

MAH B.Ed CET English Language

Sample Paper – 4

Duration: 27 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 30

Instructions

- This paper contains **30** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct Answer), modelled on the English Language portion of **MAH B.Ed CET** entrance.
- Each correct answer carries **+1 mark**. There is **no negative marking** for incorrect or unattempted answers.
- Only **one** option is correct. Choose carefully.
- Syllabus: Vocabulary (Synonyms, Antonyms), Grammar (Phrasal Verbs, Degrees of Comparison, Conditionals), Idioms & Phrases, One-word Substitution, Error Detection, Sentence Improvement, and Reading Comprehension at graduation level.
- Use of mobile phones, calculators, or electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited.

Section A: Synonyms (Q.1–5)

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

- (A) Careless
- (B) Reckless
- (C) Hasty
- (D) Painstaking

Q2. Choose the word that is **closest in meaning** to the word **ARDUOUS**.

- (A) Easy
- (B) Strenuous
- (C) Pleasant



(D) Simple

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

- (A) Concise
- (B) Verbose
- (C) Elaborate
- (D) Lengthy

Q4. Choose the word that is **closest in meaning** to the word **SANGUINE**.

- (A) Pessimistic
- (B) Gloomy
- (C) Optimistic
- (D) Melancholic

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

- (A) Honest
- (B) Truthful
- (C) Sincere
- (D) Untruthful

Section B: Antonyms (Q.6–8)

Q6. Choose the word that is **opposite in meaning** to the word **INTREPID**.

- (A) Brave
- (B) Cowardly
- (C) Daring
- (D) Valiant

Q7. Choose the word that is **opposite in meaning** to the word **PROFLIGATE**.

- (A) Thrifty



- (B) Wasteful
- (C) Reckless
- (D) Lavish

Q8. Choose the word that is **opposite in meaning** to the word **FRUGAL**.

- (A) Economical
- (B) Sparing
- (C) Careful
- (D) Extravagant

Section C: Fill in the Blank
— Phrasal Verbs (Q.9–11)

Q9. The babysitter agreed to look _____ the children while their parents were away for the weekend.

- (A) into
- (B) up
- (C) after
- (D) out for

Q10. The detective decided to look _____ the mysterious disappearance of the confidential documents.

- (A) into
- (B) after
- (C) forward to
- (D) out for

Q11. She had been looking _____ meeting her old school friends at the reunion for months.

- (A) after



- (B) up
- (C) into
- (D) forward to

Section D: Fill in the Blank — Degrees of Comparison (Q.12–14)

- Q12.** Ram is _____ than his younger brother when it comes to height.
- (A) tall
 - (B) taller
 - (C) tallest
 - (D) most tall
- Q13.** This is the _____ problem in the entire mathematics examination.
- (A) difficult
 - (B) more difficult
 - (C) difficultest
 - (D) most difficult
- Q14.** Priya is _____ than any of her classmates when it comes to solving problems.
- (A) more intelligent
 - (B) most intelligent
 - (C) intelligenter
 - (D) intelligent

Section E: Error Detection (Q.15–18)

Each sentence below is divided into four parts labelled (A), (B), (C), (D). Identify the part that contains a grammatical error.

- Q15.** Identify the part of the sentence containing a grammatical error.



The teacher told (A) us that the Earth revolves (B) around the Sun and it completed (C) one revolution every 365 days. (D)

- (A) The teacher told
- (B) the Earth revolves
- (C) it completed
- (D) one revolution every 365 days

Q16. Identify the part of the sentence containing a grammatical error.

He told his friend (A) that he will (B) meet him at the library (C) the following day. (D)

- (A) He told his friend
- (B) that he will
- (C) meet him at the library
- (D) the following day

Q17. Identify the part of the sentence containing a grammatical error.

If I were (A) you, I would (B) not have accepted (C) the offer so hasty. (D)

- (A) If I were
- (B) I would
- (C) not have accepted
- (D) so hasty

Q18. Identify the part of the sentence containing a grammatical error.

The principal announced (A) the students that the (B) examinations had been (C) postponed due to unavoidable circumstances. (D)

- (A) The principal announced
- (B) the students that the



- (C) examinations had been
- (D) postponed due to unavoidable circumstances

Section F: Idioms and Phrases (Q.19–21)

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

Context: “When Rahul let the cat out of the bag at the party, everyone was surprised by the news.”

