

SNAP General English

Sample Paper – 8

Duration: 15 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 15

Instructions

- This paper contains **15** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct Answer), modelled on the General English section of **SNAP** (Symbiosis National Aptitude Test).
- Each correct answer carries **+1 mark**. **0.25 marks** are deducted for every wrong answer. Unattempted questions carry no penalty.
- Only **one** option is correct. Choose the most appropriate answer.
- SNAP is a computer-based test with no sectional time limit; attempt this practice paper in one timed sitting of about **15 minutes**.
- Use of mobile phones, calculators, dictionaries, or electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited.

Part A: Vocabulary (Synonyms and Antonyms)

Q1. Choose the word that is closest in meaning to: **NOVICE**

- (A) A skilled expert
- (B) A strict teacher
- (C) A seasoned veteran
- (D) A person new to an activity; a beginner

Q2. Choose the word most **opposite** in meaning to: **HAUGHTY**

- (A) Arrogant
- (B) Disdainful
- (C) Humble and modest
- (D) Proud



Q3. Choose the word that is closest in meaning to: **CURTAIN**

- (A) To reduce or cut short
- (B) To lengthen and extend
- (C) To celebrate loudly
- (D) To repeat again

Q4. Choose the word most **opposite** in meaning to: **INEVITABLE**

- (A) Unavoidable
- (B) Certain to occur
- (C) Avoidable
- (D) Bound to happen

Part B: Grammar and Sentence Correction

Q5. Choose the best replacement for the underlined part. If no improvement is needed, choose (D). “The store has less customers than it did last year.”

- (A) less customer
- (B) lesser customers
- (C) fewer customers
- (D) No improvement

Q6. Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error. If there is no error, choose (D).

(A) The volunteers collected / (B) much donations / (C) during the festival. / (D) No error

- (A) The volunteers collected
- (B) much donations
- (C) during the festival.
- (D) No error



- Q7.** Choose the best replacement for the underlined part. If no improvement is needed, choose (D). “Hardly had she entered the room than the lights went out.”
- (A) then
(B) as
(C) when
(D) No improvement

Part C: Fill in the Blanks

- Q8.** Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate pair of words: “Because the company’s revenues had _____ sharply, the board decided to _____ its expansion plans.”
- (A) soared ... accelerate
(B) plummeted ... scale back
(C) risen ... expand
(D) stabilised ... increase
- Q9.** Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate pair of words: “The critics praised the painting for its _____ use of colour, calling the young artist remarkably _____.”
- (A) dull ... ordinary
(B) clumsy ... inept
(C) faded ... amateur
(D) vivid ... gifted

Part D: Para-jumbles

- Q10.** Arrange the four sentences (P, Q, R, S) in the correct order to form a coherent paragraph.
- P.** They travel thousands of kilometres to reach warmer regions.
- Q.** Every autumn, millions of birds leave their breeding grounds in the



north.

R. When spring returns, the same birds fly back to raise their young.

S. There they find food and shelter through the cold months.

(A) Q P S R

(B) Q S P R

(C) Q R P S

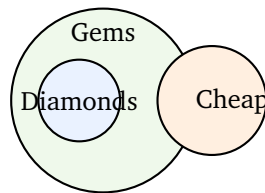
(D) Q S R P

Part E: Verbal Reasoning

Q11. Read the two statements and decide which conclusion(s) logically follow. The diagram may help you visualise the relationship.

Statements: All diamonds are gems. Some gems are cheap.

Conclusion I: Some gems are diamonds. **Conclusion II:** Some diamonds are cheap.



(A) Both Conclusion I and Conclusion II follow

(B) Only Conclusion I follows

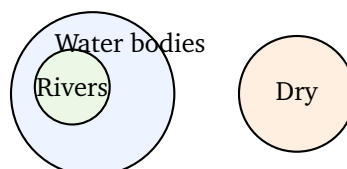
(C) Only Conclusion II follows

(D) Neither conclusion follows

Q12. Read the two statements and decide which conclusion(s) logically follow. The diagram shows one possible arrangement.

Statements: All rivers are water bodies. No water body is dry.

Conclusion I: No river is dry. **Conclusion II:** Some water bodies are rivers.



- (A) Both Conclusion I and Conclusion II follow
- (B) Only Conclusion I follows
- (C) Only Conclusion II follows
- (D) Neither conclusion follows

Part F: One-Word Substitution

Q13. Choose the single word for the phrase: “Writing that cannot be read”

- (A) Invisible
- (B) Illegible
- (C) Indelible
- (D) Eligible

Part G: Reading Comprehension

Habits form through a simple loop that the brain repeats until it becomes automatic. It begins with a cue, a signal such as a time of day or a particular place, which tells the brain to start a routine. The routine is the behaviour itself, whether checking a phone or reaching for a snack. Finally comes the reward, a small sense of pleasure or relief that teaches the brain the loop is worth remembering. Each time this cycle is repeated, the connection grows stronger, and the action requires less conscious thought. Over weeks the routine becomes ingrained, running almost on its own. Understanding this loop is the first step for anyone who wishes to break an unwanted habit or build a better one.

