

FDDI AIST Verbal Ability

Sample Paper – 1

Duration: 30 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 30

Instructions

- This paper contains **30** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct Answer), modelled on the Verbal Ability section of **FDDI AIST**.
- Each correct answer carries **+1 mark**. There is **no negative marking** for incorrect or unattempted answers.
- Only **one** option is correct per question.
- Topics covered: Synonyms & Antonyms, Vocabulary, Sentence Completion, Grammar, Idioms, One Word Substitution, Active & Passive Voice, Prepositions.
- Use of mobile phones, calculators, or electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited.

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

- (A) Laborious
- (B) Simple
- (C) Joyful
- (D) Hasty

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

- (A) Cruel
- (B) Charitable
- (C) Selfish
- (D) Arrogant

Q3. Choose the word that is most nearly **OPPOSITE** in meaning to **VERBOSE**.



- (A) Talkative
- (B) Eloquent
- (C) Concise
- (D) Dramatic

Q4. Choose the word that is most nearly **OPPOSITE** in meaning to **SERENE**.

- (A) Calm
- (B) Peaceful
- (C) Tranquil
- (D) Agitated

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

- (A) Articulate
- (B) Hesitant
- (C) Dull
- (D) Clumsy

Q6. Choose the word that is most nearly **OPPOSITE** in meaning to **FRUGAL**.

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

Q7. The word **CANDID** most closely means:

- (A) Secretive
- (B) Formal
- (C) Frank and honest
- (D) Nervous



Q8. Choose the word that best fits the blank:

“The CEO was known for her _____ approach — she left no detail unchecked before making a decision.”

- (A) Impulsive
- (B) Careless
- (C) Hasty
- (D) Meticulous

Q9. The word **PRAGMATIC** most closely means:

- (A) Practical and realistic
- (B) Idealistic
- (C) Impractical
- (D) Theoretical

Q10. **OPAQUE**, in the context of communication, means:

- (A) Transparent and clear
- (B) Difficult to understand
- (C) Bright and vivid
- (D) Simple and direct

Q11. Choose the word that best replaces the underlined word in the sentence:

“The auditor gave a scrupulous examination of every account in the ledger.”

- (A) Careless
- (B) Hasty
- (C) Thorough
- (D) Brief

Q12. Choose the option that best fills the two blanks:

“The fashion industry is _____ evolving; what is _____ today may be out-dated tomorrow.”



- (A) slowly ... timeless
- (B) rarely ... fashionable
- (C) never ... classic
- (D) constantly ... trendy

Q13. Choose the grammatically correct word to fill the blank:

“Despite the heavy rain, the event was well _____ by the students.”

- (A) Attended
- (B) Avoiding
- (C) Attendance
- (D) Attend

Q14. Choose the best option to complete the sentence:

“She has been working on this project _____ two months.”

- (A) since
- (B) for
- (C) from
- (D) by

Q15. Choose the option that best fills the two blanks:

“The manager was _____ but her subordinates found her instructions _____ to follow.”

- (A) strict ... easy
- (B) lenient ... difficult
- (C) demanding ... difficult
- (D) polite ... impossible

Q16. Choose the word that best fills the blank:

“The speaker’s voice was so _____ that the audience at the back could not hear a word.”



- (A) loud
- (B) clear
- (C) powerful
- (D) faint

Q17. Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error:

“The team of players (A) are practising hard (B) for the upcoming (C) championship.”

- (A) are
- (B) for
- (C) championship.
- (D) No error

Q18. Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error:

“By the time I reached (A) the office, the meeting (B) has already started and the manager left (C) the room. (D) No error”

- (A) the office,
- (B) has already
- (C) the room.
- (D) No error

Q19. Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error:

“She insisted (A) that the report must be submitted (B) at the deadline, as the client was very particular (C) in timely delivery. (D) No error”

- (A) that the report
- (B) at the deadline,
- (C) in
- (D) No error

Q20. Identify the grammatically **CORRECT** sentence:



- (A) Neither of the two candidates were qualified for the post.
- (B) He is one of the students who has attended all lectures.
- (C) The number of errors are increasing each year.
- (D) The committee has decided to postpone the meeting.