- (A) To release an animal accidentally
- (B) To create confusion and chaos
- (C) To reveal a secret accidentally
- (D) To cause a serious problem

Q20. What does the idiom “**cost an arm and a leg**” mean?

Context: “The latest model of the smartphone costs an arm and a leg, so I decided not to buy it.”

- (A) To be available at a heavy discount
- (B) To be very expensive
- (C) To be freely available
- (D) To be of inferior quality

Q21. What does the idiom “**every cloud has a silver lining**” mean?

Context: “Though Meena did not get the promotion she deserved, she remembered that every cloud has a silver lining.”

- (A) Bad luck always follows good fortune
- (B) Bad events always occur in groups
- (C) Every difficult situation has a positive aspect
- (D) Success always follows failure immediately

Section G: One-word Substitution (Q.22–24)



Q22. Choose the single word that best substitutes the given expression.

“One who always looks on the bright side of things and expects the best possible outcome in every situation.”

- (A) Optimist
- (B) Pessimist
- (C) Realist
- (D) Fatalist

Q23. Choose the single word that best substitutes the given expression.

“One who believes that all events in life are predetermined by fate and that human beings cannot alter their destiny.”

- (A) Optimist
- (B) Narcissist
- (C) Realist
- (D) Fatalist

Q24. Choose the single word that best substitutes the given expression.

“One who is excessively self-admiring and has an inflated sense of his or her own importance and attractiveness.”

- (A) Egoist
- (B) Narcissist
- (C) Fatalist
- (D) Optimist

Section H: Sentence Improvement (Q.25–27)

In each question, a portion of the sentence is underlined. Choose the option that best replaces the underlined part. If no improvement is needed, choose option (D).



- Q25.** She is one of the most talented singers that has ever performed on this stage.
- (A) have ever performed
(B) had ever performed
(C) will ever have performed
(D) No improvement needed
- Q26.** The committee have taken their decision unanimously after a long and heated discussion.
- (A) has taken their
(B) have taken its
(C) has taken its
(D) No improvement needed
- Q27.** Neither of the boys has completed his homework before the deadline set by the teacher.
- (A) have completed
(B) had completed
(C) are completing
(D) No improvement needed

Section I: Reading Comprehension (Q.28–30)

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Indian literature is a treasure trove of cultural heritage, reflecting the diversity of languages, traditions, and philosophies that define the subcontinent. From the ancient epics of the Ramayana and Mahabharata to the modern novels of R.K. Narayan and Rabindranath Tagore, Indian writers have explored the human condition with extraordinary depth and sensitivity. Today, Indian writing in English has gained global recognition, with authors like Arundhati Roy and Amitav Ghosh winning prestigious international awards.



- Q28.** Which ancient epics does the passage mention?
- (A) Ramayana and Mahabharata
 - (B) Gitanjali and Gora
 - (C) Godan and Nirmala
 - (D) Malgudi Days and The Guide
- Q29.** The word '**prestigious**' as used in the passage most nearly means:
- (A) Ordinary
 - (B) Regional
 - (C) Highly respected
 - (D) Outdated
- Q30.** According to the passage, what has Indian writing in English gained?
- (A) National literary awards only
 - (B) Global recognition
 - (C) Government financial support
 - (D) Critical failures internationally



Detailed Solutions**Q1. Answer: (D)****Solution**

METICULOUS means showing great attention to detail and taking care that everything is done correctly and perfectly. Among the options, **PAINSTAKING** (Option D) is the closest synonym, as it means taking or showing great care and thoroughness. *Careless* (A), *Reckless* (B), and *Hasty* (C) are antonyms of meticulous.

Q2. Answer: (B)**Solution**

ARDUOUS means requiring or involving great effort and endurance; difficult and tiring. **STRENUOUS** (Option B) means requiring great effort or energy, making it the best synonym. *Easy* (A), *Pleasant* (C), and *Simple* (D) are opposites of arduous in meaning.

Q3. Answer: (A)**Solution**

LACONIC means using very few words; brief and concise in speech or expression. **CONCISE** (Option A) is the best synonym, meaning giving a lot of information clearly in a few words. *Verbose* (B), *Elaborate* (C), and *Lengthy* (D) are all antonyms of laconic.

Q4. Answer: (C)**Solution**

SANGUINE means optimistic, especially in a difficult situation; having a positive and cheerful outlook. **OPTIMISTIC** (Option C) is the direct synonym. *Pessimistic* (A), *Gloomy* (B), and *Melancholic* (D) are all antonyms of sanguine.

