

# MAH MCA CET English Comprehension & Verbal Ability

## Sample Paper – 6

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.



India's Digital India initiative, launched in 2015, represents one of the most ambitious efforts to transform the country into a digitally empowered society. The programme envisions bridging the vast gap between urban technology ecosystems and rural communities that have long been excluded from the digital revolution. In rural areas, internet connectivity has become increasingly **ubiquitous**, enabling access to e-governance services, digital banking through Jan Dhan Yojana, and remote educational platforms. Farmers now receive crop advisories via mobile apps, while students in remote villages attend virtual classrooms. Telemedicine initiatives connect patients in underserved regions to specialist doctors, eliminating geographical barriers to quality healthcare.

However, formidable challenges persist. The digital literacy gap remains a significant impediment, as many rural citizens lack the skills to navigate online platforms effectively. Infrastructure limitations—including unreliable power supply and inadequate internet bandwidth in hilly and tribal regions—continue to restrict access. Furthermore, the absence of content in regional languages creates additional barriers for non-English speakers.

Despite these obstacles, the Digital India initiative holds transformative potential. With sustained investment and targeted interventions, it can genuinely uplift millions and democratise opportunity across the nation.

What is the **central idea** of the passage?

- (A) India's rural infrastructure needs urgent and immediate repair.
- (B) Digital literacy is the sole challenge facing rural India today.
- (C) The Digital India initiative primarily benefits urban residents.
- (D) Digital India aims to bridge the technology gap between urban and rural India.

**Q2.** Which **benefit** of Digital India does the author highlight most prominently?

- (A) Access to e-governance, digital banking, and remote education in rural areas.
- (B) Urban technology ecosystems becoming globally competitive.
- (C) Complete elimination of all infrastructure challenges in rural regions.



(D) Replacement of traditional farming methods with fully automated systems.

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

- (A) Occasional and irregular in occurrence.
- (B) Technically advanced and sophisticated.
- (C) Widely and commonly present everywhere.
- (D) Provided and funded by the government.

**Q4.** What is the author’s **overall stance** toward the Digital India initiative?

- (A) Strongly critical, believing the initiative has failed completely.
- (B) Entirely neutral, presenting only facts without any opinion.
- (C) Dismissive, considering its challenges to be insurmountable.
- (D) Cautiously optimistic, acknowledging challenges while recognising the initiative’s potential.

**Q5.** Choose the word that is **closest in meaning** (synonym) to **SAGACIOUS**.

- (A) Foolish
- (B) Wise
- (C) Impulsive
- (D) Stubborn

**Q6.** Choose the word that is **most opposite in meaning** (antonym) to **IM-PECUNIOUS**.

- (A) Poor
- (B) Wealthy
- (C) Frugal
- (D) Stingy



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

*“Her \_\_\_\_\_ in the face of repeated failures ultimately led her to the top of her field.”*

- (A) Perseverance
- (B) Inertia
- (C) Obstinacy
- (D) Timidity

**Q8. One-Word Substitution:** Identify the single word that best describes the following phrase:

*“A person who can use both hands with equal skill and ease.”*

- (A) Dexterous
- (B) Ambidextrous
- (C) Sinistrous
- (D) Versatile

**Q9. Word Analogy:** Complete the analogy.

**SOMMELIER : WINE :: NUMISMATIST : \_\_\_\_\_**

- (A) Stamps
- (B) Coins
- (C) Books
- (D) Paintings

**Q10. Parallelism:** Which of the following sentences demonstrates **correct parallel structure**?

- (A) She enjoys reading books, writing poetry, and sketching portraits.
- (B) She enjoys reading books, writing poetry, and to sketch portraits.
- (C) She enjoys to read books, writing poetry, and sketching portraits.
- (D) She enjoys reading books, to write poetry, and sketching portraits.



