

Bihar BEd CET General English

Sample Paper – 10

Duration: 15 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 15

Instructions

- This paper contains **15** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct Answer), modelled on the General English Comprehension portion of **Bihar BEd 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 level: Vocabulary, Grammar, Reading Comprehension, and Idioms as per Bihar BEd CET General English Comprehension section.
- Use of mobile phones, calculators, or electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited.

Reading Comprehension | Q1–Q3

Directions (Q1–Q3): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow by choosing the most appropriate option.

Climate change poses one of the gravest threats to our planet. Rising global temperatures, driven by the accumulation of greenhouse gases from burning fossil fuels, have accelerated the melting of glaciers and polar ice sheets, causing sea levels to rise at an alarming rate. Carbon emissions from industries, transportation, and agriculture contribute significantly to this crisis. However, renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power offer viable solutions that can reduce dependence on fossil fuels without compromising economic growth. Governments worldwide must enact stronger environmental policies and international agreements to limit emissions, while individuals also bear responsibility – by conserving energy, reducing waste, and making sustainable consumer choices. Sustainable development, which balances economic progress with environmental preservation, is the only path that ensures a liveable planet for future generations.



- Q1. According to the passage, what is identified as the primary driver of rising global temperatures?
- (A) Agricultural practices and deforestation alone
 - (B) Industrial accidents and chemical spills
 - (C) Natural volcanic eruptions and solar activity
 - (D) Accumulation of greenhouse gases from burning fossil fuels
- Q2. Which of the following is specifically cited in the passage as a renewable energy solution to climate change?
- (A) Nuclear power and hydroelectricity
 - (B) Solar and wind power
 - (C) Natural gas and clean coal technologies
 - (D) Geothermal energy and tidal power
- Q3. Which of the following is **NOT** stated or implied in the passage?
- (A) Climate change is an irreversible process and no human action can slow it down
 - (B) Carbon emissions from transportation and agriculture contribute to climate change
 - (C) Individuals have a responsibility to conserve energy and reduce waste
 - (D) Sustainable development balances economic progress with environmental preservation

Synonyms | Q4–Q5

Directions (Q4–Q5): Choose the word that is closest in meaning to the given word.

Q4. **FASTIDIOUS**

- (A) Careless
- (B) Generous



- (C) Meticulous
- (D) Timid

Q5. OSTENTATIOUS

- (A) Flamboyant
- (B) Modest
- (C) Reserved
- (D) Humble

Antonyms | Q6–Q7

Directions (Q6–Q7): Choose the word that is most nearly **opposite** in meaning to the given word.

Q6. BENIGN

- (A) Kind
- (B) Gentle
- (C) Harmless
- (D) Malignant

Q7. LETHARGIC

- (A) Drowsy
- (B) Energetic
- (C) Sluggish
- (D) Fatigued

One-Word Substitution | Q8

Direction (Q8): Choose the one word that best substitutes the given expression.

Q8. A person who collects postage stamps

- (A) Numismatist



- (B) Bibliophile
- (C) Philatelist
- (D) Philanthropist

Active / Passive Voice | Q9–Q10

Directions (Q9–Q10): Convert the given sentence into the required voice by choosing the most appropriate option.

Q9. Convert to Passive Voice:

“The workers had been repairing the road for three hours.”

- (A) The road had been being repaired by the workers for three hours.
- (B) The road was being repaired by the workers for three hours.
- (C) The road has been being repaired by the workers for three hours.
- (D) The road was repaired by the workers for three hours.

Q10. Convert to Active Voice:

“The prize would be awarded to the winner by the committee.”

- (A) The committee would have awarded the prize to the winner.
- (B) The winner would be awarded the prize to the committee.
- (C) The winner would receive the prize from the committee.
- (D) The committee would award the prize to the winner.

Fill in the Blank | Q11–Q12

Directions (Q11–Q12): Fill in the blank with the most appropriate word or phrase.

