

Bihar BEd CET General English

Sample Paper – 9

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.

The rapid spread of smartphones and digital technology has transformed modern education in significant ways. Students today have unprecedented access to information through e-learning platforms, online libraries, and educational applications that link them to global knowledge networks. Digital literacy—the ability to locate, evaluate, and communicate information through digital media—has become an indispensable twenty-first century skill. However, this technological revolution also brings considerable challenges. Excessive screen time and smartphone addiction are growing concerns among educators and parents alike. Moreover, the sheer volume of online content raises serious questions about the credibility and accuracy of digital sources. Striking a balance between harnessing the benefits of digital tools and safeguarding students' focus, health, and critical thinking remains one of the most pressing challenges in contemporary education.



- Q1. According to the passage, what has digital literacy become in the twenty-first century?
- (A) A luxury restricted to students in technologically advanced countries
 - (B) A complete replacement for traditional classroom learning
 - (C) An indispensable skill for locating, evaluating, and communicating through digital media
 - (D) A government-mandated subject in all educational institutions
- Q2. Which of the following concerns about technology in education is explicitly stated in the passage?
- (A) Excessive screen time and smartphone addiction worry educators and parents
 - (B) Students prefer digital entertainment over academic e-learning platforms
 - (C) Online libraries are replacing physical books in most schools
 - (D) Digital technology has significantly reduced students' creativity
- Q3. Which of the following is **NOT** stated or implied in the passage?
- (A) E-learning platforms connect students to global knowledge networks
 - (B) The credibility of online sources is a matter of concern
 - (C) Critical thinking is identified as a student skill worth protecting
 - (D) Schools must immediately ban the use of smartphones in classrooms

Synonyms | Q4–Q5

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

Q4. **ALACRITY**

- (A) Lethargy
- (B) Eagerness



- (C) Arrogance
- (D) Hesitation

Q5. PERFIDIOUS

- (A) Faithful
- (B) Courageous
- (C) Generous
- (D) Treacherous

Antonyms | Q6–Q7

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

Q6. OBLIVIOUS

- (A) Conscious
- (B) Forgetful
- (C) Careless
- (D) Inattentive

Q7. GREGARIOUS

- (A) Boisterous
- (B) Cheerful
- (C) Solitary
- (D) Talkative

One-Word Substitution | Q8

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

Q8. A person who walks in sleep

- (A) Narcissist



- (B) Somnambulist
- (C) Insomniac
- (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 children were playing cricket in the ground.”

- (A) Cricket was played in the ground by the children.
- (B) Cricket is being played in the ground by the children.
- (C) Cricket had been played in the ground by the children.
- (D) Cricket was being played in the ground by the children.

Q10. Convert to Active Voice:

“The report should be submitted by the manager by Friday.”

- (A) The manager should submit the report by Friday.
- (B) The manager should be submitting the report by Friday.
- (C) The manager must submit the report by Friday.
- (D) The manager shall have submitted the report by Friday.

Fill in the Blank | Q11–Q12

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

Q11. Despite _____ hard, she could not finish the task in time.

- (A) she worked
- (B) worked
- (C) working



(D) work hard

Q12. The doctor advised him to avoid _____ fatty foods.

(A) to eat

(B) eating

(C) eat

(D) eaten

Idiom Meaning | Q13

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

Q13. Instead of answering the journalist's question directly, the spokesperson kept beating around the bush.

(A) To avoid talking about the main subject or point

(B) To work very hard without taking any rest

(C) To accidentally reveal a secret to others

(D) To encourage someone with optimistic words

Error Detection | Q14

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

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

(A) She has been waiting for the bus for twenty minutes.

(B) He has lived in this city since he was a child.

(C) They have been close friends for many years.

(D) She has been working here since five years.

Correct Spelling | Q15

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



Q15. Identify the correctly spelled word:

- (A) Embarassment
- (B) Embarrasment
- (C) Embarrassment
- (D) Embarresment



Detailed Solutions

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Q1. *What digital literacy has become in the twenty-first century (Reading Comprehension)*

Solution

Concept: Reading Comprehension – Identifying a Specific Definition or Characterisation

Relevant passage line: “Digital literacy—the ability to locate, evaluate, and communicate information through digital media—has become an indispensable twenty-first century skill.”