- Q11. Misplaced Modifier:** Which of the following sentences is written **correctly**, without a misplaced modifier?
- (A) Running through the park, the flowers looked beautiful.
  - (B) I saw a dog walking home from work that was barking loudly.
  - (C) Nearly the chef prepared all the meals for the evening guests.
  - (D) Exhausted after the marathon, the runner collapsed at the finish line.
- Q12. Dangling Modifier:** Choose the option that **correctly revises** the following sentence so that it has no dangling modifier:  
*“After studying all night, the examination seemed easy.”*
- (A) After studying all night, the examination was found to be easy by the students.
  - (B) Having studied all night, the examination was easy.
  - (C) After studying all night, she found the examination easy.
  - (D) The examination, after studying all night, seemed easy.
- Q13. Subject-Verb Agreement:** Identify the sentence in which the subject and verb **agree correctly**.
- (A) Everyone in the team has submitted the report on time.
  - (B) Each of the players have given their best performance.
  - (C) Someone have left their umbrella at the reception desk.
  - (D) Neither of the candidates were selected for the final round.
- Q14. Tense Error:** Identify the sentence that contains an **incorrect tense usage**.
- (A) She had already left by the time he arrived at the station.
  - (B) The committee will announce the results next week.
  - (C) By 2030, scientists will have developed a viable cure for the disease.
  - (D) When he reached the station, the train already left.



**Q15. Para Jumble:** The sentence labelled **P** is the opening sentence of a paragraph about Sustainable Development Goals. Arrange sentences **Q**, **R**, **S**, and **T** in the correct logical order to complete the paragraph.

**P:** The United Nations adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015 as a universal call to action.

**Q:** These 17 goals address global challenges including poverty, inequality, climate change, and environmental degradation.

**R:** Each goal is broken down into specific, measurable targets to be achieved by 2030.

**S:** Achieving them requires sustained cooperation between governments, civil society, and the private sector.

**T:** With only a few years remaining, nations must accelerate their progress and realign policies with SDG targets.

(A) Q-S-R-T

(B) R-Q-T-S

(C) Q-R-S-T

(D) S-Q-T-R

**Q16. Sentence Correction:** Choose the option that is **grammatically correct**.

(A) The jury has reached its verdict after three days of deliberation.

(B) The jury have reached their verdict after three days of deliberations.

(C) The jury has reached their verdict after three days of deliberation.

(D) The jury have reached its verdict after three days of deliberation.

**Q17. Para Completion:** Read the following paragraph and choose the sentence that **best concludes** it.

*India's startup ecosystem has emerged as one of the most vibrant in the world, with over 100 unicorns and millions of jobs created. From fintech to edtech, Indian entrepreneurs are solving uniquely local problems with globally scalable solutions. Government initiatives like Startup India have*



*further catalysed this growth by reducing regulatory barriers and providing funding support.* \_\_\_\_\_

- (A) However, most startups in India still fail within the first year of operation.
- (B) The startup culture, therefore, remains limited to metropolitan cities alone.
- (C) India should instead focus on strengthening its traditional industries for stability.
- (D) As innovation continues to flourish, India is well-positioned to become a global technology leader.

**Q18. Fill in the Blank:** Choose the word that **most appropriately** fits the blank:

*“The professor’s lecture was so \_\_\_\_\_ that even the most distracted students found themselves fully engaged.”*

- (A) Monotonous
- (B) Ambiguous
- (C) Captivating
- (D) Verbose

**Q19. Idioms:** What does the idiom **“It costs an arm and a leg”** mean?

- (A) To require surgery or medical treatment.
- (B) To be extremely expensive.
- (C) To demand great physical effort from someone.
- (D) To represent a poor financial bargain.

**Q20. Idioms:** What does the idiom **“Once in a blue moon”** mean?

- (A) During a lunar eclipse or astronomical event.
- (B) Late at night when the moon appears blue.



- (C) Very rarely; almost never.
- (D) Only on special or festive occasions.



**Detailed Solutions**

Q1.

**Solution**

**Concept — Reading Comprehension (Central Idea):** The central idea of a passage is the primary message or argument the author intends to convey. It is broader than any single supporting detail and encompasses the overall theme.

**Step 1 — Identifying the Theme:** The passage opens by describing Digital India as an effort to “transform the country into a digitally empowered society” and to “bridge the vast gap between urban technology ecosystems and rural communities.” Every paragraph—covering benefits, challenges, and potential—revolves around this urban-rural technology divide.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: Infrastructure repair is mentioned as one challenge, not the central message.
- Option B: Digital literacy is one of several challenges listed; it is not presented as the sole issue.
- Option C: Contradicts the passage, which explicitly focuses on bringing digital benefits *to rural* communities.

