

MAH MCA CET English Comprehension & Verbal Ability

Sample Paper – 1

Duration: 18 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 40

Instructions

- This paper contains **20** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct Answer), modelled on the English Comprehension & Verbal Ability section of **MAH MCA CET**.
- Each correct answer carries **+2 marks**. There is **no negative marking** for incorrect or unattempted answers.
- Only **one** option is correct. Choose carefully.
- The medium of examination is English. Use of mobile phones, calculators, or any electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited.

Q1. Read the following passage and answer Questions 1 to 4.

The world is facing an unprecedented water crisis as freshwater resources continue to dwindle at an alarming rate. Rapid industrialization, unchecked population growth, and unsustainable agricultural practices have placed immense pressure on the planet's already limited freshwater reserves. Groundwater aquifers, which took thousands of years to form, are being depleted far faster than nature can replenish them. Climate change has further worsened the situation by altering monsoon patterns and reducing the seasonal flow of perennial rivers that billions of people depend upon for drinking water, irrigation, and industrial use.

Urban centres are particularly vulnerable, as decaying infrastructure leads to significant water loss through leakage and inefficient distribution systems. In rural regions, poor water management and lack of adequate sanitation continue to affect millions.

Effective conservation strategies such as rainwater harvesting, drip irrigation, and adoption of water-efficient technologies offer a ray of hope. Gov-



ernments, communities, and individuals must collaborate to reduce wastage and promote equitable distribution. Without immediate and sustained collective action, the scarcity of clean water may well become the defining humanitarian crisis of the twenty-first century.

Q1. What is the central theme of the passage?

- (A) The importance of river systems in ancient civilizations
- (B) The causes of industrial water pollution and its remedies
- (C) The need for advanced water purification technology
- (D) The growing global water crisis and the urgency of conservation

Q2. According to the passage, what is the primary cause of freshwater shortage?

- (A) Over-extraction of groundwater combined with climate change and unsustainable practices
- (B) Excessive rainfall leading to flooding and contamination of water bodies
- (C) Construction of dams that restrict the natural flow of rivers
- (D) Increased desalination activities depleting coastal water reserves

Q3. The word “**perennial**” as used in the passage most nearly means:

- (A) Seasonal and intermittent in nature
- (B) Rapidly flowing with great force
- (C) Flowing or lasting throughout the year without drying up
- (D) Recently formed through glacial activity

Q4. The tone of the passage can best be described as:

- (A) Satirical and dismissive
- (B) Informative and cautionary
- (C) Enthusiastic and optimistic



(D) Indifferent and detached

Q5. Choose the word that is closest in meaning to **EPHEMERAL**:

- (A) Transitory
- (B) Permanent
- (C) Luminous
- (D) Resilient

Q6. Choose the word that is most nearly **opposite** in meaning to **LENIENT**:

- (A) Generous
- (B) Passive
- (C) Easygoing
- (D) Strict

Q7. Fill in the blank with the most appropriate word:

“The young diplomat spoke with such _____ that everyone in the hall was deeply moved.”

- (A) Arrogance
- (B) Ignorance
- (C) Eloquence
- (D) Silence

Q8. Choose the one word that best substitutes the underlined phrase:

“A person who hates or distrusts mankind”

- (A) Misogynist
- (B) Misanthrope
- (C) Philanthropist
- (D) Egoist



Q9. Choose the word that best completes the analogy:

BOTANIST : PLANTS :: GEOLOGIST : _____

- (A) Stars
- (B) Animals
- (C) Rocks
- (D) Fossils

Q10. The following sentence has been divided into four parts labelled (A), (B), (C), and (D). Identify the part that contains a grammatical error:

(A) The datas / **(B)** provided by the scientists / **(C)** clearly show that / **(D)** global temperatures are rising.

- (A) The datas
- (B) provided by the scientists
- (C) clearly show that
- (D) global temperatures are rising

Q11. Fill in the blank with the correct form of the verb:

“By the time the ambulance arrived, the patient _____ consciousness.”

- (A) loses
- (B) lost
- (C) has lost
- (D) had lost

Q12. Choose the correct preposition to complete the sentence:

“She is fond _____ reading novels in her spare time.”