Q5. Answer: (D)

Solution

MENDACIOUS means not telling the truth; lying. It derives from the Latin *mendax* (lying). **UNTRUTHFUL** (Option D) is the closest synonym. *Honest* (A), *Truthful* (B), and *Sincere* (C) are all antonyms of mendacious.

Q6. **Answer: (B)**

Solution

INTREPID means fearless and adventurous; undaunted. Its antonym is **COWARDLY** (Option B), meaning lacking courage. *Brave* (A), *Daring* (C), and *Valiant* (D) are all synonyms of intrepid, not antonyms.

Q7. **Answer: (A)**

Solution

PROFLIGATE means recklessly extravagant or wasteful in the use of resources. Its antonym is **THRIFTY** (Option A), which means using money and other resources carefully and not wastefully. *Wasteful* (B), *Reckless* (C), and *Lavish* (D) are synonyms of profligate.

Q8. **Answer: (D)**

Solution

FRUGAL means sparing or economical with regard to food or money; not wasteful. Its antonym is **EXTRAVAGANT** (Option D), which means lacking restraint in spending. *Economical* (A), *Sparing* (B), and *Careful* (C) are all synonyms of frugal.

Q9. **Answer: (C)**

Solution

The correct phrasal verb here is **look after** (Option C), which means to take care of someone or something. In the sentence, the babysitter is taking care of the children. *Look into* means to investigate; *look up* means to search for information; *look out for* means to watch out for danger.

Q10. **Answer: (A)**



Solution

The correct phrasal verb is **look into** (Option A), which means to investigate or examine something carefully. The detective is investigating the disappearance of the documents. *Look after* (B) means to care for; *look forward to* (C) means to anticipate eagerly; *look out for* (D) means to be vigilant.

Q11. **Answer: (D)**

Solution

The correct phrasal verb is **look forward to** (Option D), which means to eagerly anticipate a future event. The structure is: *look forward to* + *noun/gerund*. "She had been looking forward to meeting" is grammatically correct. *Look after* (A) means to care; *look up* (B) means to search; *look into* (C) means to investigate.

Q12. **Answer: (B)**

Solution

When comparing two people or things, use the **comparative degree**. For one-syllable adjectives like *tall*, add **-er** to form the comparative. **Taller** (Option B) is correct. *Tall* (A) is positive degree; *tallest* (C) is superlative; *most tall* (D) is non-standard and incorrect.

Q13. **Answer: (D)**

Solution

For adjectives of more than two syllables, the **superlative** is formed by adding **most** before the adjective. *Difficult* (3 syllables) forms its superlative as **most difficult** (Option D). *Difficult* (A) is positive degree; *more difficult* (B) is comparative; *difficultest* (C) is not a standard English word.

Q14. **Answer: (A)**

Solution

The **comparative degree** of *intelligent* (4 syllables) is formed using **more** before the adjective, giving **more intelligent** (Option A). *Most intelligent* (B) is superlative (used for three or more); *intelligenter* (C) is not a word in standard English; *intelligent* (D) is the positive degree.

Q15. **Answer: (C)**



Solution

The error is in part (C): “**it completed**”. In reported speech, when the reporting verb is in the past tense, the tense in the subordinate clause normally shifts back. However, **universal truths and scientific facts** do not change their tense. Since the Earth completing one revolution every 365 days is a scientific fact, the correct form is “**it completes**” (simple present), not “**it completed**” (past tense).

Q16. **Answer: (B)**

Solution

The error is in part (B): “**that he will**”. In indirect/reported speech, the simple future tense **will** changes to **would** when the reporting verb (*told*) is in the past tense. The correct sentence should read: “He told his friend that he **would** meet him at the library the following day.”

Q17. **Answer: (D)**

Solution

The error is in part (D): “**so hasty**”. The word *hasty* is an adjective, but here it modifies the verb phrase “accepted the offer,” where an **adverb** is required. The correct word is **hastily**. The sentence should read: “... I would not have accepted the offer so **hastily**.” Note: The conditional structure in parts (A)–(C) is correct for a Type 2 conditional with subjunctive mood.

Q18. **Answer: (A)**

Solution

The error is in part (A): “**The principal announced**”. The verb **announce** requires the preposition **to** before the indirect object. One announces something **to** someone, not **announced someone that...** The correct phrasing is: “The principal **announced to** the students that the examinations had been postponed.” This is unlike *tell*, which takes a direct object.