**Final Answer:** The central idea is that Digital India seeks to bridge the technology gap between urban and rural India ⇒ **D**

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

Q2.

**Solution**

**Concept — Reading Comprehension (Detail / Emphasis):** To identify the most prominently highlighted benefit, look at which benefit receives the most textual space, examples, and elaboration.

**Step 1 — Scanning for Benefits:** Paragraph 2 dedicates an entire section to listing rural benefits: e-governance services, digital banking (Jan Dhan Yojana), remote educational platforms, crop advisories for farmers, virtual classrooms, and telemedicine. This cluster of benefits in Option A captures what the author emphasises most.

**Why other options are wrong:**



- Option B: Urban technology ecosystems becoming competitive is never mentioned as a goal.
- Option C: The passage explicitly states that infrastructure challenges *persist*; they are not eliminated.
- Option D: Replacement of traditional farming is never discussed; only supplementary advisories via mobile apps are mentioned.

**Final Answer:** Access to e-governance, digital banking, and remote education is the most prominently highlighted benefit ⇒

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

Q3.

### Solution

**Concept — Vocabulary in Context:** The meaning of a word in a passage is determined by how it functions in its sentence, not just its dictionary definition.

**Step 1 — Contextual Analysis:** The sentence reads: “internet connectivity has become increasingly **ubiquitous**, enabling access to e-governance services, digital banking, and remote educational platforms.” The word describes how internet connectivity now appears everywhere in rural areas—it has spread widely and is commonly found. “Ubiquitous” derives from Latin *ubique* (everywhere).

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: “Occasional and irregular” is the opposite; the passage implies growing prevalence.
- Option B: “Technically advanced” relates to quality, not distribution or reach.
- Option D: “Government-funded” refers to the source, not the extent of presence.

**Final Answer:** “Ubiquitous” means widely and commonly present everywhere ⇒

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



Q4.

**Solution**

**Concept — Tone and Attitude:** An author's stance is identified by analysing evaluative language, the balance of positive and negative content, and concluding statements.

**Step 1 — Tone Markers:** The passage acknowledges significant challenges (digital literacy gap, infrastructure, language barriers) in paragraph 3 but concludes with: "Despite these obstacles, the Digital India initiative holds **transformative potential**. With sustained investment and targeted interventions, it can **genuinely uplift millions**." This combination of acknowledging problems while affirming potential signals *cautious optimism*.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: The author does not claim failure; the conclusion is hopeful.
- Option B: The final paragraph contains the author's opinion ("transformative potential"), so the tone is not neutral.
- Option C: The author explicitly says the initiative "holds transformative potential," the opposite of dismissive.

**Final Answer:** The author is cautiously optimistic, recognising challenges but affirming the initiative's potential ⇒ **D**

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

Q5.

**Solution**

**Concept — Synonyms:** A synonym shares the same or very similar meaning as the given word. **SAGACIOUS** means having or showing keen mental discernment and good judgment; wise.

**Step 1 — Word Analysis:** "Sagacious" comes from Latin *sagax* (keen perception). A sagacious person demonstrates sound judgment and wisdom, particularly in practical matters. "Wise" is the direct synonym.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: "Foolish" is the antonym of sagacious.
- Option C: "Impulsive" means acting without thinking—the opposite of sagacious deliberation.
- Option D: "Stubborn" relates to inflexibility, not discernment or wisdom.



**Final Answer:** SAGACIOUS means wise  $\Rightarrow$  **B**

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

Q6.

### Solution

**Concept — Antonyms:** An antonym is a word opposite in meaning to the given word. **IMPECUNIOUS** means having little or no money; very poor.

**Step 1 — Word Analysis:** “Impecunious” derives from Latin *im-* (not) + *pecunia* (money). It describes a state of poverty or financial deprivation. Its antonym must describe financial prosperity. “Wealthy” directly opposes impecunious.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: “Poor” is a synonym, not an antonym, of impecunious.
- Option C: “Frugal” means careful with money; it is unrelated to wealth level.
- Option D: “Stingy” describes unwillingness to spend; it does not denote the opposite of poverty.

**Final Answer:** The antonym of IMPECUNIOUS is wealthy  $\Rightarrow$  **B**

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

Q7.