- (A) of
- (B) for



(C) to

(D) at

Q13. Choose the correct article to fill in the blank:

“She is _____ honest person who never tells a lie.”

(A) a

(B) the

(C) an

(D) no article is needed

Q14. Choose the correct passive form of the following sentence:

Active: “The teacher explained the concept clearly.”

(A) The concept was explaining clearly by the teacher.

(B) The concept has been explained clearly by the teacher.

(C) The concept is explained clearly by the teacher.

(D) The concept was explained clearly by the teacher.

Q15. The sentences given below, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. The first sentence is given. Choose the option that gives the correct sequence of the remaining sentences **P, Q, R, S, T**:

Opening: “Social media has fundamentally transformed the way human beings communicate.”

P. Moreover, it has bridged geographical distances, enabling instant global connectivity.

Q. However, excessive reliance on social media has been linked to anxiety and depression.

R. Platforms like Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter now connect billions of users across continents.

S. The rapid spread of misinformation on these platforms poses a serious challenge to society.



T. Nevertheless, when used responsibly, social media serves as a powerful tool for education and awareness.

- (A) P, R, Q, S, T
- (B) R, P, Q, S, T
- (C) Q, S, P, R, T
- (D) R, Q, P, T, S

Q16. In the following sentence, the underlined portion may contain an error. Choose the option that best replaces it, or choose (D) if no improvement is needed:

“The teacher along with his students were going to the museum.”

- (A) was going
- (B) are going
- (C) have been going
- (D) No improvement needed

Q17. Read the following paragraph and choose the sentence that best completes it:

“Protecting our environment is not merely a government responsibility; it is a collective duty that every individual must embrace. From reducing plastic use to planting trees, small actions can lead to significant changes. Industries must adopt cleaner technologies, and citizens must make conscious choices in their daily lives. _____”

- (A) The government should impose stricter taxes to fund environmental projects.
- (B) Only developed nations have the resources to tackle climate change effectively.
- (C) Ultimately, a sustainable future can only be achieved through shared commitment and responsible collective action.



(D) Environmental organizations should lobby harder for international climate agreements.

Q18. Choose the most contextually appropriate word to fill in the blank:

“Despite the heavy rain, the marathon runners completed the race with remarkable _____.”

- (A) anxiety
- (B) hesitation
- (C) ignorance
- (D) determination

Q19. What does the idiom “**Bite the bullet**” mean?

- (A) To become a soldier and join the army
- (B) To endure pain or hardship bravely without complaint
- (C) To eat hastily without chewing properly
- (D) To retaliate aggressively against an opponent

Q20. What does the idiom “**Under the weather**” mean?

- (A) Caught in a sudden or severe storm
- (B) Feeling slightly unwell or not in good health
- (C) Working outdoors in difficult conditions
- (D) Overburdened with excessive work



Detailed Solutions**Q1.****Solution**

Concept — Reading Comprehension (Central Theme): The central theme of a passage is the overarching idea that ties all paragraphs together. It is broader than any single detail and is usually reflected in both the opening and concluding sentences.

Step 1 — Analyse the passage structure: The passage opens by describing the global water crisis, explains its causes (industrialization, climate change, ground-water depletion), discusses urban and rural vulnerabilities, and concludes with conservation strategies. Every paragraph contributes to this single overarching concern.

Step 2 — Eliminate distractors: The passage does not focus on ancient civilizations, industrial pollution as a standalone topic, or technology for purification alone. It addresses the broader crisis and the need for conservation.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Ancient civilizations are not mentioned anywhere in the passage.
- Option B: Industrial water pollution is one cause mentioned, not the central theme.
- Option C: Water purification technology is not the focus; conservation holistically is.

Final Answer: The central theme is the growing global water crisis and the urgency of conservation. ⇒ **D**

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q1](#)

Q2.**Solution**

Concept — Reading Comprehension (Factual Retrieval): Factual questions require locating specific information directly stated in the passage rather than making inferences.

Step 1 — Locate the relevant lines: The passage states: “Rapid industrialization, unchecked population growth, and unsustainable agricultural practices have placed immense pressure... Groundwater aquifers... are being depleted far



faster. . . Climate change has further worsened the situation.” This confirms multiple overlapping causes.