Q19. **Answer: (C)**



Solution

The idiom “**let the cat out of the bag**” means **to accidentally reveal a secret** that was meant to be kept hidden (Option C). The origin is attributed to the old practice of hiding an inferior animal (a cat) in a bag in place of a pig at market. When the cat escaped, the deception was revealed. Options A, B, and D do not reflect this meaning.

Q20. **Answer: (B)**

Solution

The idiom “**cost an arm and a leg**” means **to be very expensive** (Option B). It is used when something is prohibitively or excessively costly. In the context, the smartphone is said to be very expensive. Options A (*available at a discount*), C (*freely available*), and D (*of inferior quality*) are incorrect.

Q21. **Answer: (C)**

Solution

The idiom “**every cloud has a silver lining**” means that **every difficult or unpleasant situation has a positive or hopeful aspect** (Option C). Even in adversity, there is something good to be found. In the context, Meena finds consolation despite not receiving the promotion. Options A, B, and D do not correctly capture this meaning.

Q22. **Answer: (A)**

Solution

One who **always looks on the bright side of things** and expects the best possible outcome is called an **Optimist** (Option A). An *Optimist* derives from the Latin *optimus* (best). *Pessimist* (B) expects the worst; *Realist* (C) accepts things as they are; *Fatalist* (D) believes everything is predetermined.

Q23. **Answer: (D)**

Solution

One who **believes all events are predetermined by fate** and that human effort cannot change destiny is called a **Fatalist** (Option D). The word derives from the Latin *fatum* (fate). *Optimist* (A) is cheerful and hopeful; *Narcissist* (B) is exces-



sively self-admiring; *Realist* (C) deals with things as they actually are.

Q24. Answer: (B)

Solution

One who is **excessively self-admiring** and has an inflated sense of his or her own importance is called a **Narcissist** (Option B). The word comes from the Greek myth of Narcissus, who fell in love with his own reflection. *Egoist* (A) is self-centred but not necessarily self-admiring to excess; *Fatalist* (C) and *Optimist* (D) describe different attitudes.

Q25. Answer: (A)

Solution

In the construction “**one of the [plural noun] + that/who + verb**”, the relative clause verb agrees with the **plural noun**, not with *one*. Since *singers* is plural, the verb must be **have** (plural), giving “...singers that **have ever performed**.” Option A (*have ever performed*) is correct. Option D is wrong because the original sentence has an error.

Q26. Answer: (C)

Solution

Committee is a collective noun. When acting as a single unified body (as implied by *unanimously*), it takes a **singular verb** and a **singular pronoun**. The correct form is “**has taken its**” (Option C). *Has taken their* (A) mixes singular verb with plural pronoun; *have taken its* (B) mixes plural verb with singular pronoun. Option C alone is consistent.

Q27. Answer: (D)

Solution

No improvement needed (Option D). The pronoun *neither* is treated as singular and requires a **singular verb**. “Neither of the boys **has completed** his homework” is grammatically correct. *Have completed* (A) is plural and incorrect with *neither*; *had completed* (B) shifts to past perfect unnecessarily; *are completing* (C) is present continuous and incorrect here.

Q28. Answer: (A)



Solution

The passage explicitly states: “From the ancient epics of the **Ramayana and Mahabharata** to the modern novels. . .” (Option A). *Gitanjali and Gora* (B) are works by Rabindranath Tagore; *Godan and Nirmala* (C) are works by Premchand; *Malgudi Days and The Guide* (D) are works by R.K. Narayan. None of these are the ancient epics mentioned.

Q29. **Answer: (C)**

Solution

The word **prestigious** means inspiring respect, admiration, and high status. In the passage it describes *international awards* of high repute. The closest meaning is **Highly respected** (Option C). *Ordinary* (A) and *Outdated* (D) are incorrect; *Regional* (B) contradicts the word *international* used alongside *prestigious* in the passage.

Q30. **Answer: (B)**

Solution

The passage states: “Today, Indian writing in English has gained **global recognition**, with authors like Arundhati Roy and Amitav Ghosh winning prestigious international awards.” The correct answer is **Global recognition** (Option B). *National literary awards only* (A), *Government financial support* (C), and *Critical failures internationally* (D) are not mentioned or are contradicted by the passage.



Answer Key

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	D	2	B	3	A	4	C	5	D
6	B	7	A	8	D	9	C	10	A
11	D	12	B	13	D	14	A	15	C
16	B	17	D	18	A	19	C	20	B
21	C	22	A	23	D	24	B	25	A
26	C	27	D	28	A	29	C	30	B

