

SET Sample Paper 8

General English
Collegedunia.com

Duration: 16 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 16

Instructions

- This paper contains **16 Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)**.
- Each correct answer carries **+1 mark**. There is **no negative marking**.
- Each question has **four options** (A, B, C, D); choose the **single best answer**.
- This paper is designed for practice for the **SET (State Eligibility Test)** examination.
- Manage your time carefully. All questions carry equal marks.

Questions 1–4: Reading Comprehension

Read the following passage carefully and answer questions 1 to 4.

Climate change, driven primarily by anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions, represents the defining environmental challenge of our era. Scientists across the world have reached a robust consensus: without dramatic reductions in carbon emissions, global average temperatures are likely to rise well beyond 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels by the end of this century. The consequences of such a rise—intensifying storms, prolonged droughts, accelerated sea-level rise, and the collapse of critical ecosystems—threaten not merely ecological diversity but the livelihoods of billions of people.

Central to climate negotiations is the concept of the “carbon budget”—the finite quantity of carbon dioxide that humanity can still emit while preserving a reasonable chance of limiting warming to agreed targets. Once this budget is exhausted, every additional tonne of CO₂ becomes a mortgage on future generations. Developed nations, which have historically contributed the most to atmospheric carbon accumulation, are now pressed to shoulder the largest share of emission reductions, a principle enshrined in the doctrine of “common but differentiated responsibilities.”

Climate policy broadly operates along two parallel tracks: mitigation and adaptation. Mitigation aims to address the root causes—reducing fossil-fuel consumption, accelerating the transition to renewable energy, and halting deforestation. Adaptation, by contrast, involves preparing societies to live with the changes that are already locked in, from constructing sea walls and heat-resistant crops to redesigning urban drainage systems for heavier rainfall.

International agreements such as the Paris Accord have raised hopes, yet their voluntary nature and the gap between pledges and actual policies remain sources of anxiety. The



shift away from fossil fuels is, however, now economically inevitable: renewable energy has fallen dramatically in cost, and markets are beginning to price in carbon risk even where governments have yet to act.

- Q1.** According to the passage, what does the author identify as the most alarming consequence of unchecked carbon emissions?
- (A) A sharp rise in global literacy costs due to displacement
 - (B) Declining agricultural productivity in temperate zones only
 - (C) A dramatic increase in diplomatic conflicts over fossil-fuel reserves
 - (D) The intensification of extreme weather events and accelerated sea-level rise
- Q2.** As used in the passage, what does the term “carbon budget” most nearly mean?
- (A) The financial allocation governments set aside for renewable energy research
 - (B) The maximum amount of CO₂ humanity can still emit while limiting warming to a target
 - (C) A corporate accounting tool for measuring industrial emissions
 - (D) The total carbon dioxide already stored in the atmosphere since industrialisation
- Q3.** According to the passage, what distinguishes “mitigation” from “adaptation” in climate policy?
- (A) Mitigation targets the root causes of climate change; adaptation addresses its already-locked-in effects.
 - (B) Mitigation is a short-term strategy pursued by developing nations; adaptation is long-term.
 - (C) Adaptation focuses on reducing emissions; mitigation prepares communities for disasters.



(D) Mitigation is funded internationally; adaptation is solely a domestic responsibility.

Q4. Which of the following best describes the author's overall attitude towards international climate agreements?

(A) Wholly optimistic, arguing that the Paris Accord will decisively solve the crisis

(B) Dismissive, maintaining that voluntary agreements achieve nothing in practice

(C) Cautiously hopeful, acknowledging both progress and the gap between pledges and action

(D) Indifferent, suggesting economics alone will drive the transition without any policy

Q5. Choose the word that is closest in meaning to “**Tenacious**”.

(A) Frail

(B) Persistent

(C) Candid

(D) Lavish

Q6. Choose the word that is **opposite** in meaning to “**Frugal**”.

(A) Economical

(B) Thrifty

(C) Prudent

(D) Extravagant

Q7. Choose the sentence in which **Subject-Verb Agreement** is correctly used.

(A) Every student and every teacher was required to attend the ceremony.

(B) Neither the principal nor the teachers is aware of the new regulation.

(C) The group of students are working on a collaborative project together.

(D) Each of the participants have been given an individual certificate.



Q8. Fill in the Blank: Choose the correct verb form to complete the sentence.