Step 2 — Match to options: Option A accurately combines the depletion of groundwater, climate change, and unsustainable practices as described in the passage.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: Excessive rainfall causing flooding is not mentioned as a cause.
- Option C: Construction of dams is not discussed in the passage.
- Option D: Desalination is not referenced anywhere in the passage.

Final Answer: Primary cause is over-extraction of groundwater combined with climate change and unsustainable practices. ⇒ A

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q2](#)

Q3.

Solution

Concept — Vocabulary in Context: To determine the meaning of a word in context, examine the surrounding sentence and the role the word plays in the overall idea being expressed.

Step 1 — Read the sentence: “... reducing the seasonal flow of *perennial* rivers that billions of people depend upon. . .” The passage implies these rivers are relied upon consistently for drinking, irrigation, and industry — suggesting they do not dry up.

Step 2 — Etymology and meaning: “Perennial” comes from the Latin *perennis* meaning “through the year.” A perennial river flows throughout the year without ceasing.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Seasonal” means intermittent — the opposite of perennial.
- Option B: “Rapidly flowing with great force” describes current speed, not continuity.
- Option D: Glacial formation refers to origin, not flow characteristics.

Final Answer: “Perennial” means flowing or lasting throughout the year without drying up. ⇒ C



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

Q4.

Solution

Concept — Reading Comprehension (Tone Analysis): Tone reflects the author's attitude toward the subject. It is identified through the choice of words, the type of information presented, and the emotional register of the writing.

Step 1 — Identify tone indicators: Words like “unprecedented,” “alarming rate,” “depleted,” and phrases like “defining humanitarian crisis” signal urgency and warning. At the same time, the passage provides factual data and conservation strategies, making it informative.

Step 2 — Match to the best descriptor: The combination of factual presentation with an underlying warning about future consequences best fits “informative and cautionary.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Satirical tone uses irony or mockery; this passage does neither.
- Option C: Enthusiastic/optimistic would focus on successes; the passage warns of crisis.
- Option D: Indifferent/detached would lack emotional urgency; this passage is clearly concerned.

Final Answer: The tone of the passage is informative and cautionary. ⇒ **B**

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

Q5.

Solution

Concept — Vocabulary (Synonyms): A synonym shares the same or very similar meaning as the target word. EPHEMERAL describes something that lasts for only a very short time.

Step 1 — Define EPHEMERAL: From Greek *ephemeros* meaning “lasting a day.” It refers to anything fleeting, short-lived, or momentary. Example: “The morning dew is ephemeral, disappearing within hours.”

Step 2 — Evaluate each option: “Transitory” means lasting only a short time — a precise synonym. The other options mean the opposite or are unrelated.



Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: Permanent means lasting forever — the antonym of ephemeral.
- Option C: Luminous means emitting light; unrelated to duration.
- Option D: Resilient means able to recover quickly; unrelated to lifespan.

Final Answer: Synonym of EPHEMERAL is *Transitory*. ⇒ A

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

Q6.

Solution

Concept — Vocabulary (Antonyms): An antonym is a word with a meaning directly opposite to the target word. LENIENT means permissive, tolerant, or not strict in enforcing rules.

Step 1 — Define LENIENT: A lenient person or policy is mild, not harsh, and allows mistakes or violations to pass without severe punishment. Example: “The lenient teacher did not penalise late submissions.”

Step 2 — Identify the antonym: The word directly opposite to lenient — in terms of enforcement and attitude — is *strict* (firm, severe in applying rules).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Generous relates to giving, not strictness; not an antonym of lenient.
- Option B: Passive means inactive or submissive; not opposite in meaning.
- Option C: Easygoing is close in meaning to lenient, not its antonym.

Final Answer: Antonym of LENIENT is *Strict*. ⇒ D

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



Q7.

Solution

Concept — Vocabulary (Contextual Word Choice): The correct word must fit both the grammatical structure and the contextual meaning of the sentence. Context clues include the subject (diplomat), the verb (spoke), and the effect on listeners (everyone was deeply moved).