Q21. The idiom “**hit the nail on the head**” means:

- (A) To describe exactly what is right or correct
- (B) To cause damage deliberately
- (C) To make a serious mistake
- (D) To work very hard on a task

Q22. The idiom “**bite the bullet**” means to:

- (A) Start a new project with great enthusiasm
- (B) Endure a difficult situation with courage
- (C) Refuse to cooperate with others
- (D) Act without thinking of consequences

Q23. The phrase “**burn the midnight oil**” means to:

- (A) Waste valuable resources
- (B) Fall asleep while working
- (C) Work or study late into the night
- (D) Celebrate after completing a task

Q24. The idiom “**break the ice**” means to:

- (A) Destroy an existing agreement
- (B) Start an argument over a minor issue
- (C) Avoid a difficult topic of conversation
- (D) Initiate a conversation in a social setting



- Q25.** One who can speak many languages is called a:
- (A) Polyglot
 - (B) Bilingual
 - (C) Linguist
 - (D) Diplomat
- Q26.** An abnormal fear of open or crowded public spaces is called:
- (A) Claustrophobia
 - (B) Agoraphobia
 - (C) Hydrophobia
 - (D) Acrophobia
- Q27.** The scientific study of heredity and genes is called:
- (A) Ecology
 - (B) Anatomy
 - (C) Genetics
 - (D) Pathology
- Q28.** Choose the correct passive voice form of the sentence:
“The director approved the new design.”
- (A) The new design is approved by the director.
 - (B) The director is approving the new design.
 - (C) The new design was being approved by the director.
 - (D) The new design was approved by the director.
- Q29.** Which of the following sentences is in the **passive voice**?
- (A) The report was submitted by the intern on time.
 - (B) The intern submitted the report on time.



- (C) The intern will submit the report tomorrow.
- (D) The intern is submitting the report now.

Q30. Choose the correct preposition to fill the blank:

“She is very good _____ designing clothes that appeal to young customers.”

- (A) in
- (B) at
- (C) on
- (D) for



Detailed Solutions

Q1.

Solution

Quick Solution: ARDUOUS means extremely difficult, requiring great effort. **LABORIOUS** also means requiring much effort and hard work — making it the closest synonym.

Concept: The word “arduous” comes from Latin *arduus* (steep, difficult). It describes tasks that demand great physical or mental exertion.

Steps:

- “Arduous” = hard, toilsome, demanding great effort.
- (A) **Laborious** = requiring much hard work; toiling. ✓
- (B) Simple = easy, not difficult — opposite meaning.
- (C) Joyful = relating to happiness/emotion, not difficulty.
- (D) Hasty = done quickly, not related to difficulty level.

Why other options are wrong: B, C, and D all fail to capture the sense of great exertion that “arduous” conveys. Only “laborious” shares the core meaning of requiring hard work.

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 1](#)

Q2.

Solution

Quick Solution: BENEVOLENT = well-meaning and kind. **CHARITABLE** = generous and kind, showing goodwill — the best synonym.

Concept: “Benevolent” comes from Latin *bene* (well) + *volens* (wishing). It describes someone who is kindly disposed and wishes good for others.

Steps:

- “Bene-” prefix = good/well (Latin); “-volent” = wishing.
- (A) Cruel = the direct antonym of benevolent.
- (B) **Charitable** = generous, showing kindness and goodwill. ✓
- (C) Selfish = caring only for oneself — antonym of benevolent.
- (D) Arrogant = having an exaggerated sense of self-importance — unrelated.



Why other options are wrong: A, C, and D are either antonyms or completely unrelated to the sense of goodwill and kindness that “benevolent” conveys.

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 2](#)

Q3.

Solution

Quick Solution: VERBOSE = using more words than necessary (wordy). The antonym is **CONCISE** = brief and to the point.

Concept: “Verbose” derives from Latin *verbosus* (abounding in words). An antonym must capture the idea of being brief rather than wordy.

Steps:

- Verbose = excessively wordy, long-winded.
- (A) Talkative = a synonym of verbose, not an antonym.
- (B) Eloquent = speaking well and persuasively, not necessarily brief.
- (C) **Concise** = giving a lot of information clearly and in few words. ✓
- (D) Dramatic = relating to drama/theatre — unrelated.

Why other options are wrong: “Talkative” is a near-synonym. “Eloquent” refers to quality of speech, not length. “Dramatic” is entirely unrelated.

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 3](#)

Q4.

Solution

Quick Solution: SERENE = calm and peaceful. Its antonym is **AGITATED** = troubled, restless, and disturbed.

Concept: “Serene” describes a state of peace and tranquillity. Its antonym must describe the opposite state of being disturbed or unsettled.

Steps:

- Serene = calm, peaceful, undisturbed.
- (A) Calm = a direct synonym of serene.
- (B) Peaceful = a synonym of serene.
- (C) Tranquil = another synonym of serene.