“By the time the rescue team arrives, the survivors _____ in the cave for 36 hours.”

- (A) will stay
- (B) are staying
- (C) will have stayed
- (D) stayed

Q9. Para Jumble: Arrange the following sentences in the correct logical order to form a coherent paragraph about digital privacy.

- P.** Governments and companies must therefore establish clear legal frameworks that balance data collection with individual rights.
- Q.** In the digital age, every click, search, and purchase leaves a trace that can be harvested and monetised.
- R.** While personalised services offer convenience, the unchecked aggregation of personal data poses serious risks to privacy and autonomy.
- S.** Users, largely unaware of the extent of surveillance, often consent to sweeping data-use policies without reading them.

- (A) P – Q – S – R
- (B) Q – R – S – P
- (C) R – S – P – Q
- (D) S – Q – P – R

Q10. Para Jumble: Arrange the following sentences in the correct logical order to form a coherent paragraph about mental health awareness.

- P.** Recognising the signs of burnout and anxiety is the first step towards building a mentally healthier society.
- Q.** For decades, mental health was treated as a private weakness rather than a public health concern.
- R.** Today, increased awareness and reduced stigma have encouraged millions to seek professional support.



S. Workplaces, schools, and communities now integrate mental-wellness programmes into their mainstream activities.

- (A) R – S – Q – P
- (B) S – Q – P – R
- (C) Q – S – R – P
- (D) Q – R – S – P

Q11. Sentence Correction: One of the following sentences contains a **misplaced modifier**. Identify it.

- (A) Having finished her assignment, she went for a walk in the park.
- (B) Painted by Picasso, the portrait was displayed prominently in the museum.
- (C) He saw the accident riding his bicycle to work on Monday morning.
- (D) The teacher explained the concept that had confused the students.

Q12. Fill in the Blank: Choose the correct form to complete the sentence.

“You had better _____ an umbrella; the forecast predicts heavy rain this afternoon.”

- (A) take
- (B) to take
- (C) taking
- (D) taken

Q13. One-Word Substitution: Choose the word that best replaces the given phrase.

“A person who collects and studies coins, banknotes, and currency.”

- (A) Archivist
- (B) Lexicographer
- (C) Cartographer
- (D) Numismatist



Q14. Idiom / Phrase: What does the idiom “beat around the bush” mean?

- (A) To work very hard in a challenging rural environment
- (B) To avoid speaking directly about the main point of a topic
- (C) To search thoroughly through a densely forested area
- (D) To take a long and unnecessarily indirect route to a destination

Q15. Article Usage: Choose the option that correctly fills in the blanks.

“_____ Himalayas, the world’s highest mountain range, stretch across _____ northern part of _____ Indian subcontinent.”

- (A) The / the / the
- (B) A / the / an
- (C) The / a / an
- (D) An / the / the

Q16. Preposition: Choose the correct preposition to complete the sentence.

“All employees are required to comply _____ the new workplace safety regulations issued by the management.”

- (A) to
- (B) on
- (C) with
- (D) in



Detailed Solutions — SET General English Sample Paper 8**Solution****Concept: Reading Comprehension — Identifying the Main Consequence**

The passage (paragraph 1) states the consequences of rising temperatures include “intensifying storms, prolonged droughts, accelerated sea-level rise, and the collapse of critical ecosystems.” This directly matches option (D), which combines extreme weather events and sea-level rise as the most alarming outcomes.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q1.
- (A) The passage makes no mention of literacy costs or displacement in this context.
 - (B) Declining agricultural productivity in temperate zones only is too narrow; the passage describes global threats.
 - (C) Diplomatic conflicts over fossil fuels are not mentioned as a consequence in the passage.

Final Answer: **Answer:** (D) [Go Back to Q 1](#)**Solution****Concept: Reading Comprehension — Vocabulary in Context (Carbon Budget)**

Paragraph 2 explicitly defines the “carbon budget” as “the finite quantity of carbon dioxide that humanity can still emit while preserving a reasonable chance of limiting warming to agreed targets.” Option (B) is a precise paraphrase of this definition.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q2.
- (A) A financial allocation for research is a budgetary term, not what the passage describes.
 - (C) The passage does not frame it as a corporate accounting tool.
 - (D) Carbon already stored since industrialisation refers to historical emissions, not the future allowance the term denotes.