- Q11.** Either the students or the teacher _____ responsible for the outcome.
- (A) are
 - (B) is
 - (C) were



(D) have been

Q12. Scarcely had she entered the room _____ the lights went out.

(A) than

(B) before

(C) when

(D) that

Idiom Meaning | Q13

Direction (Q13): Choose the correct meaning of the underlined idiom.

Q13. The veteran ornithologist remarked that sighting this particular migratory bird in the valley happens once in a blue moon.

(A) Very frequently and with great regularity

(B) During a lunar eclipse or unusual astronomical event

(C) At the break of dawn on clear winter mornings

(D) Very rarely or once in a very long time

Error Detection | Q14

Direction (Q14): Identify the sentence that contains a grammatical error.

Q14. Which of the following sentences contains a grammatical error?

(A) There are less students in the classroom today than yesterday.

(B) She has fewer books than her classmate on the shelf.

(C) The teacher arrived earlier than expected for the morning session.

(D) He works more efficiently than anyone else in the office.

Correct Spelling | Q15

Direction (Q15): Identify the correctly spelled word from the options given below.



Q15. Identify the correctly spelled word:

- (A) Neccesary
- (B) Necessary
- (C) Necessery
- (D) Necesary



Detailed Solutions

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Q1. *Primary driver of rising global temperatures (Reading Comprehension)*

Solution

Concept: Reading Comprehension – Identifying the Central Cause

Explanation: The passage states directly: *“Rising global temperatures, driven by the accumulation of greenhouse gases from burning fossil fuels, have accelerated the melting of glaciers and polar ice sheets.”* The participial phrase “driven by the accumulation of greenhouse gases from burning fossil fuels” is the passage’s explicit identification of the primary driver of rising temperatures. Option D mirrors this precisely and is drawn word-for-word from the text.

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option A:** Agricultural practices are mentioned as a source of carbon emissions, not as a primary driver of global temperature rise. Deforestation is not mentioned at all.
- **Option B:** Industrial accidents and chemical spills are not mentioned anywhere in the passage.
- **Option C:** Natural volcanic eruptions and solar activity are entirely absent from the passage; these are external concepts not supported by the text.

Final Answer: (D) Accumulation of greenhouse gases from burning fossil fuels.

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

Q2. *Renewable energy solutions cited in the passage (Reading Comprehension)*

Solution

Concept: Reading Comprehension – Locating Specific Textual Details

Explanation: The passage explicitly states: *“renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power offer viable solutions that can reduce dependence on fossil fuels without compromising economic growth.”* The passage uses “such as” to introduce solar and wind power as examples, making Option B the answer that is directly supported, word-for-word, by the text.

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option A:** Nuclear power and hydroelectricity are not mentioned anywhere in the



passage.

- **Option C:** Natural gas and clean coal are not referenced in the passage; these are fossil-fuel-adjacent technologies, which the passage seeks to reduce dependence on.
- **Option D:** Geothermal energy and tidal power do not appear in the passage at all.

Final Answer: (B) Solar and wind power.

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

Q3. What is NOT stated or implied in the passage (Negative Inference)

Solution

Concept: Reading Comprehension – Negative Inference / Identifying Unstated Information

Explanation: In a “NOT stated” question, three options are directly supported by the passage; the correct answer has no textual basis. Checking each option:

- **Option A – Not stated (CORRECT):** The passage does not suggest climate change is irreversible or that human action cannot slow it down. On the contrary, the passage calls for government policy, renewable energy, and individual responsibility – all of which imply that human action *can* make a difference. This claim directly contradicts the spirit of the passage.
- **Option B – Supported:** The passage explicitly states that “carbon emissions from industries, transportation, and agriculture contribute significantly to this crisis.”
- **Option C – Supported:** The passage states that “individuals also bear responsibility – by conserving energy, reducing waste, and making sustainable consumer choices.”
- **Option D – Supported:** The passage states that “sustainable development, which balances economic progress with environmental preservation, is the only path.”

