code:

A B C D

- (a) 3 4 1 2
- (b) 3 1 4 2
- (c) 2 1 4 3
- (d) 2 4 1 3

105.

List I	List II
A. Noun	1. Justify
B. Verb	2. Juridical
C. Adverb	3. justice
D. Adjective	4. Just

Code:

A B C D

- (a) 2 4 1 3
- (b) 2 1 4 3
- (c) 3 4 1 2
- (d) 3 1 4 2

106.

List I	List II
A. Noun	1. Straight
B. Verb	2. Straightest
C. Adverb	3. Straighten
D. Adjective	4. Straightness

Code:

A B C D

(a) 2 3 1 4

(b) 2 1 3 4

(c) 4 3 1 2

(d) 4 1 3 2

107.

List I	List II
A. Noun	1. Neglect
B. Verb	2. Neglectfulness
C. Gerund	3. Neglecting
D. Adjective	4. Negligent

Code:

A B C D

(a) 4 3 1 2

(b) 2 1 3 4

(c) 4 1 3 2

(d) 2 3 1 4

108.

List I	List II
A. Noun	1. Forbid
B. Verb	2. Forbiddingly
C. Adverb	3. Forbiddance
D. Adjective	4. Forbidden

Directions: In the following item, a passage is given, in which there are ten blank spaces along with four options each for filling those blanks. Find the most appropriate word from the options provided to fill in the blanks, and mark your response on the Answer Sheet.

111. by the charm of nature around him,

- (a) Moved
- (b) Moving
- (c) Having moved
- (d) Moves

112 man has expressed his appreciation of it in works of art produced by him. This goes back to a time

- (a) then he was still a primitive being.
- (b) When
- (c) till
- (d) for

Code:

A B C D

(a) 3 1 2 4

(b) 3 2 1 4

(c) 4 2 1 3

(d) 4 1 2 3

109.

List I	List II
A. Noun	1. Hardy
B. Verb	2. Hardness
C. Adverb	3. Harden
D. Adjective	4. Hard

Code:

A B C D

(a) 1 3 4 2

(b) 2 3 4 1

(c) 2 4 3 1

(d) 1 4 3 2

110.

List I	List II
A. Noun	1. Fastest
B. Verb	2. Fasten
C. Adverb	3. Fastness
D. Adjective	4. Fast

Code:

A B C D

(a) 1 2 4 3

(b) 3 4 2 1

(c) 3 2 4 1

(d) 1 4 2 3

113. Art..... a softening influence on him. The earliest.

- (a) Has
- (b) have
- (c) has had
- (d) had had

OSWAAL



114. paintings of the prehistoric age in the caves all over the world give us magnificent examples of the eye and the.

- (a) observing
- (b) Observance
- (c) Observant
- (d) Observation

115. Trained hand in man's savage state. The colours chosen, the movement..... and the expressions the pictures are

- (a) Portraying
- (b) Portray
- (c) Portrayed
- (d) Portrayal

116. _____ with really make us marvel, even if all of them are not...

- (a) suffixed
- (b) suffused
- (c) suffusing
- (d) surfaced

117. even if all of them are not of the _____ of the paintings...

- (a) standard
- (b) standardised
- (c) standards
- (d) stand

118. of the paintings at _____ days of the early man in India.

- (a) far-off
- (b) far
- (c) far-out
- (d) far-fetched

119. It is a great and true experience that Kalidasa expresses, when he feels that _____ the happiest man feels...

- (a) even
- (b) for
- (c) with
- (d) still

120. the happiest man feels _____ when he sees beautiful things or hears melodious notes.

- (a) elates
- (b) elating
- (c) elated
- (d) excite

Answer Key

Q. No	Answer Key	Topic's Name	Chapter's Name
1	b	Diction Improvement	Vocabulary
2	a	Diction Improvement	Vocabulary
3	c	Diction Improvement	Vocabulary
4	d	Diction Improvement	Vocabulary
5	c	Diction Improvement	Vocabulary
6	d	Diction Improvement	Vocabulary
7	d	Diction Improvement	Vocabulary
8	a	Diction Improvement	Vocabulary
9	c	Diction Improvement	Vocabulary
10	b	Diction Improvement	Vocabulary
11	a	Spot the error	Grammar
12	c	Spot the error	Grammar
13	b	Spot the error	Grammar
14	c	Spot the error	Grammar
15	c	Spot the error	Grammar
16	c	Spot the error	Grammar
17	c	Spot the error	Grammar
18	c	Spot the error	Grammar
19	d	Spot the error	Grammar
20	b	Spot the error	Grammar
21	d	Fillers	Grammar
22	b	Fillers	Grammar
23	d	Fillers	Grammar
24	c	Fillers	Grammar
25	a	Fillers	Grammar
26	d	Homonyms/Homophones	Vocabulary
27	c	Homonyms/Homophones	Vocabulary
28	a	Homonyms/Homophones	Vocabulary
29	c	Homonyms/Homophones	Vocabulary
30	d	Homonyms/Homophones	Vocabulary
31	a	Idioms/Proverbs	Vocabulary
32	d	Idioms/Proverbs	Vocabulary
33	b	Idioms/Proverbs	Vocabulary
34	d	Idioms/Proverbs	Vocabulary
35	a	Idioms/Proverbs	Vocabulary
36	b	Idioms/Proverbs	Vocabulary
37	a	Idioms/Proverbs	Vocabulary
38	a	Idioms/Proverbs	Vocabulary
39	a	Idioms/Proverbs	Vocabulary
40	b	Idioms/Proverbs	Vocabulary
41	d	Relationship	Logical reasoning
42	d	Relationship	Logical reasoning
43	d	Relationship	Logical reasoning
44	d	Relationship	Logical reasoning
45	c	Relationship	Logical reasoning
46	b	Relationship	Logical reasoning
47	b	Relationship	Logical reasoning
48	b	Relationship	Logical reasoning
49	a	Relationship	Logical reasoning
50	b	Relationship	Logical reasoning