Step 1 — Analyse the context: A diplomat who speaks in a way that moves an entire hall must possess the ability to express ideas powerfully and persuasively. This quality is *eloquence* — the skill of using language in a fluent, clear, and expressive manner.

Step 2 — Eliminate distractors: Arrogance, ignorance, and silence would not cause listeners to be moved in a positive, appreciative sense.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Arrogance (excessive pride) would alienate listeners, not move them.
- Option B: Ignorance means lack of knowledge; incompatible with moving an audience.
- Option D: Silence is the absence of speech; contradicts “spoke with such...”

Final Answer: The correct word is *Eloquence*. ⇒ C

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

Q8.

Solution

Concept — One-word Substitution: One-word substitutions involve replacing a descriptive phrase with a single precise word. These are frequently tested in English exams and require knowledge of specialised vocabulary.

Step 1 — Identify the phrase: “A person who hates or distrusts mankind” — this refers to a deep-seated hatred or contempt for people in general.

Step 2 — Match to the correct word: *Misanthrope* (from Greek *misein* = to hate, *anthrōpos* = human being) precisely means a person who dislikes humankind and avoids human society.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Misogynist means a person who hates *women specifically*, not all



of mankind.

- Option C: Philanthropist means a person who loves and helps humanity — the opposite.
- Option D: Egoist means a person who is excessively self-centred; not related to hatred of others.

Final Answer: One-word substitution is *Misanthrope*. ⇒ B

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

Q9.

Solution

Concept — Word Analogy: Analogy questions test the ability to identify and apply a consistent relationship between pairs of words. The relationship here is: *a specialist studies/deals with a particular subject*.

Step 1 — Define the relationship: A **Botanist** is a scientist who studies **Plants**. Similarly, a **Geologist** is a scientist who studies the Earth's physical structure and substances, particularly **Rocks** and minerals.

Step 2 — Apply to the blank: GEOLOGIST : ROCKS follows the same specialist–subject pattern.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Stars are studied by Astronomers, not Geologists.
- Option B: Animals are studied by Zoologists, not Geologists.
- Option D: Fossils are studied by Palaeontologists; Geology is broader and centres on rocks and Earth materials.

Final Answer: GEOLOGIST studies *Rocks*. ⇒ C

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



Q10.

Solution

Concept — Grammar (Error Detection — Noun Number): “Data” is the plural form of the Latin noun *datum*. In formal English, “data” is already plural and does not take an additional plural suffix. Adding “-s” to form “datas” is grammatically incorrect.

Step 1 — Identify the error: Part (A) reads “The datas” — the word “datas” does not exist in standard English. The correct form is “The data.”

Step 2 — Verify the rest of the sentence: Parts (B), (C), and (D) — “provided by the scientists,” “clearly show that,” and “global temperatures are rising” — are all grammatically correct. The verb “show” correctly agrees with the plural subject “data.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: “Provided by the scientists” is a correct participial phrase modifying “data.”
- Option C: “Clearly show that” is correct; “show” agrees with the plural “data.”
- Option D: “Global temperatures are rising” is grammatically sound.

Final Answer: Error is in Part (A): “datas” should be “data.” ⇒ A

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

Q11.

Solution

Concept — Grammar (Past Perfect Tense): The past perfect tense (had + past participle) is used to describe an action that was completed *before* another action in the past. When two past events are mentioned, the earlier one takes past perfect.

Step 1 — Identify the time sequence: The sentence contains two past events: (1) the patient losing consciousness, and (2) the ambulance arriving. Losing consciousness happened *before* the ambulance arrived; therefore, it requires past perfect: *had lost*.

Step 2 — Confirm the structure: “By the time + simple past” signals that the action in the main clause must be in past perfect. → “...the patient **had lost** consciousness.”



Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Loses” (simple present) does not fit a past-tense context.
- Option B: “Lost” (simple past) would suggest the two events happened simultaneously, not sequentially.
- Option C: “Has lost” (present perfect) cannot be used when the reference time is past.

Final Answer: Correct tense is *had lost* (past perfect). ⇒ D

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

Q12.

Solution

Concept — Grammar (Preposition Usage): Certain adjectives in English are collocated with fixed prepositions. These are set expressions that must be memorised. The adjective “fond” always collocates with the preposition *of*.