Final Answer: **Answer:** (B) [Go Back to Q 2](#)

Solution**Concept: Reading Comprehension — Distinguishing Mitigation vs Adaptation**

Paragraph 3 states clearly: “Mitigation aims to address the root causes...Adaptation, by contrast, involves preparing societies to live with the changes that are already locked in.” Option (A) captures this distinction precisely: mitigation targets causes, adaptation addresses effects.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q3.
- (B) The passage does not describe mitigation as short-term or limit it to developing nations.
 - (C) This reverses the definitions—reducing emissions is mitigation, not adaptation.
 - (D) The passage does not separate international vs domestic funding in this way.

Final Answer:

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 3](#)

Solution**Concept: Reading Comprehension — Author’s Attitude / Tone**

Paragraph 4 acknowledges that international agreements “have raised hopes” while noting their “voluntary nature and the gap between pledges and actual policies remain sources of anxiety.” Yet the author ends on a note of qualified optimism: renewable energy’s cost fall makes transition “economically inevitable.” This balanced stance is best described as cautiously hopeful.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q4.
- (A) “Wholly optimistic” overstates the author’s view; he acknowledges anxiety about gaps.
 - (B) The author does not dismiss agreements as achieving nothing.
 - (D) The author clearly advocates policy action alongside market forces; indifference is wrong.

Final Answer:

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 4](#)



Solution**Concept: Synonym — Tenacious**

Tenacious means holding firmly to something; not giving up easily. The closest synonym is **Persistent** (option B), which conveys the same quality of continuing despite difficulty.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q5. • (A) **Frail** — means physically weak; the antonym of tenacious in resilience.
- (C) **Candid** — means frank and honest; unrelated to tenacity.
- (D) **Lavish** — means spending generously or extravagantly; unrelated.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 5](#)

Solution**Concept: Antonym — Frugal**

Frugal means economical with money or resources; avoiding waste. Its antonym must convey the opposite quality—spending freely or excessively. **Extravagant** (option D) means spending much more than necessary, making it the correct antonym.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q6. • (A) **Economical** — is a near-synonym of frugal, not its opposite.
- (B) **Thrifty** — also a synonym; means careful with money.
- (C) **Prudent** — means wise and careful, which aligns with frugality.

Final Answer:

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 6](#)

Solution**Concept: Subject-Verb Agreement — “Every ... and every ...”**

Rule: When “every” precedes two or more nouns joined by “and,” the verb is **singular**: “Every student and every teacher **was** required...” (Option A is correct.)

Why other options are wrong:

- Q7. • (B) “Neither...nor”: when the second noun is plural (*teachers*), the verb agrees with it and should be “are,” not “is.”
- (C) The collective noun “group” used as a single unit takes a singular verb:



“is working,” not “are working.”

- (D) “Each” always takes a singular verb: “has been given,” not “have been given.”

Final Answer:

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 7](#)

Solution

Concept: Future Perfect Tense

The sentence describes an action that will be completed *by* a future reference point (“by the time the rescue team arrives”). This requires the **Future Perfect**: *will have* + past participle.

Correct form: “the survivors **will have stayed** in the cave for 36 hours.” (Option C)

Why other options are wrong:

- Q8.
- (A) **will stay** — Future Simple; does not convey completion before a future moment.
 - (B) **are staying** — Present Continuous; describes current, not future, action.
 - (D) **stayed** — Simple Past; the event has not yet occurred in the sentence’s context.

Final Answer:

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 8](#)

Solution

Concept: Para Jumble — Logical Coherence (Digital Privacy)

Analysis:

- Q9.
- Q introduces the topic: every digital action leaves a harvestable trace. (Opening sentence.)
 - R presents the trade-off: convenience vs risks to privacy and autonomy.
 - S deepens the problem: users unknowingly consent to broad data-use policies.
 - P calls for a solution: clear legal frameworks to balance data use with individual rights.

Correct order: Q – R – S – P

Why other options are wrong:



- (A) P – Q – S – R — Opens with the solution before establishing the problem.
- (C) R – S – P – Q — Discusses trade-offs before setting the context.
- (D) S – Q – P – R — User-consent problem precedes the introductory data-trace fact.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 9](#)

Solution

Concept: Para Jumble — Logical Coherence (Mental Health Awareness)

Analysis:

- Q10.
- Q provides historical context: mental health was once seen as private weakness. (Opening sentence.)
 - R marks the shift: today, reduced stigma encourages professional support.
 - S shows concrete changes: institutions now embed mental-wellness programmes.
 - P offers the actionable conclusion: recognising early signs is the key first step.

