

MAH MCA CET English Comprehension & Verbal Ability

Sample Paper – 5

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 carefully and answer Questions 1 to 4.

Yoga, an ancient Indian practice rooted in philosophy and spirituality, has transcended cultural boundaries to become a globally recognised tool for health and wellness. Modern medicine, once dismissive of traditional practices, now increasingly acknowledges yoga's effectiveness in treating a range of physical and mental health conditions. Clinical studies have demonstrated that regular practice can reduce stress, lower blood pressure, improve flexibility, and enhance respiratory function. Mental health professionals recommend yoga as a complementary therapy for anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Unlike conventional medicine that often targets isolated symptoms, yoga adopts a **holistic** approach, simultaneously addressing the body, mind, and spirit as an interconnected whole. Hospitals and wellness centres across the United States, Europe, and Asia now integrate yoga sessions into their treatment programmes. The World Health Organization has also recognised yoga as a beneficial health practice. As the global bur-



den of lifestyle diseases continues to rise, yoga offers a sustainable, cost-effective, and accessible solution that bridges the gap between ancient wisdom and modern healthcare needs.

Q1. What is the primary message of the passage?

- (A) Yoga is gaining global recognition as a valuable tool for physical and mental health.
- (B) Modern medicine has completely replaced traditional treatments with yoga-based therapy.
- (C) Yoga is exclusively effective for treating mental health conditions such as anxiety.
- (D) Ancient Indian practices are superior to all conventional medical treatments worldwide.

Q2. What does the author claim about the global acceptance of yoga?

- (A) Yoga is accepted only in Asian countries as a mainstream health practice.
- (B) Hospitals and wellness centres across multiple continents are incorporating yoga into their treatment programmes.
- (C) Only the World Health Organization has officially acknowledged yoga's health benefits.
- (D) Western countries have largely rejected yoga as a scientifically unproven practice.

Q3. As used in the passage, the word “**holistic**” most nearly means:

- (A) Spiritual and religiously oriented
- (B) Ancient and rooted in tradition
- (C) Comprehensive, addressing all aspects together as a whole
- (D) Symptom-focused and medically targeted

Q4. What is the tone of the author in this passage?



- (A) Critical and dismissive of traditional practices
- (B) Neutral and detached, presenting only statistics
- (C) Humorous and light-hearted about health topics
- (D) Informative and appreciative of yoga's growing role in healthcare

Q5. Choose the word that is **closest in meaning** to the word **RECALCI-TRANT**.

- (A) Obedient
- (B) Defiant
- (C) Passive
- (D) Compliant

Q6. Choose the word that is **most opposite in meaning** to the word **LOQUA-CIOUS**.

- (A) Talkative
- (B) Verbose
- (C) Taciturn
- (D) Gregarious

Q7. Choose the most appropriate word to fill in the blank:

“Only through consistent _____ can a student achieve mastery in any skill.”

- (A) Diligence
- (B) Complacency
- (C) Ignorance
- (D) Arrogance

Q8. Choose the correct **one-word substitution** for the following:

“A person who is absent from duty without permission.”



- (A) Absconder
- (B) Truant
- (C) Deserter
- (D) Renegade

Q9. Choose the word that best completes the analogy:

DERMATOLOGIST : SKIN :: OPHTHALMOLOGIST : _____

- (A) Ears
- (B) Eyes
- (C) Nose
- (D) Throat

Q10. Choose the correct relative pronoun to fill in the blank:

“The scientist _____ won the Nobel Prize delivered an inspiring lecture at the university.”

- (A) who
- (B) whom
- (C) which
- (D) whose

Q11. Which of the following sentences uses the **gerund or infinitive correctly**?

- (A) He agreed going to the international conference next week.
- (B) She avoided to speak during the tense board meeting.
- (C) I enjoy to read historical novels every evening.
- (D) They suggested visiting the new museum on Sunday.

Q12. Which of the following sentences is **grammatically correct** with respect to subject-verb agreement?



- (A) The committee has decided to postpone the annual general meeting.
- (B) The jury have gave their final verdict after prolonged deliberation.
- (C) The staff are required to submits their monthly reports by Friday.
- (D) The team were playing good and scores three goals in the match.

Q13. Identify the **part** of the following sentence that contains an **article error**:

“(A) He is considered (B) to be an (C) most brilliant scientist (D) of his generation”

- (A) He is considered
- (B) to be an
- (C) most brilliant scientist
- (D) of his generation.

Q14. Identify the **part** of the following sentence that contains a **grammatical error**:

“(A) He had been working (B) in this organisation (C) for more than ten years (D) when he has been promoted.”