Step 1 — Apply the collocation rule: The standard expression is *fond of* + noun/gerund. Example: “She is fond **of** music.” Therefore: “She is fond **of** reading novels.”

Step 2 — Confirm the answer: Option A (“of”) is the correct preposition that collocates with “fond.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: “Fond for” is not a standard English collocation.
- Option C: “Fond to” is grammatically incorrect; “to” is used with infinitives, not gerunds after “fond.”
- Option D: “Fond at” is not a recognised English expression.

Final Answer: Correct preposition is *of*. ⇒ A

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q12](#)



Q13.

Solution

Concept — Grammar (Article Usage): The article used before a word depends on the *sound* with which the word begins, not its spelling. Use *an* before words that begin with a vowel sound; use *a* before words that begin with a consonant sound.

Step 1 — Identify the initial sound: The word “honest” begins with the letter *h*, but the *h* is silent. Phonetically, “honest” is pronounced /'ɒnɪst/, beginning with the vowel sound /ɒ/. Therefore, the article *an* is required.

Step 2 — Confirm: “She is **an** honest person. . .” is correct. Similarly: “an hour,” “an heir.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “a” is used before consonant sounds; “honest” begins with a vowel sound.
- Option B: “the” is a definite article used for specific, known nouns; not appropriate here.
- Option D: An article is required because “person” is a singular countable noun being introduced for the first time.

Final Answer: Correct article is *an*. ⇒ C

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q13](#)

Q14.

Solution

Concept — Grammar (Active to Passive Voice): To convert a simple past active sentence to passive voice, use the formula: *Object + was/were + past participle + by + subject*.

Step 1 — Identify elements of the active sentence:

- Subject: “The teacher”
- Verb (simple past): “explained”
- Object: “the concept”
- Adverb: “clearly”

Step 2 — Build the passive: Object becomes subject → “The concept” + “was” (past, singular) + “explained” + “clearly” + “by the teacher.” → *The concept was*



explained clearly by the teacher.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Was explaining” is past continuous passive — incorrect tense form.
- Option B: “Has been explained” is present perfect passive — tense mismatch.
- Option C: “Is explained” is simple present passive — incorrect tense.

Final Answer: Correct passive form is “The concept was explained clearly by the teacher.” ⇒ D

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

Q15.

Solution

Concept — Sentence Skills (Para Jumble): Para jumble questions require arranging sentences in a logical, coherent order. Use logical connectors (“moreover,” “however,” “nevertheless”), cause-and-effect relationships, and thematic flow as clues.

Step 1 — Identify the logical sequence:

- The opener introduces social media’s transformative effect on communication.
- R follows naturally by specifying which platforms and how many users — providing concrete detail.
- P adds to R with “Moreover,” extending the positive aspect (global connectivity).
- Q introduces a contrast with “However” — linking to the negative consequences.
- S continues the negative theme by discussing misinformation.
- T concludes with a balanced view using “Nevertheless,” offering a conditional positive.

Step 2 — Confirm the sequence: Opener → R → P → Q → S → T, which matches **Option B: R, P, Q, S, T.**

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (P, R, Q, S, T): P cannot come before R as it adds to R’s idea with “Moreover.”



- Option C (Q, S, P, R, T): Q introduces contrast too early before the positive aspects (R, P) are established.
- Option D (R, Q, P, T, S): Q followed by P is illogical; “Moreover” in P adds positives, not negatives.

Final Answer: Correct sequence is R, P, Q, S, T. ⇒ **B**

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

Q16.

Solution

Concept — Grammar (Subject-Verb Agreement with “Along With”): When a singular subject is followed by a phrase introduced by “along with,” “as well as,” “together with,” or “in addition to,” the verb agrees with the *main subject only*, not the added phrase. These phrases are parenthetical and do not change number.

Step 1 — Identify the main subject: In the sentence “The teacher along with his students were going,” the main subject is “*The teacher*” (singular). The phrase “along with his students” is parenthetical.

Step 2 — Apply the rule: Since “The teacher” is singular, the verb must be singular: *was going*, not “were going.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: “Are going” is present tense; the sentence is in past tense.
- Option C: “Have been going” is present perfect continuous; tense mismatch.
- Option D: Improvement is needed because “were going” is incorrect for a singular subject.