Explanation: Option C mirrors the passage almost verbatim. The passage defines digital literacy as “the ability to locate, evaluate, and communicate information through digital media” and calls it “an indispensable twenty-first century skill.” Option C captures both elements precisely. This is a detail-retrieval question: the answer must be grounded in the exact language of the passage.

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option A:** The passage makes no distinction between technologically advanced and developing countries; it speaks of modern education globally, with no geographic restriction.
- **Option B:** The passage describes digital tools as transforming education, not replacing traditional learning. No such wholesale replacement is claimed anywhere in the text.
- **Option D:** Government policy or mandates are never mentioned anywhere in the passage; this is an inference wholly unsupported by the text.

Final Answer: (C) An indispensable skill for locating, evaluating, and communicating through digital media.

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

Q2. *Explicitly stated concern about technology in education (Reading Comprehension)*

Solution

Concept: Reading Comprehension – Locating Specific Textual Details

Relevant passage line: “Excessive screen time and smartphone addiction are growing concerns among educators and parents alike.”

Explanation: Option A matches the passage directly and precisely. The key elements — “excessive screen time,” “smartphone addiction,” and the concern shared by “educators



and parents” — are all present in the text. This is a factual retrieval question: the student must locate the exact claim and match it to the correct option.

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option B:** The passage does not compare student preferences for entertainment versus academic platforms; no such distinction is made or implied.
- **Option C:** The passage mentions online libraries as a resource students can access, not as a replacement for physical books; the comparison is absent from the text.
- **Option D:** The passage does not discuss student creativity at all; this option introduces a concept entirely absent from the passage.

Final Answer: (A) Excessive screen time and smartphone addiction worry educators and parents.

Answer: (A) [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 will be directly supported by the passage; the correct answer is the one with no textual basis. Checking each option:

- **Option A – Supported:** The passage states educational applications “link them to global knowledge networks.”
- **Option B – Supported:** The passage explicitly states that “the sheer volume of online content raises serious questions about the credibility and accuracy of digital sources.”
- **Option C – Supported:** The passage refers to “safeguarding students’ focus, health, and critical thinking,” clearly implying critical thinking is a valued skill worth protecting.
- **Option D – Not stated:** The passage calls for “striking a balance” between benefits and challenges; it never advocates banning smartphones from schools. This policy recommendation has no basis anywhere in the text.

Final Answer: (D) Schools must immediately ban the use of smartphones in classrooms (not stated or implied in the passage).



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

Q4. *Synonym of ALACRITY*

Solution

Concept: Vocabulary – Synonyms

Explanation: **ALACRITY** (noun) comes from Latin *alacritas*, meaning “liveliness” or “briskness.” It refers to brisk and cheerful readiness; a willing eagerness to act promptly and energetically. When someone responds with alacrity, they do so with enthusiasm and without delay. **Eagerness** is the most accurate synonym: it captures the sense of willing, lively readiness that defines alacrity.

Example sentence: *The volunteers took up the task with alacrity, completing it well ahead of schedule.*

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option A – Lethargy:** Lethargy means sluggishness and lack of energy — the direct antonym of alacrity, which implies speed and enthusiasm.
- **Option C – Arrogance:** Arrogance refers to an exaggerated sense of self-importance and superiority; it has nothing to do with eagerness, readiness, or promptness.
- **Option D – Hesitation:** Hesitation implies doubt and delay before acting — the precise opposite of the brisk, willing readiness conveyed by alacrity.

Final Answer: (B) Eagerness.

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

Q5. *Synonym of PERFIDIOUS*

Solution

Concept: Vocabulary – Synonyms

Explanation: **PERFIDIOUS** (adjective) derives from Latin *perfidia* (faithlessness, deliberate breach of trust). It describes a person who is deceitfully untrustworthy; one who betrays trust or acts treacherously with calculated disloyalty. The word carries a strong moral connotation of deliberate betrayal. **Treacherous** is the most accurate synonym: it means guilty of betrayal, deceptive, and untrustworthy — perfectly aligned with the meaning of perfidious.