Q14. According to the passage, the habit loop begins with:

- (A) a cue, such as a time of day or a particular place
- (B) the reward that follows the behaviour
- (C) the routine behaviour itself
- (D) a conscious decision to change

Q15. As used in the passage, the word “**ingrained**” most nearly means:



- (A) newly learned
- (B) easily forgotten
- (C) briefly noticed
- (D) deeply fixed



Detailed Solutions

Q1.

Solution

Concept — Synonym: A synonym is the word closest in meaning to the given word.

Meaning: “Novice” means a person who is new to and inexperienced in a job, skill or activity; a beginner.

Usage: As a novice cook, she followed every step of the recipe carefully.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “A skilled expert” is the opposite of a beginner.
- Option B: “A strict teacher” describes a role, not a level of experience.
- Option C: “A seasoned veteran” means someone with long experience, again the opposite of a novice.

Final Answer: Novice means a beginner ⇒

[Go Back to Q1](#)

Q2.

Solution

Concept — Antonym: An antonym is the word most opposite in meaning to the given word.

Meaning: “Haughty” means arrogantly superior and looking down on others. Its opposite is humble and modest.

Usage: The haughty manager ignored the staff, while his humble deputy greeted everyone warmly.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Arrogant” is a synonym of haughty, not its opposite.
- Option B: “Disdainful” also means scornful, close in sense to haughty.
- Option D: “Proud” shares the sense of self-importance, not the opposite.

Final Answer: The opposite of haughty is humble and modest ⇒

[Go Back to Q2](#)



Q3.

Solution

Concept — Synonym: Pick the option that shares the core sense of the target word.

Meaning: “Curtail” means to reduce something or cut it short, especially a plan, right or expense.

Usage: The government decided to curtail spending on non-essential projects.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: “To lengthen and extend” is the direct opposite of curtail.
- Option C: “To celebrate loudly” is unrelated to reducing anything.
- Option D: “To repeat again” has nothing to do with cutting short.

Final Answer: Curtail means to reduce or cut short ⇒

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q3](#)

Q4.

Solution

Concept — Antonym: Choose the option that reverses the meaning of the given word.

Meaning: “Inevitable” means certain to happen and impossible to avoid. Its opposite is “avoidable”, meaning something that can be prevented.

Usage: A delay looked inevitable, yet careful planning made it avoidable.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Unavoidable” is a synonym of inevitable, not its opposite.
- Option B: “Certain to occur” also means the same as inevitable.
- Option D: “Bound to happen” again restates inevitable rather than opposing it.

Final Answer: The opposite of inevitable is avoidable ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q4](#)



Q5.

Solution

Concept — “Less” vs “fewer”: Use “fewer” for countable nouns (things you can count) and “less” for uncountable nouns (quantities you measure).

Analysis: “Customers” can be counted one by one, so it is a countable, plural noun. The correct word before it is “fewer”, not “less”.

Correction: The sentence should read “The store has fewer customers than it did last year.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “less customer” is wrong in both the word and the singular form.
- Option B: “lesser customers” means customers of lower value, not a smaller number.
- Option D: “No improvement” is wrong because “less customers” is a clear error.

Final Answer: The correct form is “fewer customers” ⇒ C

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q5](#)

Q6.

Solution

Concept — “Much” vs “many”: Use “many” with countable plural nouns and “much” with uncountable nouns.

Analysis: “Donations” is a countable plural noun, so it must take “many”, not “much”. The phrase “much donations” in part (B) is therefore wrong.

Correction: The sentence should read “The volunteers collected many donations during the festival.” The error lies in part (B).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “The volunteers collected” is grammatically correct.
- Option C: “during the festival.” is correct and idiomatic.
- Option D: A clear error exists, so “No error” is wrong.

Final Answer: The quantifier error is in part (B) ⇒ B

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q6](#)



Q7.

Solution

Concept — “Hardly ... when” structure: The correlative “hardly” is always paired with “when”, just as “no sooner” is paired with “than”. These pairings are fixed.

Analysis: The sentence begins “Hardly had she entered the room ...”, so the second half must be introduced by “when”, not “than”. Mixing “hardly” with “than” is a common error.

Correction: The sentence should read “Hardly had she entered the room when the lights went out.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “then” does not join the two clauses correctly.
- Option B: “as” changes the meaning and breaks the fixed pairing.
- Option D: “No improvement” is wrong because “than” is incorrect after “hardly”.

Final Answer: “Hardly” must be followed by “when” ⇒ C

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q7](#)

Q8.

Solution

Concept — Fill in the blanks: Both blanks must fit the cause-and-effect logic of the sentence, which is set up by “Because”.

Analysis: If revenues fell “sharply”, the board would react by reducing, not growing, its plans. So the first blank needs a word meaning a steep fall, and the second a word meaning to cut back.

Application: “Plummeted” means dropped sharply, and to “scale back” means to reduce. “Because the company’s revenues had plummeted sharply, the board decided to scale back its expansion plans” reads logically.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “soared ... accelerate” describes growth, the opposite of the situation.
- Option C: “risen ... expand” also points to growth, not a cutback.
- Option D: “stabilised ... increase” gives no reason to change plans.