- (D) **Agitated** = anxious, troubled, restless — the antonym. ✓

Why other options are wrong: Options A, B, and C are all synonyms of “serene,” not antonyms. Only “agitated” captures the opposite state.

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 4](#)

Q5.

Solution

Quick Solution: ELOQUENT = fluent and persuasive in speech. **ARTICULATE** = able to express ideas clearly and fluently — the best synonym.

Concept: “Eloquent” relates to clear, expressive, and persuasive communication. “Articulate” similarly describes the ability to speak or express ideas clearly and effectively.

Steps:

- Eloquent = expressing ideas fluently and persuasively.
- (A) **Articulate** = having or showing the ability to speak fluently and coherently. ✓
- (B) Hesitant = slow or uncertain in speech — near antonym.
- (C) Dull = lacking interest/expression — antonym.
- (D) Clumsy = lacking skill or grace — antonym in context.

Why other options are wrong: B, C, and D all describe poor or awkward communication, which is the opposite of “eloquent.”

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 5](#)

Q6.

Solution

Quick Solution: FRUGAL = sparing with money, careful in spending. Its antonym is **EXTRAVAGANT** = spending excessively or wastefully.

Concept: “Frugal” describes someone who avoids unnecessary expenditure. The antonym must describe the opposite behaviour of spending freely without restraint.

Steps:



- Frugal = careful with money, avoiding waste.
- (A) Thrifty = a synonym of frugal (careful with money).
- (B) **Extravagant** = spending much more than necessary; lavish. ✓
- (C) Economical = a synonym of frugal (not wasteful).
- (D) Careful = a synonym in this context (cautious in spending).

Why other options are wrong: A, C, and D are all synonyms of “frugal” and thus cannot be its antonym.

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 6](#)

Q7.

Solution

Quick Solution: CANDID = frank, open, and honest in expressing one’s views or feelings. The correct answer is **Frank and honest**.

Concept: “Candid” derives from Latin *candidus* (white, pure). It describes someone who speaks truthfully and openly without concealment.

Steps:

- Candid = truthful, straightforward, not evasive.
- (A) Secretive = hiding information — the direct opposite of candid.
- (B) Formal = relating to manner/style, not honesty.
- (C) **Frank and honest** = exactly what candid means. ✓
- (D) Nervous = relating to emotion/state of mind, unrelated.

Why other options are wrong: “Secretive” is the antonym; “Formal” and “Nervous” relate to entirely different qualities unconnected to honesty.

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 7](#)



Q8.

Solution

Quick Solution: The context clue “left no detail unchecked” points directly to **METICULOUS** = showing great attention to detail.

Concept: Context clues within a sentence narrow down the correct vocabulary choice. “Left no detail unchecked” is the defining characteristic of a meticulous approach.

Steps:

- Key context clue: “she left no detail unchecked.”
- (A) Impulsive = acting without thinking — contradicts checking every detail.
- (B) Careless = inattentive to detail — direct contradiction.
- (C) Hasty = done quickly without care — contradiction.
- (D) **Meticulous** = very careful and precise about details. ✓

Why other options are wrong: A, B, and C all describe the opposite of careful, detail-oriented behaviour that the sentence describes.

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 8](#)

Q9.

Solution

Quick Solution: PRAGMATIC = dealing with problems in a practical, realistic way rather than following fixed theories. The answer is **Practical and realistic**.

Concept: “Pragmatic” originates from Greek *pragma* (deed, act). A pragmatic person focuses on practical results and real-world solutions rather than abstract ideals.

Steps:

- Pragmatic = focused on what works in practice.
- (A) **Practical and realistic** = exactly the core meaning of pragmatic. ✓
- (B) Idealistic = guided by ideals, often unrealistic — antonym of pragmatic.
- (C) Impractical = not sensible in practice — antonym.
- (D) Theoretical = concerned with theory rather than practice — antonym.

Why other options are wrong: B, C, and D all contrast with the real-world, results-focused approach that “pragmatic” describes.



Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 9](#)

Q10.

Solution

Quick Solution: OPAQUE in the context of communication means **difficult to understand** — not clear or transparent in meaning.

Concept: Literally, “opaque” means not allowing light to pass through. Figuratively, in communication, it means obscure, unclear, or hard to comprehend.

Steps:

- Literal opaque = not transparent (blocks light).
- Figurative opaque = not transparent in meaning = difficult to understand.
- (A) Transparent and clear = the antonym of opaque.
- (B) **Difficult to understand** = the figurative/contextual meaning. ✓
- (C) Bright and vivid = relates to light/colour, not communication.
- (D) Simple and direct = an antonym in context.