- (A) He had been working
- (B) in this organisation
- (C) for more than ten years
- (D) when he has been promoted.

Q15. The sentence given below is the **opening line** of a paragraph. The four sentences **P, Q, R, S** that follow are jumbled. Choose the option that gives the **correct sequence** after the opening line.

Opening: *“Urban pollution has become one of the most pressing environmental concerns of the modern era.”*

P. Governments must implement stringent regulations on industrial emissions.



Q. Additionally, promoting the use of public transport reduces vehicular pollution significantly.

R. A multi-pronged approach is therefore essential to tackle this crisis effectively.

S. Green spaces and urban forests can also help absorb harmful pollutants.

(A) R, P, Q, S

(B) P, Q, R, S

(C) Q, S, P, R

(D) S, R, Q, P

Q16. Read the following incomplete paragraph and choose the **best sentence to complete it**:

“Space exploration has opened new frontiers for humanity, enabling scientists to understand our universe better. From Moon landings to Mars rovers, these missions have yielded breakthroughs in technology, medicine, and material science. The data gathered helps us understand Earth’s climate patterns and prepare for natural disasters. _____”

(A) However, space exploration is merely a costly luxury that only wealthy nations can afford.

(B) Therefore, only professional astronauts need to concern themselves with such endeavours.

(C) Space agencies unanimously believe the Moon is the only destination worth exploring further.

(D) Thus, space exploration is not merely an adventure but a necessary investment in humanity’s future.

Q17. The **underlined part** of the following sentence may contain an error. Choose the option that best **corrects** the underlined part:

“He insists that everyone should comes to the meeting on time.”



- (A) should came
- (B) should coming
- (C) should come
- (D) should have comes

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

“The government’s new economic policy was _____ with a mixture of enthusiasm and scepticism by the public.”

- (A) confronted
- (B) addressed
- (C) dismissed
- (D) met

Q19. What does the idiom “**Let the cat out of the bag**” mean?

- (A) To release a pet from its enclosure
- (B) To accidentally reveal a secret
- (C) To make a surprising public announcement
- (D) To open a surprise gift before the occasion

Q20. What does the expression “**On the fence**” mean?

- (A) Physically climbing a fence or barrier
- (B) Being in a dangerous or risky situation
- (C) Being undecided or neutral about something
- (D) Observing events cautiously from a safe distance



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

Concept — Reading Comprehension (Main Idea): The primary message or central idea of a passage is the overarching argument the author makes throughout. It is distinct from supporting details or examples cited in the passage.

Step 1 — Identifying the Central Theme: The passage opens by stating yoga has transcended cultural boundaries and gained global recognition. Every subsequent sentence supports the idea that yoga is being accepted worldwide as a healthcare tool, citing clinical studies, mental health applications, and WHO recognition.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: The passage never says modern medicine has *completely replaced* traditional treatments with yoga — it says both are complementary.
- Option C: Yoga is presented as beneficial for both physical and mental conditions, not exclusively for mental health.
- Option D: The passage does not claim yoga is superior to all conventional medicine; it advocates integration, not replacement.

Final Answer: Yoga is gaining global recognition as a valuable tool for physical and mental health. ⇒ A

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

Q2.**Solution**

Concept — Reading Comprehension (Specific Detail): Questions on specific details require locating the precise claim made by the author, not inferences beyond what is stated.

Step 1 — Locating the Relevant Sentence: The passage explicitly states: “Hospitals and wellness centres across the United States, Europe, and Asia now integrate yoga sessions into their treatment programmes.” This clearly points to multiple continents.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: The passage mentions the US and Europe in addition to Asia, so acceptance is not limited to Asian countries.



- Option C: The WHO is one of several entities mentioned; the passage also cites hospitals, wellness centres, and mental health professionals.
- Option D: The passage specifically includes the United States and Europe as adopters, contradicting this claim.

Final Answer: Hospitals and wellness centres across multiple continents are incorporating yoga. ⇒ **B**

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

Q3.

Solution

Concept — Vocabulary in Context (Contextual Meaning): When a question asks what a word “most nearly means” in the passage, the answer must fit the specific context in which the word appears, not just its general definition.

Step 1 — Reading the Context: The passage uses “holistic” in: “yoga adopts a holistic approach, simultaneously addressing the body, mind, and spirit as an interconnected whole.” The phrase “simultaneously addressing the body, mind, and spirit” clarifies that holistic means dealing with all aspects together.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: The passage distinguishes yoga’s holistic approach from a purely spiritual or religious one.
- Option B: “Ancient and traditional” describes yoga’s origin, not its approach, which is what the sentence is about.
- Option D: “Symptom-focused and targeted” is the opposite of holistic; this describes conventional medicine as contrasted in the passage.