Final Answer: (A) Climate change is an irreversible process and no human action can slow it down (not stated or implied anywhere; the passage implies the opposite).

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



Q4. *Synonym of FASTIDIOUS***Solution**

Concept: Vocabulary – Synonyms

Explanation: **FASTIDIOUS** (adjective) derives from Latin *fastidium*, meaning disgust or aversion. It describes a person who is very attentive to accuracy and detail, or who has very high and exacting standards and is difficult to please. Such a person pays painstaking attention to every aspect of a task, ensuring it meets precise criteria. **Meticulous** is the closest synonym – it means showing great attention to detail or being very careful and precise, fully capturing the meaning of fastidious in professional and academic contexts.

Example sentence: *The fastidious editor reviewed every sentence three times before approving the manuscript for publication.*

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option A – Careless:** This is the direct antonym of fastidious; a careless person pays no attention to detail, which is the exact opposite of what fastidious means.
- **Option B – Generous:** Generous refers to a willingness to give or share – entirely unrelated to the concept of precision or exacting standards.
- **Option D – Timid:** Timid means lacking confidence or courage – a different personality trait with no connection to the meaning of fastidious.

Final Answer: (C) Meticulous.

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

Q5. *Synonym of OSTENTATIOUS***Solution**

Concept: Vocabulary – Synonyms

Explanation: **OSTENTATIOUS** (adjective) comes from Latin *ostentare*, meaning to display or show off. It describes behaviour, dress, or display designed to impress others; characterised by a vulgar or excessive display of wealth, knowledge, or achievement intended to attract attention and admiration. **Flamboyant** is the best synonym – it means tending to attract attention because of exuberance, confidence, and noticeable style, closely matching the idea of conspicuous, showy display.

Example sentence: *Her ostentatious jewellery and designer clothes made her the centre of attention at every social gathering.*

Why other options are wrong:



- **Option B – Modest:** Modest is the direct antonym of ostentatious; it means unassuming, restrained, and not drawing attention to oneself.
- **Option C – Reserved:** Reserved means restrained and not forthcoming in expressing feelings or opinions – again the opposite of the showy nature of ostentatious.
- **Option D – Humble:** Humble means having a low opinion of one's own importance – a quality that is entirely incompatible with the self-promoting display that ostentatious implies.

Final Answer: (A) Flamboyant.

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

Q6. Antonym of *BENIGN*

Solution

Concept: Vocabulary – Antonyms

Explanation: **BENIGN** (adjective) comes from Latin *benignus*, meaning good-natured or kindly. It describes something gentle, kind, and not harmful. In a medical context, a benign tumour is one that is not cancerous or threatening to life. The antonym must therefore convey something harmful, threatening, or dangerous. **Malignant** is the correct antonym – it means having an evil influence, or (in medicine) tending to invade and destroy healthy tissue; dangerous and harmful, directly opposing the gentle, harmless sense of benign.

Example sentence: *What appeared to be a benign cyst turned out to be a malignant growth requiring immediate surgery.*

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option A – Kind:** Kind is a near-synonym of benign in its sense of being good-natured; it is not its antonym.
- **Option B – Gentle:** Gentle also aligns with the meaning of benign (soft, mild, not harsh) and is therefore a synonym, not an antonym.
- **Option C – Harmless:** Harmless is another near-synonym of benign – it describes something that causes no harm, which is precisely what benign means.

Final Answer: (D) Malignant.

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



Q7. Antonym of LETHARGIC

Solution

Concept: Vocabulary – Antonyms

Explanation: LETHARGIC (adjective) derives from Greek *lethargia*, meaning forgetfulness and drowsiness. It describes a state of sluggishness, lack of energy, and physical or mental inertia – an unwillingness or inability to act due to extreme tiredness or torpor. Its antonym must convey vitality, liveliness, and an abundance of energy. **Energetic** is the correct antonym – it means possessing or showing energy; active and vigorous, which is the direct opposite of the sluggish inertia captured by lethargic.