### Solution

**Concept — Fill in the Blank (Contextual Vocabulary):** The correct word must fit both the grammatical structure and the logical meaning of the sentence.

**Step 1 — Sentence Analysis:** The sentence describes someone who faced “repeated failures” but eventually reached “the top of her field.” The blank must describe a quality that enables sustained effort despite setbacks. **Perseverance**—continued effort in spite of difficulty—fits perfectly.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option B: “Inertia” means resistance to change or action; it would prevent, not enable, reaching the top.
- Option C: “Obstinacy” is stubborn refusal to change; it carries a negative connotation and does not imply productive effort.
- Option D: “Timidity” means shyness or lack of courage, which would not



lead to professional success.

**Final Answer:** Perseverance correctly fills the blank ⇒ A

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

Q8.

### Solution

**Concept — One-Word Substitution:** One-word substitution identifies the single precise term that captures an entire descriptive phrase.

**Step 1 — Phrase Analysis:** “A person who can use both hands with equal skill” is the definition of **ambidextrous**. The prefix *ambi-* means “both,” and *dexter* means “right hand” (implying skill). An ambidextrous person is equally proficient with either hand.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: “Dexterous” means skilled, but only refers to skill—not to using both hands equally.
- Option C: “Sinistrous” relates to the left side (sinister/left); it is not a standard English word for this concept.
- Option D: “Versatile” means adaptable in many areas; it does not specifically refer to equal use of both hands.

**Final Answer:** Ambidextrous is the correct one-word substitution ⇒ B

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

Q9.

### Solution

**Concept — Word Analogy:** The analogy tests the relationship between a professional and the object of their expertise or collection.

**Step 1 — Relationship Identification:** A **sommelier** is an expert in **wine**—they study, evaluate, and advise on it. Similarly, a **numismatist** is an expert in the study and collection of **coins** (and currency). The relationship is: professional expert → area of specialisation.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: A philatelist collects stamps, not a numismatist.



- Option C: A bibliophile or librarian deals with books, not a numismatist.
- Option D: An art collector or connoisseur deals with paintings.

**Final Answer:** NUMISMATIST studies and collects coins ⇒ B

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

Q10.

### Solution

**Concept — Parallelism:** Parallel structure requires that items in a list or series follow the same grammatical form (all nouns, all gerunds, all infinitives, etc.).

#### Step 1 — Analysis of Each Option:

- Option A: reading (gerund), writing (gerund), sketching (gerund) — all parallel. ✓
- Option B: reading, writing, **to sketch** (infinitive) — breaks the pattern.
- Option C: **to read** (infinitive), writing, sketching — breaks the pattern.
- Option D: reading, **to write** (infinitive), sketching — breaks the pattern.

#### Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: Mixing gerunds and an infinitive violates parallelism.
- Option C: Starting with an infinitive breaks the gerund pattern of the remaining items.
- Option D: The infinitive “to write” is inconsistent with the surrounding gerunds.

**Final Answer:** Option A maintains correct parallel structure with three gerunds ⇒ A

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



Q11.

**Solution**

**Concept — Misplaced Modifier:** A misplaced modifier is a word or phrase positioned so that it modifies the wrong element of the sentence. The modifier should be placed as close as possible to the word it modifies.

**Step 1 — Analysis of Each Option:**

- Option A: “Running through the park” modifies “the flowers” — flowers cannot run. Misplaced.
- Option B: “that was barking loudly” seems to modify “work” instead of “dog.” Misplaced.
- Option C: “Nearly” modifies “the chef” instead of “all the meals.” Misplaced.
- Option D: “Exhausted after the marathon” correctly modifies “the runner” — the runner is exhausted. Correct. ✓

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: A participial phrase must modify the subject immediately following it.
- Option B: The relative clause is ambiguously placed; restructuring is needed.
- Option C: “Nearly” should precede “all” to correctly limit the meals prepared.

**Final Answer:** Option D has no misplaced modifier ⇒ D

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

Q12.

**Solution**

**Concept — Dangling Modifier:** A dangling modifier occurs when the introductory phrase has no clear, logical subject to modify in the main clause. The subject performing the action in the modifier must be the subject of the main clause.