Final Answer: “Holistic” means comprehensive, addressing all aspects together. ⇒ **C**

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



Q4.

Solution

Concept — Reading Comprehension (Tone and Attitude): The author's tone reflects the overall attitude conveyed through word choice, emphasis, and the nature of the evidence presented throughout the passage.

Step 1 — Analysing Word Choice and Presentation: The author uses positive phrases such as “increasingly acknowledges,” “effective,” “sustainable, cost-effective, and accessible solution,” and “bridges the gap.” These indicate approval and appreciation. The passage also provides facts and studies, making it informative.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: The passage is not critical or dismissive; it celebrates yoga's growing acceptance.
- Option B: A purely neutral tone would avoid value-laden language, but the passage uses positive descriptors throughout.
- Option C: There is no humour or light-heartedness; the content is presented seriously and substantively.

Final Answer: The tone is informative and appreciative. ⇒ D

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

Q5.

Solution

Concept — Synonyms (Vocabulary): A synonym is a word that has the same or nearly the same meaning as another word. RECALCITRANT means stubbornly resistant to authority or control.

Step 1 — Analysing the Target Word: RECALCITRANT (adjective) refers to a person or animal that is uncooperative and obstinately resistant. It derives from Latin *recalcitrare* (to kick back). The closest synonym is *defiant* — openly resistant and bold in disobedience.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Obedient): This is the antonym of RECALCITRANT.
- Option C (Passive): Passive implies inaction, whereas RECALCITRANT implies active resistance.
- Option D (Compliant): Compliant means willing to comply, the opposite



meaning.

Final Answer: RECALCITRANT $\approx$ Defiant $\Rightarrow$ **B**

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

Q6.

Solution

Concept — Antonyms (Vocabulary): An antonym is a word that has the opposite meaning of the given word. LOQUACIOUS means talking a great deal; excessively talkative.

Step 1 — Finding the Opposite: LOQUACIOUS describes someone who speaks at length. Its antonym is *taciturn* — a person who speaks very little and is reserved by nature.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Talkative): This is a synonym of LOQUACIOUS, not an antonym.
- Option B (Verbose): Verbose means using more words than necessary — also a synonym.
- Option D (Gregarious): Gregarious means sociable and fond of company, which is related to but not opposite to LOQUACIOUS.

Final Answer: Antonym of LOQUACIOUS = Taciturn $\Rightarrow$ **C**

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

Q7.

Solution

Concept — Fill in the Blank (Contextual Vocabulary): The correct word must fit the logical meaning of the sentence and collocate naturally with the surrounding words.

Step 1 — Analysing the Sentence: “Only through consistent _____ can a student achieve mastery in any skill.” The sentence emphasises a positive quality that leads to mastery through consistent practice. *Diligence* means careful and persistent hard work — the ideal fit.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (Complacency): Complacency means self-satisfaction without



awareness of faults, which impedes mastery.

- Option C (Ignorance): Ignorance refers to lack of knowledge, which would prevent mastery.
- Option D (Arrogance): Arrogance is excessive pride, which would be counterproductive to learning.

Final Answer: The correct word is Diligence. ⇒ A

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

Q8.

Solution

Concept — One-Word Substitution (Vocabulary): One-word substitution involves replacing a descriptive phrase with a single precise word that captures the exact meaning.

Step 1 — Matching the Definition: “A person who is absent from duty without permission” describes a *truant*. Originally used for students who skip school without authorisation, it broadly applies to anyone absent without leave.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Absconder): An absconder is someone who flees to avoid arrest or legal consequences — not merely absent.
- Option C (Deserter): A deserter specifically abandons military service, implying a permanent departure, not mere absence.
- Option D (Renegade): A renegade is a person who deserts and betrays an organisation, cause, or set of principles.

Final Answer: A person absent from duty without permission = Truant ⇒ B

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



Q9.

Solution

Concept — Word Analogy (Vocabulary): A word analogy tests the ability to identify a consistent relationship between two pairs of words. Here: specialist : area of specialisation.