51	c	Ordering of words	Sentence structure
52	b	Ordering of words	Sentence structure
53	a	Ordering of words	Sentence structure
54	d	Ordering of words	Sentence structure
55	b	Ordering of words	Sentence structure
56	a	Ordering of words	Sentence structure
57	c	Ordering of words	Sentence structure
58	d	Ordering of words	Sentence structure
59	a	Ordering of words	Sentence structure
60	b	Ordering of words	Sentence structure
61	d	Ordering of sentences	Sentence structure
62	b	Ordering of sentences	Sentence structure
63	a	Ordering of sentences	Sentence structure
64	d	Ordering of sentences	Sentence structure
65	b	Ordering of sentences	Sentence structure
66	c	Ordering of sentences	Sentence structure
67	c	Ordering of sentences	Sentence structure
68	a	Ordering of sentences	Sentence structure
69	d	Ordering of sentences	Sentence structure
70	b	Ordering of sentences	Sentence structure
71	b	Match the following	Vocabulary
72	b	Match the following	Vocabulary
73	c	Match the following	Vocabulary
74	c	Match the following	Vocabulary
75	d	Match the following	Vocabulary
76	b	Match the following	Vocabulary
77	b	Match the following	Vocabulary
78	d	Match the following	Vocabulary
79	a	Match the following	Vocabulary
80	a	Match the following	Vocabulary
81	a	Choose the correct usage	Vocabulary
82	b	Choose the correct usage	Vocabulary
83	a	Choose the correct usage	Vocabulary
84	a	Choose the correct usage	Vocabulary
85	c	Choose the correct usage	Vocabulary
86	c	Identify the discourse marker	Reasoning and grammar
87	b	Identify the discourse marker	Reasoning and grammar
88	c	Identify the discourse marker	Reasoning and grammar
89	c	Identify the discourse marker	Reasoning and grammar
90	d	Identify the discourse marker	Reasoning and grammar
91	c	Homophones	Vocabulary
92	a	Homophones	Vocabulary
93	d	Homophones	Vocabulary
94	b	Homophones	Vocabulary
95	c	Homophones	Vocabulary
96	d	Correct usage of word	Vocabulary
97	a	Correct usage of word	Vocabulary
98	a	Correct usage of word	Vocabulary
99	d	Correct usage of word	Vocabulary
100	b	Correct usage of word	Vocabulary
101	c	Parts of speech	Grammar

102	d	Parts of speech	Grammar
103	c	Parts of speech	Grammar
104	b	Parts of speech	Grammar
105	d	Parts of speech	Grammar
106	c	Parts of speech	Grammar
107	b	Parts of speech	Grammar
108	a	Parts of speech	Grammar
109	b	Parts of speech	Grammar
110	c	Parts of speech	Grammar
111	a	Cloze test	Grammar and vocabulary
112	b	Cloze test	Grammar and vocabulary
113	c	Cloze test	Grammar and vocabulary
114	c	Cloze test	Grammar and vocabulary
115	c	Cloze test	Grammar and vocabulary
116	b	Cloze test	Grammar and vocabulary
117	a	Cloze test	Grammar and vocabulary
118	a	Cloze test	Grammar and vocabulary
119	a	Cloze test	Grammar and vocabulary
120	c	Cloze test	Grammar and vocabulary

CDS

Combined Defence Services

EXAM**2025****English
Solutions****ANSWERS WITH EXPLANATIONS****1. Option (b) is correct.**

Explanation: “The officer under spension felt intimidated ...” is incorrect, because ‘intimated’ means closely acquainted; familiar, which is inappropriate to the context. The correct sentence is : The officer under supervision felt intimidated... which means that the means the officer felt nervous, threatened or intimidated by someone in a position of authority (committee members).

2. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: “Amongst them all, she was the one with the perquisite to understand...” is incorrect, because ‘perquisite’ means a benefit which one enjoys or is entitled to on account of one’s job or position. This does not align with the meaning of the sentence. The correct sentence is : Amongst them all, she was the one with the perspicacity to understand ... which means that the girl had the quality of having a ready insight into the complexity of the situation.

3. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question relates to sentence improvement. One must be proficient in vocabulary for getting the correct option. “At the official function ... guests arrived in scrumptious attire at the banquet” is incorrect, because ‘scrumptious’ means extremely tasty; delicious. This does not align with the meaning of the sentence. The correct sentence is : At the official function ... guests arrived in sumptuous attire at the banquet, which means that the guests wore luxurious, rich, and splendid attire, perfect for the event.

4. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question relates to sentence improvement. One must be proficient in vocabulary for getting the correct option. “The lake atop the mountain has always been the lyre for intrepid hikers” is incorrect, because ‘lyre’ is a stringed instrument like a small U-shaped harp

with strings fixed to a crossbar. This does not align with the meaning of the sentence. The correct sentence is : The lake atop the mountain has always been the lure for intrepid hikers, which shows the lake on the mountain as a temptation for the hikers who are fearless and love their passion.

5. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question relates to sentence improvement. One must be proficient in vocabulary for getting the correct option. “The candidates went through an intensive instruction process before their absorption into the service” is incorrect, because ‘instruction’ means detailed information about how something should be done or operated. This cannot be aligned with the context of the sentence– the process cannot be attributed as instructional. The correct sentence is : The candidates went through an intensive induction process before their absorption into the service, because induction is a process of welcoming and orienting new employees to their organisation, roles and company culture. This definitely synchronises with the intent of the sentence.

6. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question relates to sentence improvement. One must be proficient in vocabulary for getting the correct option. “The office memorandum directed personnel to minimise their consumption of office stationery by up to twenty per cent” is incorrect, because ‘minimise’ relates to making something as small as possible . But the specification of 20 per cent quantifies the amount, so minimising as less as possible does not qualify here. The correct sentence is : The office memorandum directed personnel to reduce their consumption of office stationery by up to twenty per cent, because reduce is primarily used as a verb meaning “to diminish in size, amount, extent, or number ”. This definitely synchronises with the intent of the sentence.

7. **Option (d) is correct.**

Explanation: The question relates to sentence improvement. One must be proficient in vocabulary for getting the correct option. "The announcement of an unexpected bonus led to great tumult among the staff" is incorrect, because 'tumult' means loud, confused noise, often caused by a large group of people. This does not do justice to the unexpected bonus. The correct sentence is : The announcement of an unexpected bonus led to great uproar among the staff, because uproar is a lot of noise or excitement, usually in response to something surprising (unexpected bonus). This definitely synchronises with the intent of the sentence.