**Step 1 — Original Sentence Analysis:** “After studying all night, the examination seemed easy.” Here, “studying” implies a human subject, but the main clause subject is “the examination,” which cannot study. The modifier dangles.

**Step 2 — Evaluating Revisions:**

- Option A: Passive voice; the students are added, but the construction is still awkward.



- Option B: “Having studied all night, the examination was easy” — “the examination” still cannot study. Dangling.
- Option C: “After studying all night, **she** found the examination easy.” — “she” is the subject of both studying and finding. Correct. ✓
- Option D: Restructuring places the modifier after the noun, creating an illogical reading.

**Final Answer:** Option C correctly eliminates the dangling modifier ⇒ C

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

**Q13.**

### Solution

**Concept — Subject-Verb Agreement with Indefinite Pronouns:** Indefinite pronouns such as *everyone*, *someone*, *anyone*, *each* are **singular** and require a singular verb.

#### Step 1 — Analysis of Each Option:

- Option A: “**Everyone** . . . **has** submitted” — everyone is singular; “has” is correct. ✓
- Option B: “**Each** . . . **have** given” — each is singular; “has” is required.
- Option C: “**Someone** **have** left” — someone is singular; “has” is required.
- Option D: “**Neither** . . . **were** selected” — neither is singular; “was” is required in formal usage.

#### Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: “Each” always takes a singular verb (“has”).
- Option C: “Someone” is singular; “have” is a plural verb.
- Option D: “Neither” is singular and requires “was” in formal written English.

**Final Answer:** Option A shows correct subject-verb agreement ⇒ A

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



Q14.

**Solution**

**Concept — Tense Consistency and Sequence of Tenses:** When one past action precedes another in the same sentence, the earlier action is expressed in the past perfect (had + past participle) and the later action in the simple past.

**Step 1 — Analysis of Each Option:**

- Option A: “She **had** already **left** by the time he **arrived**.” Correct past perfect usage. ✓
- Option B: “The committee **will announce** . . . next week.” Correct simple future. ✓
- Option C: “By 2030, scientists **will have developed** . . .” Correct future perfect. ✓
- Option D: “When he **reached** the station, the train already **left**.” The train’s departure occurred before he reached the station, so past perfect (“**had already left**”) is required. **Incorrect**.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: Correctly uses past perfect for the earlier action.
- Option B: Simple future is appropriate for a future scheduled event.
- Option C: Future perfect correctly signals an action completed before a future point.

**Final Answer:** Option D has an incorrect tense; “left” should be “had already left”

⇒ D

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

Q15.

**Solution**

**Concept — Para Jumble (Logical Sequencing):** Sentences in a paragraph must follow a logical order: introduction of topic → elaboration → implications → conclusion or call to action.

**Step 1 — Sequencing the Sentences:**

- **P (Given):** Introduces the SDGs adopted in 2015.
- **Q:** Elaborates on what the 17 goals address (natural next step after introducing them).



- **R:** Explains the structure of each goal (specific targets by 2030) — follows Q logically.
- **S:** Discusses how cooperation is needed to achieve these goals — follows from understanding the goals.
- **T:** Notes the urgency with little time left and calls for acceleration — a natural conclusion.

**Correct sequence:**  $P \rightarrow Q \rightarrow R \rightarrow S \rightarrow T$ , so the answer for sentences after P is **Q-R-S-T**.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A (Q-S-R-T): Jumps to cooperation (S) before explaining structure (R).
- Option B (R-Q-T-S): Starts with structure before describing what the goals are.
- Option D (S-Q-T-R): Begins with cooperation before introducing the 17 goals.

**Final Answer:** The correct sequence is Q-R-S-T  $\Rightarrow$  C

**Answer: (C)** [Go Back to Q15](#)

**Q16.**

### Solution

**Concept — Collective Noun Agreement:** In formal (and Indian English) usage, collective nouns such as *jury*, *team*, *committee* are treated as **singular** entities and take a singular verb and singular pronoun.

**Step 1 — Analysis of Each Option:**

- Option A: “The jury **has** reached **its** verdict.” Singular verb + singular pronoun. Consistent and correct. ✓
- Option B: “The jury **have** reached **their** verdict.” Plural verb + plural pronoun. Internally consistent but non-standard in formal Indian/exam English.
- Option C: “The jury **has** reached **their** verdict.” Mixes singular verb (has) with plural pronoun (their). Inconsistent. Incorrect.
- Option D: “The jury **have** reached **its** verdict.” Mixes plural verb (have) with singular pronoun (its). Inconsistent. Incorrect.