Final Answer: Correct replacement is *was going*. ⇒ **A**

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q16](#)



Q17.

Solution

Concept — Sentence Skills (Para Completion): A concluding sentence must logically synthesise the ideas presented in the paragraph, bring the discussion to a close, and maintain the same tone and theme.

Step 1 — Summarise the paragraph's theme: The paragraph argues that environmental protection is a collective duty, not just a government function. It emphasises individual and industrial responsibility. The conclusion must reinforce this collective, hopeful message.

Step 2 — Evaluate each option: Option C — “Ultimately, a sustainable future can only be achieved through shared commitment and responsible collective action” — directly synthesises the paragraph's central message about collective duty. It is forward-looking and consistent in tone.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Focuses on taxation — a government measure — contradicting the paragraph's emphasis on collective individual duty.
- Option B: Suggests only developed nations can act — directly contradicts the inclusive, collective message.
- Option D: Lobbying by organisations is too narrow and does not capture the individual responsibility discussed.

Final Answer: Best concluding sentence is Option C. ⇒ C

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q17](#)

Q18.

Solution

Concept — Sentence Skills (Contextual Word Choice): The most appropriate word must fit the context grammatically and semantically. Context clues include the contrast marker “despite,” the challenging setting (heavy rain), and the positive achievement (completing the race).

Step 1 — Analyse the sentence structure: “Despite the heavy rain” sets up a challenge. The runners completing the race *in spite of* that challenge implies a positive, strong quality. The blank must reflect this commendable quality.

Step 2 — Evaluate options: *Determination* (steadfast resolve) perfectly captures the spirit of overcoming adversity to complete the race. It is both contextually and



logically sound.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Anxiety (nervous worry) is a negative quality and would not be described admiringly as “remarkable.”
- Option B: Hesitation implies uncertainty and delay — incompatible with completing a race.
- Option C: Ignorance (lack of knowledge) is irrelevant to completing a physical challenge.

Final Answer: Most appropriate word is *determination*. ⇒ D

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q18](#)

Q19.

Solution

Concept — Idioms and Phrases: Idioms are fixed expressions whose meaning cannot be deduced from the literal meanings of the individual words. Knowing common idioms is essential for competitive English exams.

Step 1 — Trace the origin: “Bite the bullet” originates from the practice of having wounded soldiers bite on a bullet or piece of leather to endure the pain of surgery without anaesthesia in earlier centuries. Over time, it came to mean enduring any difficult or unpleasant situation with stoic courage.

Step 2 — Confirm the correct meaning: The idiom means *to endure a painful or difficult experience bravely and without complaint*.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Joining the army is a literal interpretation of “bullet” — idioms are not to be read literally.
- Option C: “Eat hastily” has no connection to the idiom’s meaning.
- Option D: Retaliating aggressively is unrelated to this expression of stoic endurance.

Final Answer: “Bite the bullet” means to endure pain or hardship bravely. ⇒ B

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q19](#)



Q20.

Solution

Concept — Idioms and Phrases: “Under the weather” is a common English idiom used in everyday speech and formal writing. Recognising its non-literal meaning is key for English proficiency tests.

Step 1 — Trace the origin: The phrase is believed to have a nautical origin. When sailors fell ill at sea, they were sent below deck to protect them from harsh weather conditions — literally “under the weather.” Over time, it came to describe any mild sickness.

Step 2 — Confirm the correct meaning: “Under the weather” means *feeling slightly unwell or not in good health*. Example: “She is not coming to work today; she is feeling a bit under the weather.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Being caught in a storm is the literal — not idiomatic — meaning.
- Option C: Working outdoors is completely unrelated to this idiom.
- Option D: Overworked/overburdened is the meaning of a different idiom (“burnt out”).

Final Answer: “Under the weather” means feeling slightly unwell. ⇒ B

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q20](#)



Answer Key

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	D	2	A	3	C	4	B	5	A
6	D	7	C	8	B	9	C	10	A
11	D	12	A	13	C	14	D	15	B
16	A	17	C	18	D	19	B	20	B