Step 1 — Identifying the Relationship: DERMATOLOGIST studies and treats SKIN conditions. Similarly, an OPHTHALMOLOGIST is a medical specialist who studies and treats conditions of the EYES.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Ears): An ENT specialist or otologist treats ear conditions, not an ophthalmologist.
- Option C (Nose): The nose is treated by an ENT (otorhinolaryngologist), not an ophthalmologist.
- Option D (Throat): Throat conditions are treated by a laryngologist or ENT specialist.

Final Answer: OPHTHALMOLOGIST : EYES $\Rightarrow$ **B**

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

Q10.

Solution

Concept — Grammar: Relative Pronouns: Relative pronouns introduce relative clauses. *Who* is used for people as the subject of the relative clause; *whom* is used for people as the object; *which* is used for animals or things; *whose* shows possession.

Step 1 — Applying the Rule: The antecedent is “the scientist” (a person). In the relative clause “_____ won the Nobel Prize,” the relative pronoun is the *subject* (it performs the action of winning). Therefore, *who* is correct.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (whom): Whom is used when the pronoun is the object of the verb, not the subject.
- Option C (which): Which is used for non-human referents (animals, things, ideas), not for people.
- Option D (whose): Whose indicates possession (e.g., “the scientist whose discovery”), not the subject role here.



Final Answer: The correct relative pronoun is *who*. ⇒ A

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

Q11.

Solution

Concept — Grammar: Gerunds and Infinitives: Certain verbs are followed by gerunds (verb+ing), others by infinitives (to+verb), and some by both. The verb *suggest* requires a gerund as its complement; *agree*, *avoid*, and *enjoy* also follow strict patterns.

Step 1 — Checking Each Option:

- Option A: *agree* requires an infinitive → “agreed **to go**” is correct, not “agreed going.”
- Option B: *avoid* requires a gerund → “avoided **speaking**” is correct, not “avoided to speak.”
- Option C: *enjoy* requires a gerund → “enjoy **reading**” is correct, not “enjoy to read.”
- Option D: *suggest* requires a gerund → “suggested **visiting**” — this is correct!

Final Answer: “They suggested visiting the museum” is grammatically correct. ⇒

D

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

Q12.

Solution

Concept — Grammar: Subject-Verb Agreement with Collective Nouns: In formal standard English, collective nouns (committee, jury, staff, team) are treated as singular entities and take singular verbs when acting as a unit.

Step 1 — Evaluating Each Option:

- Option A: “The committee **has** decided” — singular verb with a collective noun acting as a unit. Correct!
- Option B: “have gave” is a double error; correct form would be “has given.”
- Option C: “are required to **submits**” is incorrect; third-person plural with “submits” is wrong.
- Option D: “were playing good” uses adjective instead of adverb (“well”), and “scores” is a tense error.



Final Answer: The grammatically correct sentence is (A). ⇒ A

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

Q13.

Solution

Concept — Grammar: Articles (Definite and Indefinite): The indefinite articles *a/an* are used before singular nouns when the reference is non-specific. The definite article *the* is used with superlatives. “Most” in a superlative construction must be preceded by “the,” not “an.”

Step 1 — Locating the Error: Part (C) reads “most brilliant scientist.” In the superlative construction, the correct article is “the most brilliant,” not “an most brilliant.” The word “an” in Part (B) incorrectly carries over to Part (C). The error lies in Part (C) where “an” should be “the” before the superlative.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “He is considered” is grammatically correct.
- Option B: “to be an” — the article “an” is meant to precede a superlative, but the error is visible in Part C.
- Option D: “of his generation” is a correct prepositional phrase.

Final Answer: The article error is in Part (C): “an most” should be “the most.” ⇒

C

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

Q14.

Solution

Concept — Grammar: Error Spotting (Verb Tense and Form): In a sentence describing two past events where one event occurred before another (past perfect context), the later event in relation to a past perfect clause must use the simple past tense, not the present perfect.

Step 1 — Analysing the Sentence: “He *had been working*” establishes a past perfect continuous action. The clause introduced by “when” describes the point at which a subsequent event occurred. That event (being promoted) is a past simple action: “*was promoted*.” Using “has been promoted” (present perfect) is incorrect in this past-time context.



Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “had been working” correctly uses past perfect continuous.
- Option B: “in this organisation” is a correct prepositional phrase.
- Option C: “for more than ten years” correctly indicates duration with the past perfect.

Final Answer: The error is in Part (D): “has been promoted” should be “was promoted.” ⇒ **D**

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

Q15.

Solution

Concept — Para Jumble (Sentence Sequencing): Para jumbles test the ability to arrange sentences into a logically coherent paragraph. The key is to identify the opening theme, transitional connectors, and the concluding idea.