Example sentence: *The patient who had been lethargic all morning became surprisingly energetic after a restful afternoon nap.*

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option A – Drowsy:** Drowsy means sleepy and lacking alertness – a near-synonym of lethargic, not its antonym.
- **Option C – Sluggish:** Sluggish means slow-moving and lacking energy – this is effectively a synonym of lethargic, not its antonym.
- **Option D – Fatigued:** Fatigued means extremely tired – again a synonym in meaning to lethargic, not an antonym.

Final Answer: (B) Energetic.

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

Q8. One-word substitution: a person who collects postage stamps

Solution

Concept: Vocabulary – One-Word Substitution

Explanation: The phrase “a person who collects postage stamps” refers to a specific, well-established hobby. The precise one-word term for such a person is **Philatelist**. The word derives from Greek *philos* (loving) + *ateleia* (exemption from tax, which referred to the pre-paid stamp system). Philately is the study and collection of postage stamps, postmarks, and related postal materials. A philatelist is the recognised technical term for a person engaged in this hobby.

Example sentence: *The philatelist proudly displayed her collection of rare nineteenth-century stamps from across the British Empire.*

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option A – Numismatist:** A numismatist is a person who collects and studies



coins, currency, and medals – not stamps.

- **Option B – Bibliophile:** A bibliophile is a person who loves and collects books – unrelated to stamps.
- **Option D – Philanthropist:** A philanthropist is a person who donates money and resources for charitable causes – this has no connection to stamp collecting.

Final Answer: (C) Philatelist.

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

Q9. Active to Passive – Past Perfect Continuous Tense

Solution

Concept: Grammar – Voice Conversion (Active to Passive, Past Perfect Continuous Tense)

Active sentence: “The workers had been repairing the road for three hours.”

Structure: Subject + **had been** + V_{ing} + Object + Time phrase

Rule for Past Perfect Continuous Passive:

Object → New Subject + **had been being** + V₃ + by + Agent + Time phrase

Applying the rule step by step:

- Object “the road” becomes the new grammatical subject.
- “had been repairing” (Past Perfect Continuous Active) → “had been being repaired” (Past Perfect Continuous Passive).
- Agent: “by the workers”.
- Time phrase “for three hours” is retained at the end.

Passive sentence: “The road had been being repaired by the workers for three hours.”

Note: The auxiliary sequence “had been being + past participle” is the structurally correct form for Past Perfect Continuous Passive. It preserves both the perfect aspect (had) and the continuous aspect (been being), maintaining the sense that the action was ongoing up to a point in the past.

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option B:** “was being repaired” is Past Continuous Passive – the perfect aspect (“had”) is lost entirely, changing the tense.



- **Option C:** “has been being repaired” is Present Perfect Continuous Passive – wrong tense (present perfect instead of past perfect).
- **Option D:** “was repaired” is Simple Past Passive – it loses both the perfect and the continuous aspects, fundamentally altering the meaning.

Final Answer: (A) The road had been being repaired by the workers for three hours.

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

Q10. *Passive to Active – Modal Verb “would”*

Solution

Concept: Grammar – Voice Conversion (Passive to Active, Modal Verb “would”)

Passive sentence: “*The prize would be awarded to the winner by the committee.*”

Structure: Subject (= object in active) + **modal** + **be** + V₃ + to + Indirect Object + by + Agent

Rule for Active Conversion with Modal Verb:

Agent → New Subject + **modal (unchanged)** + V₁ (base form) + Object

Applying the rule step by step:

- Agent “the committee” becomes the new grammatical subject.
- Modal “would” is retained exactly as it is – modals do not change form in voice conversion.
- “be awarded” (passive) → base form “award” (active).
- “the prize” becomes the direct object; “to the winner” is retained as the indirect object phrase.