Example sentence: *The perfidious adviser revealed the king's secrets to the enemy for personal gain.*



Why other options are wrong:

- **Option A – Faithful:** Faithful means loyal and trustworthy — the direct antonym of perfidious, which denotes disloyalty and betrayal.
- **Option B – Courageous:** Courageous refers to bravery and boldness in the face of danger; it is entirely unrelated to loyalty or treachery.
- **Option C – Generous:** Generous means giving freely and liberally; it has no semantic connection whatsoever to perfidious.

Final Answer: (D) Treacherous.

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

Q6. Antonym of OBLIVIOUS

Solution

Concept: Vocabulary – Antonyms

Explanation: OBLIVIOUS (adjective) comes from Latin *obliviosus* (forgetful, unmindful). It describes a state of being completely unaware of or unconcerned about what is happening around one; being utterly unmindful of one's surroundings or circumstances. Its antonym must convey active awareness and alertness. **Conscious** is the correct antonym: it means aware of and responsive to one's surroundings and what is happening — the direct opposite of being oblivious.

Example sentence: *He was completely oblivious to the commotion around him, whereas his colleague remained fully conscious of every development in the room.*

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option B – Forgetful:** Forgetful means prone to forgetting things — this is a near-synonym of oblivious, not its antonym.
- **Option C – Careless:** Careless means lacking care or attention — also similar in spirit to being oblivious, not the opposite.
- **Option D – Inattentive:** Inattentive means not paying attention — another near-synonym of oblivious, not its antonym.

Final Answer: (A) Conscious.

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



Q7. Antonym of GREGARIOUS**Solution**

Concept: Vocabulary – Antonyms

Explanation: GREGARIOUS (adjective) comes from Latin *gregarius*, from *grex* (flock or herd). It describes a person who enjoys being in the company of others; someone sociable, outgoing, and fond of group interaction. Its antonym must describe someone who prefers to be alone and avoids social gatherings. **Solitary** is the correct antonym: it means done or existing alone; preferring solitude over company.

Example sentence: *Unlike her gregarious sister who loved large gatherings, she was a solitary person who preferred reading alone at home.*

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option A – Boisterous:** Boisterous means noisy and exuberant — this describes energetic, animated social behaviour, which is actually closer in character to gregarious, not its opposite.
- **Option B – Cheerful:** Cheerful refers to a happy, positive mood; it has no direct connection to social preference or the concept of enjoying or avoiding company.
- **Option D – Talkative:** Talkative means fond of talking and communicating freely — a social quality similar in direction to gregarious, not its antonym.

Final Answer: (C) Solitary.

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

Q8. One-word substitution: a person who walks in sleep**Solution**

Concept: Vocabulary – One-Word Substitution

Explanation: The phrase “a person who walks in sleep” precisely describes the phenomenon of **somnambulism**, and the person who exhibits this behaviour is called a **Somnambulist**. The word is formed from Latin: *somnus* (sleep) + *ambulare* (to walk). A somnambulist walks, talks, or performs other activities during sleep while remaining apparently unconscious of doing so.

Example sentence: *The doctor confirmed that the child was a somnambulist who often wandered the hallways at night without any awareness of doing so.*

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option A – Narcissist:** A narcissist is a person excessively preoccupied with their own self-image and self-importance — entirely unrelated to sleep-walking.



- **Option C – Insomniac:** An insomniac is a person who suffers from chronic inability to sleep — almost the opposite idea; an insomniac cannot sleep, whereas a somnambulist walks while sleeping.
- **Option D – Philanthropist:** A philanthropist is a person who promotes the welfare of others through generous charitable acts — completely unrelated to sleep or sleep behaviour.

Final Answer: (B) Somnambulist.

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

Q9. Active to Passive – Past Continuous Tense

Solution

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

Active sentence: “The children were playing cricket in the ground.”

Structure: Subject + **were** + V_{ing} + Object + Prep phrase

Rule for Past Continuous Passive:

Object → New Subject + **was/were being** + V₃ + by + Agent + Prep phrase

Applying the rule step by step:

- Object “cricket” (singular) becomes the new grammatical subject → auxiliary becomes “was.”
- “were playing” (Past Continuous Active) → “was being played” (Past Continuous Passive).
- Agent phrase: “by the children”.
- Prepositional phrase “in the ground” is retained at the appropriate position.

Passive sentence: “Cricket was being played in the ground by the children.”