Step 1 — Establishing the Sequence: After the opener (“Urban pollution...”), the logical flow is:

R introduces the need for a multi-pronged approach (framework). P gives the first specific action (regulations). Q adds a second action using “Additionally” (a clear connector signalling addition). S provides a third complementary solution with “also” (another additive connector).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (P, Q, R, S): Starting with P before R loses the overarching framework sentence.
- Option C (Q, S, P, R): The conclusion-like sentence R cannot come last in a solution-building paragraph.
- Option D (S, R, Q, P): Beginning with S (a supplementary point) before the framework (R) is illogical.

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

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



Q16.

Solution

Concept — Para Completion (Coherence and Logical Conclusion): The concluding sentence of a paragraph must synthesise the ideas presented and reinforce the overall argument without introducing contradictions or irrelevant information.

Step 1 — Identifying the Paragraph's Argument: The paragraph argues that space exploration produces tangible benefits — technological breakthroughs, climate understanding, disaster preparedness. The conclusion must affirm the value of space exploration as more than just adventure. Option D does this by calling it a “necessary investment in humanity’s future,” directly echoing the paragraph’s tone and evidence.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Contradicts the paragraph by dismissing space exploration as a luxury.
- Option B: Restricts relevance to astronauts, ignoring the broader human benefits discussed.
- Option C: Introduces a factually unsupported and narrowing claim about the Moon being the only destination.

Final Answer: The best concluding sentence is Option (D). ⇒ D

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

Q17.

Solution

Concept — Sentence Improvement (Modal Verbs): After modal verbs (can, should, will, must, may, etc.), the base form of the verb (infinitive without “to”) must be used. The verb does not take any inflection such as -s, -ed, or -ing.

Step 1 — Identifying the Error: The underlined phrase “should comes” incorrectly adds the third-person singular -s inflection to the verb after the modal “should.” The correct form is the bare infinitive: “should **come**.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (should came): “Came” is simple past; modals require base form, not past tense.
- Option B (should coming): Present participle cannot follow a modal verb directly.



- Option D (should have comes): “Have comes” is ungrammatical; the correct perfect modal form would be “should have come.”

Final Answer: The correct improvement is “should come.” ⇒ C

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

Q18.

Solution

Concept — Cloze (Collocations and Idiomatic Usage): Certain words form fixed collocations in English. The phrase “met with” is a standard idiomatic collocation used to describe how something — especially a policy, proposal, or idea — is received by people.

Step 1 — Selecting the Correct Collocation: “Met with criticism/approval/opposition” is the established English idiom for describing how something is received. The sentence describes the public reception of a new policy, making “met” the natural and idiomatic choice.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (confronted): One confronts a person or challenge directly; a policy is not said to “confront” a reaction.
- Option B (addressed): “Addressed” implies action taken in response, not how something is received.
- Option C (dismissed): “Dismissed with criticism” is semantically contradictory; dismissed means rejected, not received with mixed reactions.

Final Answer: The correct word is “met.” ⇒ D

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

Q19.

Solution

Concept — Idioms (Figurative Meaning): Idioms are fixed expressions whose meanings cannot be deduced from the literal meanings of their individual words. Understanding idioms requires familiarity with conventional usage.

Step 1 — Interpreting the Idiom: “Let the cat out of the bag” originates from a historical practice where merchants would deceive customers by substituting a cheaper animal for the promised pig in a sack. When the sack was opened (or the



cat got out), the deception was revealed. Hence, the idiom means to accidentally reveal a secret or surprise.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: This is the literal meaning, not the idiomatic one.
- Option C: A deliberate public announcement is different from accidentally revealing a secret.
- Option D: Opening a gift before its time is a different expression; this idiom specifically refers to revealing secrets accidentally.

Final Answer: “Let the cat out of the bag” means to accidentally reveal a secret.

⇒ B

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

Q20.

Solution

Concept — Idioms (Figurative Meaning): “On the fence” is a common English idiom derived from the image of a fence as a boundary between two sides — suggesting a person who has not chosen either side.

Step 1 — Interpreting the Idiom: To be “on the fence” means to be undecided or neutral on an issue, not having committed to a particular position or opinion. For example, “She is on the fence about whether to accept the job offer” means she has not yet decided.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: This is the literal, physical meaning — not the figurative idiomatic sense.
- Option B: Being in danger is expressed by idioms such as “on thin ice,” not “on the fence.”
- Option D: Observing from a distance relates more to being a bystander, not to indecision.

Final Answer: “On the fence” means being undecided or neutral. ⇒ C

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



Answer Key

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