Active sentence: “*The committee would award the prize to the winner.*”

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option A:** “would have awarded” introduces a perfect aspect (“have”) that is absent from the passive sentence; this changes the tense to conditional perfect.
- **Option B:** The structure is illogical – “the winner would be awarded the prize to the committee” distorts the agent-patient relationship and is grammatically incoherent.



- **Option C:** “the winner would receive” changes the subject (from committee to winner) incorrectly, and “receive” substitutes a different verb rather than converting the original “award.”

Final Answer: (D) The committee would award the prize to the winner.

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

Q11. Fill in the Blank – Either... or Subject-Verb Agreement

Solution

Concept: Grammar – Subject-Verb Agreement with Correlative Conjunctions (Either... or)

Sentence: “Either the students or the teacher _____ responsible for the outcome.”

Rule – Either... or / Neither... nor: When subjects are joined by **either... or** or **neither... nor**, the verb agrees with the subject *closer to it* (the subject immediately preceding the verb). This is known as the **Proximity Rule** or the **Rule of Nearer Subject**.

- The two subjects are “the students” (plural) and “the teacher” (singular).
- The subject nearer to the verb is “the teacher” – which is *third person singular*.
- A third person singular subject in the present tense takes the verb “**is**.”

Therefore, the correct answer is **is**.

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option A – are:** “are” agrees with the plural subject “students,” but since “teacher” (singular) is nearer, “are” violates the proximity rule.
- **Option C – were:** “were” is a past tense form; the sentence context is present tense, making this incorrect.
- **Option D – have been:** This is present perfect plural – incorrect both in number (should be singular, matching “teacher”) and in tense aspect (the sentence does not call for perfect aspect).

Final Answer: (B) is.

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



Q12. Fill in the Blank – Scarcely... when (Fixed Collocation)

Solution

Concept: Grammar – Negative Adverbs with Fixed Correlative Conjunctions

Sentence: “Scarcely had she entered the room _____ the lights went out.”

Rule – Negative Adverb Collocations: Certain negative adverbs of time form fixed paired constructions with specific conjunctions. These are:

- **Scarcely... when** ✓ (e.g., Scarcely had he sat down when the phone rang.)
- **Hardly... when** ✓ (e.g., Hardly had she spoken when the answer came.)
- **Barely... when** ✓ (e.g., Barely had they arrived when it started raining.)
- **No sooner... than** ✓ (e.g., No sooner had he left than she called.)

“Scarcely” always pairs with **when**, not with “than,” “before,” or “that.” The correct answer is therefore **when**.

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option A – than:** “than” is the correct partner for “no sooner” but *not* for “scarcely.” Using “scarcely... than” is a common error that mixes the two constructions.
- **Option B – before:** “before” introduces a time clause indicating a prior event, which changes the logical relationship; “scarcely... before” is not a standard fixed collocation.
- **Option D – that:** “that” is not used in these negative adverb constructions at all; it produces an ungrammatical sentence.

Final Answer: (C) when.

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

Q13. Idiom: “Once in a blue moon”

Solution

Concept: Idioms and Phrases

Explanation: The idiom “**once in a blue moon**” means something that happens very rarely – an occurrence so infrequent that it is almost unusual or noteworthy when it does happen. The expression originates from the astronomical phenomenon of a “blue moon” – traditionally defined as the second full moon occurring within the same calen-



dar month – an event that is relatively rare (roughly every two to three years). Over time, the phrase evolved into a general idiom for rarity.

Context in the sentence: The ornithologist remarks that sighting this migratory bird happens “once in a blue moon” – meaning such a sighting is extremely rare and does not occur with any regularity.

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option A:** “Very frequently and with great regularity” is the exact opposite of the idiom’s meaning; frequency is antithetical to rarity.
- **Option B:** “During a lunar eclipse or unusual astronomical event” is a literal (and incorrect) interpretation of the phrase. Idioms are non-literal; “blue moon” is not a lunar eclipse.
- **Option C:** “At the break of dawn on clear winter mornings” describes a time of day, not a frequency – this has no connection to the idiom’s meaning.