Why other options are wrong: A and D are antonyms of opaque in the communication context; C is a physical property unrelated to clarity of language.

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 10](#)

Q11.

Solution

Quick Solution: SCRUPULOUS = very careful and thorough, paying close attention to detail. The best replacement is **THOROUGH**.

Concept: “Scrupulous” describes someone who is diligently careful about doing things correctly and thoroughly. In the context of an audit, it signals extreme care and completeness.

Steps:

- Scrupulous = careful, precise, thorough, conscientious.
- (A) Careless = inattentive, the exact opposite.
- (B) Hasty = done quickly without care — contradicts scrupulous.
- (C) **Thorough** = complete with attention to every detail. ✓



- (D) Brief = short in duration — contradicts careful, detailed examination.

Why other options are wrong: A and B are antonyms; D (brief) contradicts the detailed, complete nature of a scrupulous examination.

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 11](#)

Q12.

Solution

Quick Solution: The sentence shows the dynamic, ever-changing nature of fashion. “**Constantly**” (first blank) and “**trendy**” (second blank) best complete the logical meaning.

Concept: The sentence contrasts something being fashionable now with it becoming outdated, implying rapid, continuous change. The two blanks must create a logically consistent and contextually accurate statement.

Steps:

- First blank: needs an adverb showing the pace of fashion’s change. “Constantly” = continuously. ✓
- Second blank: “trendy today” pairs logically with “outdated tomorrow.” ✓
- (A) “slowly ... timeless” — contradicts the idea of things going outdated quickly.
- (B) “rarely ... fashionable” — “rarely evolving” contradicts the premise.
- (C) “never ... classic” — “never evolving” is false and “classic” doesn’t go outdated.
- (D) **constantly ... trendy** — logically consistent and contextually perfect. ✓

Why other options are wrong: A, B, and C each create logical inconsistencies with the contrast implied by the sentence structure.

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 12](#)



Q13.

Solution

Quick Solution: “Was well _____” requires a **past participle**. “**Attended**” is the past participle of “attend,” giving the correct phrase “well attended.”

Concept: In passive constructions (was + past participle), or in adjectival use (well + past participle), the verb must be in past participle form.

Steps:

- The structure is: “was well _____.” This needs a past participle.
- (A) **Attended** = past participle of “attend.” “Was well attended” is grammatically correct. ✓
- (B) Avoiding = present participle/gerund — grammatically incorrect here.
- (C) Attendance = a noun — cannot follow “well” in this verbal construction.
- (D) Attend = base form of the verb — incorrect after “was well.”

Why other options are wrong: B is a present participle, C is a noun, and D is the base infinitive form — none of these fit the passive/adjectival construction required.

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 13](#)

Q14.

Solution

Quick Solution: “Two months” is a duration, so the correct preposition is **FOR**. “For” is used with periods/durations of time.

Concept: In English, “for” indicates a duration (how long), while “since” indicates a starting point in time. Other prepositions do not apply here.

Steps:

- “Two months” = a period of time (duration).
- (A) Since = used with a point in time (e.g., since Monday, since 2020). Incorrect for duration.
- (B) **For** = used with a period/duration of time (e.g., for two months). ✓
- (C) From = used with a starting reference point (from Monday to Friday). Does not fit here.
- (D) By = used to indicate a deadline (by Friday). Does not fit here.



Why other options are wrong: “Since” requires a point in time, not a duration. “From” and “by” serve entirely different grammatical purposes.

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 14](#)

Q15.

Solution

Quick Solution: The sentence sets up a contrast (“but”) implying a surprising or ironic result. **Demanding . . . difficult** best captures this contrast.

Concept: The conjunction “but” signals a contrast between the two clauses. The manager’s characteristic (first blank) should contrast with or lead to the surprising difficulty for subordinates (second blank).

Steps:

- “Manager was ____ BUT subordinates found instructions ____ to follow.”
- (A) strict . . . easy — “strict but easy” lacks contrast; a strict manager’s instructions being easy is not logical.
- (B) lenient . . . difficult — a lenient manager whose instructions are difficult is somewhat illogical.
- (C) **demanding . . . difficult** — consistent: a demanding manager’s instructions are naturally difficult; this is the most logical pairing. ✓
- (D) polite . . . impossible — “impossible” is extreme and “polite” is a manner trait, not a management style that logically leads to impossible instructions.

Why other options are wrong: A creates a logical mismatch, B is illogical, and D uses an extreme word (“impossible”) that does not fit naturally.

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 15](#)

Q16.

Solution

Quick Solution: The context — “audience at the back could not hear a word” — implies the voice was very soft. The answer is **FAINT**.