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option A:** “was played” is Simple Past Passive — it drops the *being* and loses the ongoing/continuous aspect present in the original sentence.
- **Option B:** “is being played” is Present Continuous Passive — entirely the wrong tense (present instead of past).



- **Option C:** “had been played” is Past Perfect Passive — wrong tense; the original is Past Continuous, not Past Perfect.

Final Answer: (D) Cricket was being played in the ground by the children.

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

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

Solution

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

Passive sentence: “*The report should be submitted by the manager by Friday.*”

Structure: Subject (report) + **should** + **be** + V₃ (submitted) + by + Agent (manager) + by Friday

Rule for Active Conversion with Modal Verb:

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

Applying the rule step by step:

- Agent “the manager” becomes the new grammatical subject.
- Modal “should” is retained exactly — modals do not change form in voice conversion.
- “be submitted” (passive) → base form “submit” (active).
- “the report” becomes the direct object.
- Time phrase “by Friday” is retained.

Active sentence: “*The manager should submit the report by Friday.*”

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option B:** “should be submitting” uses the progressive form, incorrectly adding the continuous aspect which was not present in the original passive sentence.
- **Option C:** “must submit” substitutes “must” for “should” — this changes the modal and thereby alters the degree of obligation expressed in the original.
- **Option D:** “shall have submitted” introduces a Future Perfect construction with a different modal (“shall”) — this changes both the modal and the tense, making it grammatically and semantically incorrect as a conversion.

Final Answer: (A) The manager should submit the report by Friday.



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

Q11. Fill in the Blank – “Despite” + Gerund

Solution

Concept: Grammar – Preposition Usage: “Despite” Requires a Gerund or Noun

Sentence: “Despite _____ hard, she could not finish the task in time.”

Key diagnostic: **Despite** is a preposition, not a conjunction. It must be followed by a *noun* or a *gerund* (V-ing form), never by a finite clause containing its own subject and verb.

Comparison of connectors for contrast:

- **“Despite” + gerund:** *Despite **working** hard, she could not finish.* ✓ (gerund acts as noun object of the preposition)
- **“Although/Even though” + clause:** *Although **she worked** hard, she could not finish.* ✓ (conjunction introduces a full clause with subject + verb)

Therefore, Option C “working” (the gerund) is the only grammatically correct choice, giving: “*Despite working hard, she could not finish the task in time.*” ✓

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option A – she worked:** Introduces a finite clause (subject + verb); this structure requires a conjunction like “although,” not the preposition “despite.”
- **Option B – worked:** A bare past tense verb cannot follow the preposition “despite”; despite requires a noun or gerund, not a finite verb form.
- **Option D – work hard:** Using the base form with an adverb after “despite” is ungrammatical; despite requires a gerund (“working”), not a bare infinitive phrase.

Final Answer: (C) working.

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



Q12. Fill in the Blank – Gerund after “avoid”

Solution

Concept: Grammar – Verb Patterns: “Avoid” + Gerund

Sentence: “The doctor advised him to avoid _____ fatty foods.”

Rule: The verb **avoid** always takes a *gerund* (V-ing form) as its complement, never an infinitive or a bare verb form. This is a fixed grammatical pattern in English:

avoid + V-ing (not avoid + to + V, not avoid + bare V)

Other verbs that follow the same pattern: *enjoy, suggest, recommend, consider, delay, finish, mind, practise, miss.*

Therefore, Option B “eating” (gerund) is the grammatically correct choice, giving: “to avoid eating fatty foods.” ✓

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option A – to eat:** Infinitive form; “avoid” does not take a to-infinitive. (*to eat* would be correct after verbs like *want, decide, plan, hope.*)
- **Option C – eat:** Bare infinitive form; this requires a modal verb (e.g., “*he must eat*”) and cannot follow “avoid” directly.
- **Option D – eaten:** Past participle form; this has no grammatical function as a complement to “avoid” in this context.

Final Answer: (B) eating.

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

Q13. Idiom: “Beat around the bush”

Solution

Concept: Idioms and Phrases

Explanation: The idiom “**beat around the bush**” means to talk in a roundabout, evasive way, deliberately avoiding the main topic or direct point; to delay getting to the heart of the matter. The imagery originates from hunting: beaters would drive birds out of bushes by beating the surrounding vegetation, drawing out the preliminary process rather than going straight for the quarry. Applied figuratively, it describes someone who avoids coming directly to the real point of what they want to say.