Final Answer: (D) Very rarely or once in a very long time.

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

Q14. Error Detection – Incorrect Use of “fewer” vs. “less”

Solution

Concept: Grammar – Count Nouns vs. Non-Count Nouns (fewer / less)

Explanation: English requires a careful distinction between **fewer** and **less**:

- **fewer** – used with *countable* nouns (things that can be counted individually): *fewer students, fewer books, fewer days*.
- **less** – used with *uncountable* (mass) nouns (things measured in quantity, not number): *less water, less time, less effort*.

Sentence A: “There are less students in the classroom today than yesterday.”

“Students” is a countable noun (you can count individual students: one student, two students...). Therefore, the correct quantifier is **fewer**, not “less.”

Corrected sentence: “There are **fewer** students in the classroom today than yesterday.”

Why other options contain no error:

- **Option B:** “She has fewer books than her classmate.” – “books” is countable, so “fewer” is correct. ✓



- **Option C:** “The teacher arrived earlier than expected.” – Correct comparative adverb usage; no grammatical error. ✓
- **Option D:** “He works more efficiently than anyone else in the office.” – Correct superlative comparative construction; no grammatical error. ✓

Final Answer: (A) There are less students in the classroom today than yesterday. (Error: “less” should be “fewer” for countable noun “students.”)

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

Q15. Correct Spelling – Necessary

Solution

Concept: Spelling

Explanation: The correct spelling is **Necessary**. This word derives from Latin *necessarius* (indispensable, unavoidable). It is constructed as follows:

ne- (not) + **cess** (from *cedere*, to yield/go) + **-ary** (adjective-forming suffix)

Memory tip: A shirt has **1 Collar** and **2 Sleeves** – so *necessary* has **1 ‘c’** and **2 ‘s’s’**: *ne-c-e-ss-ary*. This popular mnemonic prevents the two most common errors: doubling the ‘c’ or using only one ‘s’.

Analysis of wrong spellings:

- **Option A – Neccesary:** Incorrect. The letter ‘c’ has been doubled (“necc-”) – a common misspelling. Only one ‘c’ is correct.
- **Option C – Necessery:** Incorrect. The suffix has been misspelt as “-ery” instead of the correct “-ary.” The suffix is **-ary**, not -ery.
- **Option D – Necesary:** Incorrect. Only one ‘s’ has been used (“neces-”) instead of the required double ‘s’ (“necess-”).
- **Option B – Necessary:** Correct spelling – one ‘c’, two ‘s’s, suffix ‘-ary’. ✓

Final Answer: (B) Necessary.

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



Answer Key

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1	D	2	B	3	A	4	C	5	A
6	D	7	B	8	C	9	A	10	D
11	B	12	C	13	D	14	A	15	B

Section	Questions & Topics
Reading Comprehension	Q1–Q3 (Climate Change and Sustainable Development)
Synonyms	Q4 (FASTIDIOUS), Q5 (OSTENTATIOUS)
Antonyms	Q6 (BENIGN), Q7 (LETHARGIC)
One-Word Substitution	Q8 (Philatelist)
Active / Passive Voice	Q9 (Past Perfect Continuous Active→Passive), Q10 (Modal “would” Passive→Active)
Fill in the Blank	Q11 (Either...or proximity rule: is), Q12 (Scarcely...when collocation)
Idiom Meaning	Q13 (Once in a blue moon)
Error Detection	Q14 (fewer vs. less with countable noun)
Correct Spelling	Q15 (Necessary)

Marks Distribution	Questions
Option A × 4	Q3, Q5, Q9, Q14
Option B × 4	Q2, Q7, Q11, Q15
Option C × 3	Q4, Q8, Q12
Option D × 4	Q1, Q6, Q10, Q13