Correct order: Q – R – S – P

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) R – S – Q – P — Starts with today's progress before establishing the historical problem.
- (B) S – Q – P – R — Specific institutional changes precede the general historical backdrop.
- (C) Q – S – R – P — Places institutional changes before the broader societal shift in awareness.

Final Answer:

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 10](#)

Solution

Concept: Sentence Correction — Misplaced Modifier

In option (C): "He saw the accident **riding his bicycle** to work on Monday morn-



ing,” the participial phrase “riding his bicycle” is placed next to “the accident,” making it appear as though *the accident* was riding the bicycle. The modifier is misplaced; it should be adjacent to the subject “He”: “*Riding his bicycle to work, he saw the accident.*”

Why other options are correct:

- Q11.
- (A) “Having finished her assignment” correctly modifies the subject “she.”
 - (B) “Painted by Picasso” correctly modifies “the portrait.”
 - (D) “That had confused the students” correctly and unambiguously modifies “the concept.”

Final Answer:

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 11](#)

Solution

Concept: “Had Better” + Bare Infinitive

The semi-modal expression **had better** is always followed by the **bare infinitive** (the base form without “to”). Therefore: “You had better **take** an umbrella.” (Option A)

Why other options are wrong:

- Q12.
- (B) **to take** — “had better to take” is grammatically incorrect; no “to” is used after this expression.
 - (C) **taking** — A gerund cannot follow “had better.”
 - (D) **taken** — A past participle alone after “had better” is grammatically wrong.

Final Answer:

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 12](#)

Solution

Concept: One-Word Substitution — Numismatist

A **Numismatist** is a person who collects and studies coins, banknotes, medals, and related currency objects. This is the precise one-word substitution for the given phrase.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q13.
- (A) **Archivist** — A person who manages historical records and documents,



not coins.

- (B) **Lexicographer** — A person who compiles dictionaries.
- (C) **Cartographer** — A person who draws or produces maps.

Final Answer:

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 13](#)

Solution

Concept: Idiom — “Beat around the bush”

The idiom “**beat around the bush**” means to avoid coming to the main point; to speak indirectly or evasively rather than addressing the subject directly. Option (B) captures this meaning accurately.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q14.
- (A) Working hard in a challenging environment is unrelated to this idiom.
 - (C) The phrase has no literal connection to searching through forests.
 - (D) Taking a long route is a different idiom concept; this one is about indirect speech, not travel.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 14](#)

Solution

Concept: Article Usage — Mountain Ranges, Ordinal Directions, and Geographical Nouns

The correct sentence: “**The** Himalayas, the world’s highest mountain range, stretch across **the** northern part of **the** Indian subcontinent.”

Rules applied:

- Q15.
- Mountain *ranges* (plural names) take the definite article: *the* Himalayas, *the* Alps.
 - Ordinal/directional nouns used specifically take *the*: *the* northern part.
 - Geographical proper nouns that include a common noun (subcontinent, ocean, sea) take *the*: *the* Indian subcontinent.

Option (A) — *The / the / the* — is correct.

Why other options are wrong:



- (B) Uses “A” before Himalayas — mountain ranges require “the,” not “a.”
- (C) “The / a / an” — “a” before “northern part” and “an” before “Indian subcontinent” are both incorrect.
- (D) “An” before Himalayas is incorrect; Himalayas begins with the consonant sound /h/.

Final Answer:

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 15](#)

Solution

Concept: Preposition Collocation — “Comply with”

The verb **comply** is always followed by the preposition **with**: “comply **with** the regulations.” This is a fixed collocation in English.

Why other options are wrong:

- Q16.
- (A) **to** — “Comply to” is non-standard and grammatically incorrect.
 - (B) **on** — “Comply on” is not a valid collocation in English.
 - (D) **in** — “Comply in” does not exist as a fixed expression.

Final Answer:

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 16](#)



Answer Key — SET General English Sample Paper 8

Q. No.	Ans		Q. No.	Ans		Q. No.	Ans		
1	D	2	B	3	A	4	C	5	B
6	D	7	A	8	C	9	B	10	D
11	C	12	A	13	D	14	B	15	A
16	C								

For more SET sample papers and study material, visit collegedunia.com