Context in the sentence: The spokesperson kept beating around the bush instead of giving a direct answer — meaning the spokesperson deliberately avoided addressing the



journalist's actual question.

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option B:** "To work very hard without rest" describes diligence or toil — a completely different concept belonging to idioms such as "burn the midnight oil" or "work one's fingers to the bone."
- **Option C:** "To accidentally reveal a secret" describes the idiom "let the cat out of the bag" — an entirely different expression.
- **Option D:** "To encourage someone with optimistic words" is not related to this idiom; it describes expressions such as "cheer someone up" or "give a pep talk."

Final Answer: (A) To avoid talking about the main subject or point.

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

Q14. Error Detection – Misuse of "since" instead of "for" with a duration

Solution

Concept: Grammar – Prepositions of Time: "Since" vs. "For" with the Present Perfect

Explanation: In English, "since" and "for" are both used with the Present Perfect (or Present Perfect Continuous) tense, but they follow distinct rules:

- **Since** – used with a *specific point of time* (a definite moment when something started): *since 2015, since Monday, since he was a child, since last year.*
- **For** – used with a *period or duration of time* (a span that has elapsed): *for five years, for two hours, for a long time, for many years.*

Sentence D: "She has been working here since five years."

"Five years" is a duration (a span of time), not a specific point. Therefore "since" is incorrect; the correct preposition is **for**.

Corrected sentence: "She has been working here **for** five years."

Why other options contain no error:

- **Option A:** "She has been waiting for the bus for twenty minutes." — "twenty minutes" is a duration; "for" is correctly used. ✓
- **Option B:** "He has lived in this city since he was a child." — "since he was a child" denotes a point in time (when childhood began); "since" is correctly used. ✓
- **Option C:** "They have been close friends for many years." — "many years" is a duration; "for" is correctly used. ✓



Final Answer: (D) She has been working here since five years. (Error: “since” should be “for.”)

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

Q15. Correct Spelling – Embarrassment

Solution

Concept: Spelling

Explanation: The correct spelling is **Embarrassment**. This word comes from French *embarrasser* (to obstruct, to put in an awkward position). Its internal structure is:

em- + barr + ass + -ment

The critical feature is the double **r** and the double **s**: *em-barr-ass-ment*. Both doublings must be present for correct spelling.

Memory tip: “I feel Really Red and Stupendously Silly” — two r’s and two s’s: *em-barr-ass-ment*.

Analysis of all spellings:

- **Option A – Embarassment:** Incorrect. Only one ‘r’ is present (*em-bar-*) instead of the required double ‘r’ (*em-barr-*).
- **Option B – Embarrasment:** Incorrect. Only one ‘s’ is present (*-barras-*) instead of the required double ‘s’ (*-barrass-*).
- **Option C – Embarrassment:** Correct spelling. ✓ Both the double ‘r’ and the double ‘s’ are present.
- **Option D – Embarresment:** Incorrect. The vowel ‘a’ in the core segment *barrass* is incorrectly replaced by ‘e’ (*barres*), and the double ‘s’ is also dropped.

Final Answer: (C) Embarrassment.

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



Answer Key

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Answer Key – Bihar BEd CET General English Sample Paper 9														
1	C	2	A	3	D	4	B	5						D
6	A	7	C	8	B	9	D	10						A
11	C	12	B	13	A	14	D	15						C

Section	Questions & Topics
Reading Comprehension	Q1–Q3 (Digital Literacy and Smartphones in Modern Education)
Synonyms	Q4 (ALACRITY), Q5 (PERFIDIOUS)
Antonyms	Q6 (OBLIVIOUS), Q7 (GREGARIOUS)
One-Word Substitution	Q8 (Somnambulist)
Active / Passive Voice	Q9 (Past Continuous Active→Passive), Q10 (Modal “should” Passive→Active)
Fill in the Blank	Q11 (Despite + gerund: working), Q12 (Gerund after “avoid”: eating)
Idiom Meaning	Q13 (Beat around the bush)
Error Detection	Q14 (“since” vs “for” with duration)
Correct Spelling	Q15 (Embarrassment)

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