8. **Option (a) is correct.**

Explanation: The question relates to sentence improvement. One must be proficient in vocabulary for getting the correct option. "The scurrilous remarks in the article were met with great joy by the leadership of the company" is incorrect, because 'scurrilous' means scandalous claims about someone with the intention of damaging their reputation. This cannot be aligned with the context of the sentence, the negative remarks cannot be welcome with joy. The correct sentence is : The laudatory remarks in the article were met with great joy by the leadership of the company, because laudatory refers to expressions of praise. This definitely synchronises with the intent of the sentence. All other options, except (a) fail to reinstate the joy that was experienced after reading the article

9. **Option (c) is correct.**

Explanation: The question relates to sentence improvement. One must be proficient in vocabulary for getting the correct option. "His inappropriate behaviour earned plaudits from his colleagues" is incorrect, because 'plaudits' means praise, which would not be appropriate in this case. The correct sentence is : His inappropriate behaviour earned opprobrium from his colleagues, because opprobrium means harsh criticism or public disgrace, which fits the context of inappropriate behaviour. This definitely synchronises with the intent of the sentence.

10. **Option (b) is correct.**

Explanation: The question relates to sentence improvement. One must be proficient in vocabulary for getting the correct option. "The enormity of the mountain range stunned the visitors to the hill station" is incorrect,

because 'enormity' denotes wickedness or outrageousness in addition to size. This is a misfit when it comes to alluding to size/vastness alone. The correct sentence is : The enormousness of the mountain range stunned the visitors to the hill station. Here, enormousness refers to the great size or scale of something, which fits perfectly with the context of the mountain range stunning the visitors. This definitely synchronises with the intent of the sentence

11. **Option (a) is correct.**

Explanation: The question relates to spotting the error. This needs a good command over grammar and usage of words to make it to the correct choice. The sentence "The accusation of abatement to the crime that had been levelled at him was eventually not proven in court" is incorrect. Here, the error is related to word usage, particularly, homonym. The word 'abatement' means the act of reducing or diminishing something, while "abetment" specifically means the action of encouraging or assisting someone to commit a crime. The correct sentence is: The accusation of abetment to the crime that had been levelled at him was eventually not proven in court.

12. **Option (c) is correct.**

Explanation: The question relates to spotting the error. This needs a good command over grammar and usage of words to make it to the correct choice. The sentence "The unintentional mistakes made by the clerical staff was overlooked by the officer" is incorrect. Here, the error is related to subject-verb agreement. The subject is 'unintentional mistakes' (a plural noun), thus, the associated verb must be plural 'were', instead of being in singular. The correct sentence is: The unintentional mistakes made by the clerical staff were overlooked by the officer.

13. **Option (b) is correct.**

Explanation: The question relates to spotting the error. This needs a good command over grammar and usage of words to make it to the correct choice. The sentence "The opening batsman was famous for the imperial strokes he played on the cricket field" is incorrect. Here, the error is in usage of the word stokes. The word "stokes" is incorrect because it means to stir or fuel a fire, which doesn't fit the context. The correct word is "strokes," which refers to the batting shots a cricketer plays. The correct

sentence is: "The opening batsman was famous for the imperial strokes he had played on the cricket field."

14. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question relates to spotting the error. This needs a good command over grammar and usage of words to make it to the correct choice. The sentence "Each student was meant to receive an equal share of the scholarship but the eventual distribution was found to be iniquitous" is incorrect. Here, the error is related to word usage, particularly, homonym. The word "iniquitous" means morally wrong or wicked. This does not align with the unfair distribution of scholarship, despite being promised an equal share. The correct sentence is: Each student was meant to receive an equal share of the scholarship, but the eventual distribution was found to be inequitable.

15. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question relates to spotting the error. This needs a good command over grammar and usage of words to make it to the correct choice. The sentence "No one turned up to claim the stowed away piece of baggage which was discovered on the luggage compartment of the bus" is incorrect. Here, the error is related to usage of preposition. Here, "stowed away" generally means something hidden or stored. To be clear, "on" is used when something is resting on the surface of something else, while "in" is used when something is inside or in an enclosed space (luggage compartment of the bus). The correct sentence is: No one turned up to claim the stowed away piece of baggage which was discovered in the luggage compartment of the bus.

16. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question relates to spotting the error. This needs a good command over grammar and usage of words to make it to the correct choice. The sentence "Certain animals have a tendency to communicate only with its own species and none other" is incorrect. Here, the error is related to usage of pronoun. As per the grammatical standards, if the antecedent (the noun a pronoun replaces) is singular, the pronoun must also be ; if the antecedent is plural, the pronoun must be plural. Since "animals" is plural, the correct pronoun should

be "their" to agree with the plural subject. The correct sentence is: Certain animals have a tendency to communicate only with their own species and none other.

17. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question relates to spotting the error. This needs a good command over grammar and usage of words to make it to the correct choice. The sentence "As soon as the clock chimed to announce the hour at midnight she sprung up from her bed" is incorrect. Here, the error is related to usage of verb tense. As per the grammatical standards, the past tense of "spring" is "sprang" (not "sprung"). The correct sentence is: As soon as the clock chimed to announce the hour at midnight, she sprang up from her bed.

18. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question relates to spotting the error. This needs a good command over grammar and usage of words to make it to the correct choice. The sentence "There are people who are likely to fraternise with their own community yet none other" is incorrect. Here, the error is related to incorrect usage of word. As per the grammatical standards, "No" is more acceptable when referring to the exclusion of something specific, while "none" is typically used for things that are non-specific.

The correct sentence is: There are people who are likely to fraternise with their own community, yet no other.

19. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question relates to spotting the error. This needs a good command over grammar and usage of words to make it to the correct choice. The sentence "The mime show attracted a huge audience despite the high price of tickets which defied the purpose of the public event" is grammatically correct.

20. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question relates to spotting the error. This needs a good command over grammar and usage of words to make it to the correct choice. The sentence "He was unable to recall where he had hanged his shirt after returning home from office" is incorrect. Here, the error is related to incorrect usage of a verb. "Hanged" refers especially to a person or animal when it refers to hanging execution. While "hung" is the past tense of "hang" when referring to objects. The correct sentence is:

He was unable to recall where he had hung his shirt after returning home from the office.

21. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to grammar, particularly determiners, prepositions and phrasal verbs. The correct sentence is: There is no truth in these claims even though these have been clearly stated. The word "these" alludes directly to the assertions, implying that they have been stated and are being addressed in the current setting.

22. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to grammar, particularly determiners, prepositions and phrasal verbs. The correct sentence is: The bridge was intended to allow people to cross over to the other side of the river and get to work. "Over" is the most suitable preposition when describing crossing something like a bridge (in this case, a river).

23. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to grammar, particularly determiners, prepositions and phrasal verbs. The correct sentence is: I shall not rest until I have gone to the bottom of this matter and found the truth. "Until" is used to indicate a point in time or an event up to which something else continues or occurs. This carries a condition/event (in this case, finding the truth).

24. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to grammar, particularly determiners, prepositions and phrasal verbs. The correct sentence is: There are several reasons behind my choice of location for the family visit. "For" is the best alternative because it is used to indicate the purpose or reason (in this case, the choice of location).

25. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to grammar, particularly determiners, prepositions and phrasal verbs. The correct sentence is: All human beings ought to have amoral centre to fall back on in times of crisis. The phrasal verb "fall back on" refers to depending on something for assistance or support during difficult situations.

26. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of words, mostly same-sounding ones. Before reading the sentences, we need to break

down the words into their actual meanings. "Pare" is a verb meaning to remove the outer layer of something, like peeling an apple. A "pair" is two of something, usually that are similar or go together. While a "pear" is a fruit. The implication of 'pare' is appropriately reflected in (1) to trim the branches of the tree. The implication of 'pair' is appropriately reflected in (2) two same-looking trees. The implication of 'pear' is appropriately replicated in (3) a type of fruit tree that was revered by the children of the locality. Thus, all the words have been used correctly.

27. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of words, mostly same-sounding ones. Before reading the sentences, we need to break down the words into their actual meanings. A seance is a meeting where people attempt to contact spirits or the dead. A scone is a wall-mounted fixture that holds candles or electric lights, often used for decoration. A scone is a biscuit-like cake that you eat. The implication of 'séance' is appropriately reflected in (1) people practising spiritualism participating in séance. The implication of 'sconce' is misrepresented replicated in (2) it must have been scone. The implication of 'sconce' is misrepresented replicated in (3). Thus, only (1) has used the word correctly.

28. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of words, mostly same-sounding ones. Before reading the sentences, we need to break down the words into their actual meanings. Altruism is the concern for the well-being of others, independently of personal benefit or reciprocity. A truism is a statement that is generally accepted as being true without the need for proof or debate. The implication of 'truism' is appropriately reflected in (1) the statement that one reaps what one sows is accepted as being true without the need for proof or debate. The implication of 'altruism' is not appropriately reflected in (2). Thus, only (1) has used the word correctly.

29. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of words, mostly same-sounding ones. Before reading the sentences, we need to break down the words into their actual meanings. "Consequence" is a noun that means "a result or

effect of an action or condition,” “consequent” is an adjective that means “happening as a result of something.” The implication of ‘consequent’ is appropriately reflected in (1) as a result of the decisions made by the committee, new procedures were implemented. The implication of ‘consequence’ is appropriately reflected in (2) the past is of little importance when one is ready for the challenges in the future. Thus, all the words have been used correctly.

30. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of words, mostly same-sounding ones. Before reading the sentences, we need to break down the words into their actual meanings. “Cease” means to stop or end something, while “seize” means to take hold of something firmly or to take control of something. “Crease” describes a line or mark created when something, especially paper or cloth, is folded, crushed, or pressed. The implication of ‘seize’ is appropriately reflected in (1) customs officials taking hold of smuggled goods. The implication of ‘cease’ is appropriately reflected in (2) to promote harmony, the two parties decided to stop their hostilities. goods. The implication of ‘crease’ is appropriately reflected in (3) the attire of military officials are described. Thus, all the words have been used correctly.

31. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of idioms or proverbs. The proverb “listen with half an ear” means not give one’s full attention. Example: When the counsellor was counselling the parents, Rishi listened with half an ear.

32. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of idioms or proverbs. The proverb “dyed in the wool” means unchanging in a particular belief or opinion. Example: As far as the ideologies are concerned, we are dyed in the wool, despite our personal conflicts.

33. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of idioms or proverbs. The proverb “let sleeping dogs lie” means to ignore a problem because trying to deal with it could cause an even more difficult situation. Example: When the boss is in an irate mood, it is better to not go to him with your complains – let sleeping dogs lie.

34. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of idioms or proverbs. The proverb “a stitch in time saves nine” means it’s better to solve a problem right away, to stop it becoming a much bigger one. . Example: It is better to fix the laptop now, rather than wait for it to black out permanently, as a stitch in time saves nine.

35. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of idioms or proverbs. The proverb “fight fire with fire” means to use the same methods as someone else in order to defeat them. Example: When my friend disclosed my past doings to my parents, I decided to apply the tactic of fighting fire with fire.

36. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of idioms or proverbs. The idiom “straight and narrow” refers to living in an honest, morally upright, and disciplined way. It often implies resisting temptation and avoiding wrongdoing. It originates from the idea of walking a narrow path that is correct and virtuous, especially in terms of behavior and ethics.

37. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of idioms or proverbs. The idiom “someone’s ear are burning” is used when someone has the feeling that other people are talking about him or her. Example: I rightly felt my ears burning, when my family was discussing about my prospects in marriage.

38. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of idioms or proverbs. The idiom “turn one’s stomach” means to make someone feel ill or uncomfortable usually due to being offensive or disgusting. Example: The gross crimes in the reality-based series turned my stomach.

39. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of idioms or proverbs. The proverb “the world is your oyster” means that you can achieve anything you wish in life or go anywhere because you have the opportunity or ability to do so. Example: You have such a rock solid support system in the form of your family, it seems the world is your oyster.

40. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of idioms or proverbs. The proverb “cast one’s bread upon the waters” means to do good

deeds without being motivated by a potential reward. Example: He is a true philanthropic; he has lent a hefty amount of money to the villagers who are out of work. He has surely cast his bread upon the waters.

41. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to relationship. S1 claims that albatross is among the largest birds that fly in the world. S2 posits that it has the widest wingspan among all birds. S2 develops on that idea by providing additional, specific information about the albatross—its wingspan, which is the widest of any bird and can reach up to 12 feet. This reinforces the first.

42. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to relationship. S1 claims that a scientific theory is first proposed as a hypothesis. S2 asserts that after being subjected to inquiry, it becomes thesis. S2 is expanding upon S1 by explaining the process that follows the proposal of a hypothesis, and explaining how a hypothesis evolves into a thesis after inquiry and testing.

43. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to relationship. S1 claims that the manhunt for the perpetrator of the crime spread across the entire state. S2 asserts that there was deep anger owing to the crime. S1 talks about the manhunt for the perpetrator of the crime (maybe as a result of public pressure as the criminal had absconded); while S2 offers another premise – public rage was aroused by the enormity of the crime. Thus S2 alters the premise of S1.

44. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to relationship. S1 claims that awareness about one's personality type is very important. S2 asserts that self-awareness is a difficult goal for many. S2 deviates from the assertion of S1 by acknowledging that achieving self-awareness is not easy for everyone, which introduces a contradiction to the claim in S1. Thus, S2 contrasts S1.

45. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to relationship. S1 claims that liberalisation changed the contours of India's economy. S2 asserts that India is poised to become one of the top economies of the world. The two statements are co-related because S2 presents a

likely consequence or outcome of the economic changes mentioned in S1. Thus, S2 correlates with S1.

46. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to relationship. S1 claims that the final outcome can never be predicted incontrovertibly. S2 asserts that all outcomes are based on variables that cannot be always be understood. The two statements convey the same idea. S2 provides a reason why variables cannot always be understood for the claim made in S1 – outcomes cannot be predicted in controvertibly. Thus, S2 reinforces S1 to an extent.

47. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to relationship. S1 claims that mastery over any art requires years of dedication. S2 asserts that it takes 10,000 h of practice to become an expert in a field. The two statements highlight the importance of time and dedication in accomplishing mastery and the time and effort required to achieve mastery in any art or field. Thus, S2 is fully consistent with S1.

48. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to relationship. S1 claims that the beauty of India's democracy rests in the greatness of its constitution. S2 asserts that the Constitution of India upholds the values of the country's Civilisational ethos. S2 complements S1 by explaining what makes the constitution "great"—it reflects and supports the deeper cultural and moral values of India.

49. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to relationship. S1 claims that Roseate is an adjective for the rose. S2 asserts that rose is a powerful poetic symbol in many languages. With rose being a powerful poetic symbol in many languages, S2 expands highlights the cultural and symbolic significance of the rose. Thus, S2 expands S1.

50. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to relationship. S1 claims that the early bird gets the worm. S2 asserts that to go about one's tasks expeditiously is to achieve one's goals. S2 emphasises the importance of being efficient and timely in order to attain success. Thus, S2 is a metaphorical reassertion of the first.

51. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The correct sentence is: The Telangana peasant revolt against the Nizam of Hyderabad in the 1940s is often considered to be paradigmatic and the only instance worthy of attention in a comparative sociological study of peasant movements in India. R introduces the topic of the Telangana peasant revolt. P elaborates the topic of the sociological study of peasant movements in India. S clarifies that it was the only instance worthy of attention in a comparative. Q provides additional information regarding the comparative aspect. The correct sequence is RPSQ.

52. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The correct sentence is: One of the major attributes of and with social movements, nonetheless is their coexistence with national states and their political institutions, process and parties. R introduces the topic – major attributes. P elaborates the topic – attributes of and with social movements. S clarifies one such attributes – their coexistence with national states. Q provides additional information. The correct sequence is RPSQ.

53. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The correct sentence is: Extraction of minerals in India is possible only after the government grants permission as most of the minerals are nationalised. S introduces the topic – Extraction of minerals in India. Q and R form a logical connection to establish the condition for extraction of minerals in India. P completes the sentence. The correct sequence is SQRP.

54. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The correct sentence is: Sociological theories distinguish social movements along two axes, whether they seek radical or limited change and whether they focus on the entire society or on specific individuals. S introduces the topic- Sociological theories. Q and P connect logically. The correct sequence is SQPR.

55. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The correct sentence is: Although most social movements are more defensive than offensive, and tend to be temporary, they are important agents of social transformation. Q introduces the topic, while P continues the flow by asserting social movements being defensive than offensive. RS forms an inevitable pair, with the use of the pronoun 'they'. S concludes the statement. The correct sequence is QPRS.

56. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The correct sentence is: One of the largest industries in India, the automobile industry has witnessed impressive growth during the last two decades. Q introduces the topic – One of the largest industries in India, while P continues the lead – the automobile industry. SR forms an inevitable pair, as they elaborate on the growth of this industry. The correct sequence is QPSR.

57. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The correct sentence is: In western India, the Sarvajanik Sabha was formed in 1870 to give voice to the demands and needs of the people and all classes of people were its members. Q introduces the topic – the Sarvajanik Sabha, while P continues to expand on it. SR forms an inevitable pair. The correct sequence is QPSR.

58. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The correct sentence is: The achievements we celebrate today are but a step towards the opportunities to the greater triumphs and achievements that await us. R is about the subject – the achievements we celebrate. QPS are logically connected as they expand on the topic – how the achievements we celebrate are a step towards the opportunities to the greater triumphs that lie in store for us. The correct sequence is RQPS.

59. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The correct sentence is: During British rule, peasants often took part in revolts against taxes and food scarcity but they lacked the means, programmes and the vision to carry out a full-scale revolution. S introduces the topic- an event in the times British rule, QR deal with revolts against taxes and food scarcity. The correct sequence is SQRP.

60. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The correct sentence is: The colonial government, now seeing that the mounting tension was heading towards a crisis, wisely decided to change its policy and announced reforms. R introduces the topic – the colonial government. SP form a logical pair for discussing the announcement of change in policy and reforms. The correct sequence is RQSP.

61. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to order of sentences. The correct structure is: The minimum thermometer has a large bore and its fluid is colourless alcohol. It is mounted

horizontally and as the alcohol contracts with the decreasing temperature the meniscus of the alcohol pulls the index down. R discusses the next step – a long dumbbell is placed below the alcohol column. Q is the next continuation as it discusses the resetting of the dumbbell, until the index sides down to the meniscus. After this, the meniscus moves up to register the lowest temperature. The correct sequence is SRQP.

62. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to order of sentences. The correct structure is: S1 introduces the topic – the Cretaceous period. At the end of this period, the peninsula was affected by volcanic activity (Q). P notes that as a result of this, other changes and transformations happened, like the outpouring of huge quantity of lava. R continues this chain of thought that this outpouring of huge quantity of lava has been widely distributed in the country. S elaborates this claim with the example of the newer Himalayas versus the older one. The correct sequence is QPRS.

63. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to order of sentences. The correct structure is: S1 introduces the topic – the Central Indian Highlands/the Vindhyas occupying a large basin. P follows the thought, by elaborating on one branch of the basin. The phrase 'this branch' automatically connects PR. S introduces several isolated exposures of sedimentary rocks, while Q develops on this. The correct sequence is PRSQ.

64. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to order of sentences. The correct structure is: S1 introduces the topic – drought. R defines this term 'drought'. The phrase 'this definition' links RP as a logical pair, R takes up the example of Mawsynram and Cherrapunji. Q continues the flow of thought from here. The correct sequence is RPQS.

65. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to order of sentences. The correct structure is: S1 introduces the topic – the definition of large farmers differing from state to state. This is exemplified in R – a farmer from Kerala against a farmer from Rajasthan. S presents the studies based on the concept of Green Revolution. This is elucidated in P, with the introduction of another term – HYV seeds. Q completes the crux is discussed in P. The correct sequence is RSPQ.

66. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to order of sentences. The correct structure is: S1 introduces the topic – the Great Depression. The chronology of this big event starts in P, then moves on to R, followed by Q. The end of this Depression is summed up in S. The correct sequence is PRQS.

67. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to order of sentences. The correct structure is: S1 introduces the topic- the significance of resources. P brings to the fore the over-exploitation of resources, which results in depletion of resources. This flow continues in R. Q discusses the consequences of such an act. S follows and sums up with the conservation methods. The paragraph takes the form of event – effect – solution. The correct sequence is PRQS.

68. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to order of sentences. The correct structure is: S1 introduces the topic – land as an important resource. Q introduces the broad importance of land across the world. R emphasizes its significance for all nations. P explains why land is an important asset that needs careful management. S concludes by stressing the need for careful planning in land use, linking to the final idea in S6. The correct sequence is QRPS.

69. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to order of sentences. The correct structure is: S1 introduces the topic – The NFP and its importance. Q reinstates what is stated in S1. P contradicts the desired data with a reality check. As a result of this discrepancy, difficulties emerge for people (S) R talks about land types like wasteland, connecting it to land use issues. The correct sequence is QPSR.

70. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to order of sentences. The correct structure is: S1 introduces the topic – the relevance of trade and transport. P creates a background to the start of trade and transport. R reinforces the topic by stating the recent prominence of trade and transport and thus connecting the entire world. S concludes the consequence of such a major development of trade and transport. The world as a global village owes its credibility to the development of a fast and efficient transport and communication system. The correct sequence is PRSQ.

71. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of words. Vernacular means the language or dialect spoken by the ordinary people in a particular country or region. Rhetoric is the speech or writing that is effective and persuasive literature. Parlance refers to a particular way of speaking or using words, especially a way common to those with a particular job or interest. Jargon are special words or expressions used by a profession or group that are difficult for others to understand. Thus, the correct pattern is: A - 2, B - 1, C - 4, D - 3.

72. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of words. Internecine means destructive to both sides in a conflict. Revoke is to annul by recalling or taking back. Exonerate is to relieve of a responsibility, obligation or hardship. Venerable means formal deserving respect because of age, high position or religious or historical importance. Thus, the correct pattern is: A - 3, B - 2, C - 1, D - 4.

73. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of words. Atonement means the action of making amends for a wrong or injury. Clawback is an act of retrieving money already paid out, typically by taxation. Sacrilege is violation or misuse of what is regarded as sacred. Bandwagon is an activity, group, etc. That has become successful or fashionable and so attracts many new people. Thus, the correct pattern is: A - 4, B - 2, C - 1, D - 3.

74. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of words. Felony means a crime punishable by death or imprisonment in excess of one year. Restitution is the restoration of something lost or stolen to its proper owner. Chagrin is annoyance or distress at having failed or been humiliated. Diatribe is a forceful and bitter verbal attack against someone or something. Thus, the correct pattern is: A - 3, B - 2, C - 4, D - 1.

75. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of words. Wrangle means have a long, complicated dispute or argument. Wacky is funny or amusing in a slightly odd or peculiar way. Codex is an ancient manuscript text

in book form. Postscript is an extra piece of information about an event that is added after it has happened. Thus, the correct pattern is: A - 3, B - 2, C - 4, D - 1.

76. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of words. Inveterate means having a particular habit, activity or interest that is long-established and unlikely to change. Sangfroid is composure or coolness shown in danger or under trying circumstances. Oracy is the ability to express oneself fluently and grammatically in speech. Interment means the burial of a corpse in a grave or tomb, typically with funeral rites. Thus, the correct pattern is: A - 1, B - 3, C - 2, D - 4.

77. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of words. Ex gratia is a Latin phrase meaning "by grace" or "as a favour". Suo moto is often used to describe a situation where a court or other authority takes action without being prompted or requested to do so by another party. Arraignment is the first step in a criminal proceeding where the defendant is brought in front of the court to hear the charges against them and enter a plea. Locus standi is a Latin term meaning "place of standing". Thus, the correct pattern is: A - 2, B - 3, C - 4, D - 1.

78. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of words. Fait accompli is a thing that has already happened or been decided before those affected hear about it, leaving them with no option but to accept it. Hedonism is the pursuit of pleasure; sensual self-indulgence. Hoplarchy is a government by the military. Ochlocracy is a government by the populace; mob rule. Thus, the correct pattern is: A - 1, B - 4, C - 2, D - 3.

79. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of words. Nadir is the lowest or most unsuccessful point in a situation. Rhapsody is an effusively enthusiastic or ecstatic expression of feeling. Amble refers to a walk or movement at a slow, relaxed pace. Pittance is a very small or inadequate amount of money. Thus the correct option is: A - 3, B - 4, C - 1, D - 2.

80. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to correct usage of words. Damp squib is a situation or event which is much less impressive than

expected. Excerpt is a short extract from a film, broadcast or piece of music or writing. Rostrum a raised platform on which a person stands to make a public speech, receive an award or medal, play music or conduct an orchestra. scourge is a person or thing that causes great trouble or suffering. Thus, the correct pattern is: A – 3, B – 4, C – 1, D – 2.

81. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to usage and meaning of words. The word “cuneiform” is related to the wedge-shaped characters used in the ancient writing systems of Mesopotamia, Persia and Ugarit, surviving mainly on clay tablets. Cuneiform is also a logo-syllabic writing system that was used to write several languages of the ancient near east. Thus, only S2 justifies the meaning of “cuneiform”.

82. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to usage and meaning of words. The word “chutzpah” means extreme self-confidence or audacity. The confidence and audacity are evident in the way the person dealt the opposition single-handedly. This attitude is reflected in the sentences S1 and S2. Thus, S1 and S2 justifies the meaning of “chutzpah”.

83. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to usage and meaning of words. The word “quotidian” means of or occurring every day; daily. S3 captures the correct meaning of the word – the subject’s life was normal and not that exciting. The correct sentence is: His quotidian life is, contrary to what people think, rather unexciting. Thus, only S3 justifies the meaning of “quotidian”.

84. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to usage and meaning of words. The word “moribund” means being in the state of dying : approaching death. S1 duly captures the correct meaning of the word – the waning and declining state of the decaying colony. The correct sentence is: The moribund state of the decaying colony depressed everyone. Thus, only S1 justifies the meaning of “moribund”.

85. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to usage and meaning of words. The word “fecundity” means the ability to produce an abundance of offspring or new growth; fertility. It may also connote the ability to produce many new ideas.

S1: The Gangetic plains are blessed with historically-significant fecundity on account of its rich soil.

Refers to fertility of the land due to rich soil. This is the literal meaning.

S2: The couple sought blessings at the temple that was believed to possess the power to transform childlessness into fecundity.

Refers to the ability to produce children (fertility in a biological sense). This fits the word’s meaning.

S3: The grass across the prairies made the landscape appear particularly fecund, with cattle grazing by the thousands.

Describes a landscape rich in vegetation and supporting life; matches the literal sense of fertility.

Thus S1, S2 and S3 all are justifies the meaning of “fecundity”.

86. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to discourse markers. The correct sentence is: Later the process by which the state took over from the Church the registration of births, death and marriages was complete by 1792 in Europe.

87. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to discourse markers. The correct sentence is: Unfortunately, the matter cannot be settled that easily. The blank needs an adverb that is used to introduce a statement that expresses regret or disappointment about something that has happened or is going to happen. Here, the regret is the inconclusiveness of the matter.

88. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to discourse markers. The correct sentence is: Moreover, the leaders’ comments came a day after the party’s performance in the region was not encouraging. “Moreover” is used to add additional information, and in this case, it connects the leader’s comments with the earlier point about the party’s poor performance. It signals that the leader’s comments came in addition to or further to the disappointing situation, providing extra context.

89. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to discourse markers. The correct sentence is: Meanwhile, the squad also has a couple of new faces who are equally well-qualified to play the forthcoming match. The best transitory word is “Meanwhile” as it implies something happening simultaneously with another event or situation.

90. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to discourse markers. The correct sentence is: The Principal was addressing the students on ways and means of conducting the sports meet of the college. Further, responding to the opinions of one of the athletes, she wanted to learn about how more sports could be included in the meet. "Further" is the correct discourse marker because it indicates an additional point or elaboration in the conversation.

91. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the contextual usage of homophones. A homophone is a word that is pronounced the same as another word but differs in meaning or in spelling. "Elicit" is a verb meaning to draw out or evoke a response, while "illicit" is an adjective meaning illegal or forbidden.

Examples: The police officer failed to elicit a response from the criminal – the latter was determined not to budge under any circumstances.

The police nabbed the mean dealing with illicit use of drugs.

92. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the contextual usage of homophones. A homophone is a word that is pronounced the same as another word but differs in meaning or in spelling. "Ensure" means to make something certain or happen, while "insure" means to protect against loss or damage.

Examples: Having adopted a new pet, Nevill's mother ensured that the pet as well as her son are vaccinated.

I had already insured my car, so the expenses incurred due to the accident will be covered by them.

93. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the contextual usage of similar-sounding words. "Imitated" is a verb which means to copy or mimic someone or something. "Intimated" is an adjective that means closely acquainted; familiar.

Examples: The parrot imitated the voice of its owners.

Their intimate friendship was the talk of the town.

94. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the contextual usage of homophones. A homophone is a word that is pronounced the same as another word but differs in meaning or in spelling. "Compare" is a verb which means to

examine and identify similarities and differences between two or more things. "Compere" is a noun meaning a person who introduces the performers or contestants in a variety show.

Examples: It is difficult for me to compare the movies; they both belong to different genres.

Nelson acted as the compere for the whole proceedings.

95. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the contextual usage of similar-sounding words. "Precept" refers to a rule, principle, or command that guides behaviour or action, often with moral or religious implications. "Percept", on the other hand, refers to something that is perceived, the object of perception, or the result of a sensory experience.

Examples: I always ask my students to adhere to the precept of loving one's nation first.

"Each percept shaped his view of reality."

96. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the contextual usage of a word. For this, one must be aware of the meaning and the part of speech. "Practice" (a noun) means something that is usually or regularly done, often as a habit, tradition, or custom. Only (d) aligns with the essence of the word, and it acts as a noun. All other options, are eliminated for treating it as a verb.

97. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the contextual usage of a word. For this, one must be aware of the meaning and the part of speech. "Immensely" (an adverb) means to a great extent; extremely. Only (a) aligns with the essence of the word, connoting that Savitha was extremely happy when she got promoted as one of the Directors. All other options are eliminated as they have misrepresented the meaning of the word.

98. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the contextual usage of a word. For this, one must be aware of the meaning and the part of speech. "Insuperable" (an adjective) means (of a difficulty or obstacle) impossible to overcome. Only (a) aligns with the essence of the word, connoting that the difficulties were such that they were impossible to overcome and are unconquerable. All other options, are eliminated as they have misrepresented the meaning of the word.

99. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the contextual usage of a word. For this, one must be aware of the meaning and the part of speech. "Amoral" (an adjective) is having or showing no concern about whether behaviour is morally right or wrong. Only (d) aligns with the essence of the word, suggesting that the attempt to attain victory at all costs culminates in amoral and unethical manners. All other options, are eliminated as they have misrepresented the meaning of the word.

100. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the contextual usage of a word. For this, one must be aware of the meaning and the parts of speech. "Emigrate" (a verb) to leave one's place of residence or country to live elsewhere. Only (b) aligns with the essence of the word, denoting the decision of the family to leave the place of residence or country and find a secure country to live. All other options are eliminated as they have misrepresented the meaning of the word.

101. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the contextual usage of a word. For this, one must be aware of the meaning and the part of speech. "Intentional" (an adjective) means done on purpose; deliberate. "Intend" (a verb) means have (a course of action) as one's purpose or intention; plan. "Intention" (a noun) is a thing intended; an aim or plan. "Intending" (gerund or present participle) means (of a person) planning or meaning to do or be the specified thing. Thus, the correct format is A - 2, B - 3, C - 4, D - 1.

102. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the contextual usage of a word. For this, one must be aware of the meaning and the part of speech. "Experimental" (an adjective) means using new methods, ideas, substances, etc. that have not been tried before. "Experiment" (a verb) means a scientific procedure undertaken to make a discovery, test a hypothesis or demonstrate a known fact. "Experimentation" (a noun) is the process of performing a scientific procedure, especially in a laboratory, to determine something. "To Experiment" (infinitive form of verb) means (perform a scientific procedure, especially in a laboratory, to determine something. Thus, the correct format is A - 3, B - 2, C - 4, D - 1.

103. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the contextual usage of a word. For this, one must be aware of the meaning and the part of speech. "Discriminatory" (an adjective) means treating a person or group differently from and usually worse than other people, because of their race, gender, sexuality, etc. "Discriminate" (a verb) means make an unjust or prejudicial distinction in the treatment of different categories of people, especially on the grounds of ethnicity, sex, age, or disability. "Discrimination" (a noun) refers to the unjust or prejudicial treatment of different categories of people, especially on the grounds of ethnicity, age, sex, or disability. "Discriminating" (gerund) the -ing form of the verb, used as a noun or in continuous tense. Thus, the correct format is A - 2, B - 3, C - 4, D - 1.

104. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the contextual usage of a word. For this, one must be aware of the meaning and the part of speech.

"Supposition" (a noun) means a belief held without proof or certain knowledge. "Suppose" (a verb) means to think that something is likely to be true. "Supposedly" (adverb) means according to what is or was said, claimed, or believed by some. "Supposed" (an adjective) means generally assumed or believed to be the case, but not necessarily so. Thus, the correct format is A - 3, B - 1, C - 4, D - 2.

105. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the contextual usage of a word. For this, one must be aware of the meaning and the parts of speech. "Justify" (a verb) means how or prove to be right or reasonable. "Juridical" (an adjective) means relating to judicial proceedings and the administration of the law. "Justice" (a noun) means just behaviour or treatment. "Just" (an adverb) means very recently; in the immediate past. Thus, the correct format is A - 3, B - 1, C - 4, D - 2.

106. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the contextual usage of a word. For this, one must be aware of the meaning and the part of speech. "Straighten" (a verb) means to make or become straight. "Straight" (an adverb) means in or into a level, even, or upright position. "Straightest" (an adjective) means deviating from what is

considered socially normal, usual, or acceptable. "Straightness" (noun) means the fact of being without bends or curves; the fact of going in one direction only. Thus, the correct format is A - 4, B - 3, C - 1, D - 2.

107. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the contextual usage of a word. For this, one must be aware of the meaning and the part of speech. "Neglect" (a verb) means failure to care for properly. "Neglecting" (a gerund) means failing to care for properly. "Negligent" (an adjective) is a quality showing carelessness. "Neglectfulness" (noun) means the state or quality of being neglectful, which is characterised by a lack of care and attention, or a disregard for responsibilities. Thus, the correct format is A - 2, B - 1, C - 3, D - 4.

108. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the contextual usage of a word. For this, one must be aware of the meaning and the part of speech. "Forbid" (a verb) means refuse to allow (something). "Forbiddingly" (an adverb) means in an unpleasant or menacing manner. "Forbidden" (an adjective) is a quality meaning banned. "Forbiddance" (noun) means the act of forbidding or the state of being forbidden. Thus, the correct format is A - 3, B - 1, C - 2, D - 4.

109. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the contextual usage of a word. For this, one must be aware of the meaning and the part of speech. "Harden" (a verb) means make or become hard or harder. "Hard" (an adverb) means with a great deal of effort; as in 'work hard'. "Hardy" (an adjective) is a quality meaning strong enough to bear extreme conditions or difficult situations. "Hardness" (noun) means the quality or condition of being hard. Thus, the correct format is A - 2, B - 3, C - 4, D - 1.

110. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the contextual usage of a word. For this, one must be aware of the meaning and the parts of speech. "Fasten" (a verb) close or do up securely. "Fast" (an adverb) means at high speed (like 'bowls fast'). "Fastest" (an adjective) is a quality meaning moving or capable of moving at high speed (as in 'fast bowler'). "Fastness" (noun) means the quality or state of being swift. Thus, the correct format is A - 3, B - 2, C - 4, D - 1.

111. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the correct choice of words, based on grammar and vocabulary. The correct sentence is: Moved by the charm of nature around him, man has expressed his appreciation of it in works of art produced by him. The sentence must start with a past participle (moved), and the choice of the word proves the appeal of nature and the impact it cast upon man.

112. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the correct choice of words, based on grammar and vocabulary. The correct sentence is: This goes back to a time when he was still a primitive being. "When" correctly introduces a time or period during which something occurred.

113. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the correct choice of words, based on grammar and vocabulary. The correct sentence is: Art has had a softening influence on him. "Has had" correctly captures the relevance of art not only from the past but also the influence being relevant in present.

114. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the correct choice of words, based on grammar and vocabulary. The correct sentence is: The earliest paintings of the prehistoric age in the caves all over the world give us magnificent examples of the observant eye and the trained hand. "Observant" is the correct choice as the blank deserves an adjective to qualify the eye (as watchful) that have contributed to the earliest paintings of the prehistoric age in the caves.

115. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the correct choice of words, based on grammar and vocabulary. The correct sentence is: The colours chosen, the movement portrayed and the expressions "Portrayed" is a verb meaning to describe (someone or something) in a particular way.

116. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the correct choice of words, based on grammar and vocabulary. The correct sentence is: The colours chosen, the movement portrayed and the expressions the pictures are suffused with really make us marvel.... "Suffused with" means to spread over or through in the manner of fluid or light. Here, the expressions seem to pervade in the pictures.

117. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the correct choice of words, based on grammar and vocabulary. The correct sentence is: The colours chosen, the movement portrayed and the expression the pictures are suffused with really make us marvel, even if all of them are not of the standards of the paintings of Altamira. "Standard" is a singular noun to refer to the level or quality of the paintings; the absence of multiple criteria makes the choice of singular noun the most appropriate.

118. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the correct choice of words, based on grammar and vocabulary. The correct sentence is: The prehistoric cave paintings in India give us a picture of life in those far-off days of the early man in India. "Far-off" implies remote in time or space, thus it is the most appropriate option.

119. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the correct choice of words, based on grammar and vocabulary. The correct sentence is: It is a great and true experience that Kalidasa expresses, when he feels that even the happiest man feels. "Even" implies the universality of human emotions.

120. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The question is related to the correct choice of words, based on grammar and vocabulary. The correct sentence is: It is a great and true experience that Kalidasa expresses, when he feels that even the happiest man feels elated when he sees beautiful things or hears melodious notes. "Elated" means to be very happy and joyful.

■■■