**Why other options are wrong:**



- Option B: Though internally consistent, formal exam English treats “jury” as singular.
- Option C: Pronoun-verb inconsistency (singular verb, plural pronoun).
- Option D: Verb-pronoun inconsistency (plural verb, singular pronoun).

**Final Answer:** Option A is grammatically correct with a singular verb and pronoun  
⇒ A

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

Q17.

### Solution

**Concept — Para Completion:** The concluding sentence of a paragraph must logically follow from the content, maintain the tone, and bring the paragraph to a satisfying close without introducing contradictions.

**Step 1 — Tone and Content Analysis:** The paragraph presents a positive picture of India’s startup ecosystem—unicorns, job creation, global solutions, and government support. The tone is optimistic and forward-looking. A concluding sentence should reinforce and project this positivity.

**Step 2 — Evaluating Options:**

- Option D: “As innovation continues to flourish, India is well-positioned to become a global technology leader.” Matches the optimistic, forward-looking tone perfectly. ✓

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: Introduces a negative counterpoint (startup failure) that contradicts the paragraph’s positive tone.
- Option B: Contradicts the paragraph by claiming the culture is limited to cities, when the paragraph implies broad impact.
- Option C: Suggests abandoning startups for traditional industries—completely opposes the paragraph’s message.

**Final Answer:** Option D best concludes the paragraph ⇒ D

**Answer: (D)** [Go Back to Q17](#)



Q18.

**Solution**

**Concept — Cloze / Contextual Fill in the Blank:** The correct word must match the logical meaning implied by the surrounding context.

**Step 1 — Sentence Analysis:** “The professor’s lecture was so \_\_\_\_\_ that even the most distracted students found themselves fully engaged.” The key phrase is “even the most distracted students found themselves fully engaged”—this implies the lecture held everyone’s attention powerfully. The blank requires a word meaning compelling or engrossing.

**Step 2 — Evaluating Options:**

- Option C: “Captivating” means holding one’s attention completely—perfectly consistent. ✓

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: “Monotonous” means dull and repetitive, which would cause distraction, not engagement.
- Option B: “Ambiguous” means unclear; an ambiguous lecture would confuse, not engage, students.
- Option D: “Verbose” means using too many words; wordiness tends to disengage listeners.

**Final Answer:** “Captivating” is the most appropriate word ⇒ C

**Answer: (C)** [Go Back to Q18](#)

Q19.

**Solution**

**Concept — Idioms:** An idiom is a phrase whose meaning cannot be understood from the literal meanings of its individual words. Familiarity with common idioms is essential for verbal ability tests.

**Step 1 — Idiom Analysis:** “It costs an arm and a leg” is a hyperbolic idiom used to describe something that is **extremely expensive**. The idiom suggests the price is so high that it might as well require sacrificing limbs—emphasising exorbitant cost.

**Why other options are wrong:**



- Option A: “To require surgery” takes the idiom literally and misses the figurative meaning.
- Option C: “To demand physical effort” misinterprets the idiom; it refers to monetary, not physical, cost.
- Option D: “A poor bargain” implies unfair value, which is related but not the idiom’s specific meaning.

**Final Answer:** “It costs an arm and a leg” means to be extremely expensive ⇒ **B**

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

**Q20.**

### Solution

**Concept — Idioms:** “Once in a blue moon” is a commonly tested idiom in verbal ability examinations.

**Step 1 — Idiom Analysis:** A “blue moon” refers to the rare occurrence of a second full moon within a single calendar month. Since this is an unusual astronomical event, the idiom “once in a blue moon” has come to mean something that happens **very rarely** or almost never.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: “During a lunar eclipse” is a literal astronomical interpretation; the idiom has no connection to eclipses.
- Option B: “Late at night” misreads the idiom; it has nothing to do with time of day.
- Option D: “On special occasions only” comes close but is too vague; the idiom specifically emphasises extreme rarity, not merely special occasions.

**Final Answer:** “Once in a blue moon” means very rarely ⇒ **C**

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



**Answer Key**

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