Final Answer: plummeted ... scale back ⇒

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q8](#)

Q9.

Solution

Concept — Fill in the blanks: The sentence is clearly praise, so both blanks need positive words.

Analysis: The critics “praised” the painting and called the artist “remarkably” something. The first blank describes the colour in a flattering way, and the second describes the artist in a flattering way.

Application: “Vivid” means bright and striking, and “gifted” means highly talented. “Praised the painting for its vivid use of colour, calling the young artist remarkably gifted” fits the tone of praise.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “dull ... ordinary” is negative and cannot follow praise.
- Option B: “clumsy ... inept” is openly critical.
- Option C: “faded ... amateur” also carries a negative sense.

Final Answer: vivid ... gifted ⇒

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q9](#)

Q10.

Solution

Concept — Para-jumble: Find the opening sentence, then follow the natural time order of events.

Step 1 — Opening: Sentence Q introduces the subject (“Every autumn, millions of birds leave their breeding grounds in the north”), so it comes first.

Step 2 — Next event: After leaving, “They travel thousands of kilometres to reach warmer regions” (P) explains the journey, so P follows Q.

Step 3 — Arrival: “There they find food and shelter through the cold months” (S) describes what happens after they arrive, so S follows P.

Step 4 — Return: “When spring returns, the same birds fly back to raise their young” (R) closes the cycle, so R comes last.



Order: $Q \rightarrow P \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$, which is **Q P S R**.

Why other options are wrong: Options B, C and D break the time order, for example by placing arrival (S) before the journey (P).

Final Answer: The correct order is Q P S R \Rightarrow **A**

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q10](#)

Q11.

Solution

Concept — Syllogism: Test each conclusion against what the statements allow, using a Venn diagram.

Statements: “All diamonds are gems” places the whole Diamonds circle inside Gems. “Some gems are cheap” means the Cheap circle overlaps Gems, but we are not told where.

Conclusion I — Some gems are diamonds: Since every diamond is a gem, those diamonds are gems that happen to be diamonds. So at least some gems are diamonds, and Conclusion I follows.

Conclusion II — Some diamonds are cheap: The cheap gems could be gems that are not diamonds. Nothing forces any diamond to be cheap, so Conclusion II does not follow.

Result: Only Conclusion I follows.

Final Answer: Only Conclusion I follows \Rightarrow **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q11](#)

Q12.

Solution

Concept — Syllogism: Combine the statements carefully and check what must be true.

Statements: “All rivers are water bodies” places the whole Rivers circle inside Water bodies. “No water body is dry” keeps the Water bodies circle and the Dry circle completely separate.

Conclusion I — No river is dry: Every river lies inside Water bodies, and Water bodies shares nothing with Dry. So no river can be dry, and Conclusion I follows.

Conclusion II — Some water bodies are rivers: “All rivers are water bodies”



means the Rivers group sits within Water bodies, so at least those are water bodies that are rivers. Hence some water bodies are rivers, and Conclusion II follows.

Result: Both conclusions follow.

Final Answer: Both Conclusion I and Conclusion II follow \Rightarrow

[Go Back to Q12](#)

Q13.

Solution

Concept — One-word substitution: Find the single precise word for the given description.

Meaning: “Illegible” describes writing that is so unclear it cannot be read.

Usage: The doctor’s illegible handwriting confused the pharmacist.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Invisible” means unable to be seen at all, not merely hard to read.
- Option C: “Indelible” means impossible to remove or erase, not impossible to read.
- Option D: “Eligible” means qualified or allowed, which is unrelated to writing.

Final Answer: The word is “illegible” \Rightarrow

[Go Back to Q13](#)

Q14.

Solution

Concept — Reading comprehension (direct detail): Locate the exact line that answers the question.

Evidence: The passage says the loop “begins with a cue, a signal such as a time of day or a particular place, which tells the brain to start a routine.”

Application: Option A restates this opening step in meaning, so it is the correct answer.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: The reward is described as the last part of the loop, not the first.



- Option C: The routine is the second step, which follows the cue.
- Option D: A conscious decision is not named as the start of the loop; the cue is automatic.

Final Answer: The habit loop begins with a cue ⇒

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q14](#)

Q15.

Solution

Concept — Vocabulary in context: Read the word within its sentence to fix its meaning.

Evidence: The passage says “Over weeks the routine becomes ingrained, running almost on its own.” Here “ingrained” describes a habit that has become deeply and firmly established.

Application: “Deeply fixed” matches this sense exactly, so Option D is correct.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Newly learned” is the opposite of a habit built up over weeks.
- Option B: “Easily forgotten” contradicts a routine that runs on its own.
- Option C: “Briefly noticed” does not fit a firmly settled habit.

Final Answer: Here “ingrained” means deeply fixed ⇒

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q15](#)



Answer Key

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	D	2	C	3	A	4	C	5	C
6	B	7	C	8	B	9	D	10	A
11	B	12	A	13	B	14	A	15	D