Concept: The result (audience could not hear) provides the key contextual clue. The cause must be a voice that was too soft or quiet to carry to the back of the room.

Steps:



- Effect: “could not hear a word.”
- Cause must be: the voice was too soft/quiet.
- (A) Loud = the audience would definitely hear — contradicts the effect.
- (B) Clear = clarity helps hearing, not hinders it — contradicts the effect.
- (C) Powerful = a powerful voice carries far — contradicts the effect.
- (D) **Faint** = barely audible, very soft — explains why the audience could not hear. ✓

Why other options are wrong: A, B, and C all describe qualities of a voice that would help the audience hear, directly contradicting the stated result.

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 16](#)

Q17.

Solution

Quick Solution: “The team” is a collective noun and takes a **singular verb** in standard usage. “Are” (plural) is incorrect; it should be “**is**.”

Concept: Collective nouns (team, committee, jury, crowd) are treated as singular units and take singular verbs in standard British and Indian English usage: “The team *is* practising.”

Steps:

- Subject: “The team of players” — the head noun is “team” (collective, singular).
- Singular subject requires singular verb: “is,” not “are.”
- (A) **are** = plural verb; incorrect with singular collective noun. ✓ (Error is here)
- (B) for = correct preposition usage.
- (C) championship = correct noun used appropriately.
- (D) No error — there is an error in (A).

Why other options are wrong: Parts B and C are grammatically correct. The error is solely in the verb agreement at part A.

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 17](#)



Q18.

Solution

Quick Solution: In a narrative anchored in the past (“By the time I reached”), the past perfect “**had already started**” is required — not “has already” (present perfect).

Concept: When two past events are narrated with one happening before the other (indicated by “by the time”), the earlier event requires the **past perfect** (had + past participle). Present perfect (has/have + past participle) is used for events connected to the present.

Steps:

- “By the time I reached” = past reference point.
- The meeting starting happened *before* arriving — needs past perfect.
- Correct: “... the meeting **had already** started.”
- (A) “the office” = grammatically correct.
- (B) **has already** = present perfect; incorrect in a past-time context. ✓ (Error)
- (C) “the room” = grammatically correct.
- (D) No error — there is an error in (B).

Why other options are wrong: Parts A and C are correctly used. The tense error is specifically in part B.

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 18](#)

Q19.

Solution

Quick Solution: The correct collocation is “particular **about**,” not “particular **in**.” The preposition “in” at part C is the error.

Concept: In English, the adjective “particular” collocates with the preposition “about” when describing what someone is fastidious or careful about: “She was particular *about* timely delivery.”

Steps:

- Correct idiom: “particular about” (not “particular in”).
- (A) “that the report” = correct grammatical usage.
- (B) “at the deadline” = correct prepositional phrase (submitted at/by the



deadline).

- (C) **in** = incorrect preposition; should be “about.” ✓ (Error)
- (D) No error — there is an error in (C).

Why other options are wrong: Parts A and B are grammatically sound. The sole error is the preposition in part C.

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 19](#)

Q20.

Solution

Quick Solution: D is grammatically correct — “The committee has decided” uses singular verb “has” correctly with the collective noun.

Concept: Subject-verb agreement is the key grammar rule being tested. Each incorrect option has a specific agreement error.

Steps:

- (A) “Neither of the two candidates **were**” — “neither” is singular; should be “was.” ✗
- (B) “He is one of the students who **has** attended” — “who” refers to “students” (plural); should be “have attended.” ✗
- (C) “The number of errors **are** increasing” — “The number” is singular; should be “is increasing.” ✗
- (D) “**The committee has decided to postpone the meeting.**” — collective noun “committee” takes singular verb “has.” ✓

Why other options are wrong: A uses a plural verb with singular “neither”; B uses singular verb with plural relative pronoun reference; C uses plural verb with singular “the number.”

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 20](#)



Q21.

Solution

Quick Solution: “Hit the nail on the head” means to **describe exactly what is right or correct** — to pinpoint an issue or answer with precision.

Concept: This idiom originates from carpentry: hitting the nail precisely on its head drives it in perfectly. Figuratively, it means to identify or describe something with complete accuracy.

Steps:

- Literal image: striking a nail exactly on its head = precise action.
- Figurative meaning: being exactly right about something.
- (A) **To describe exactly what is right or correct.** ✓
- (B) To cause damage deliberately — unrelated to the idiom’s meaning.
- (C) To make a serious mistake — the opposite of being precisely right.
- (D) To work very hard on a task — relates to effort, not precision or accuracy.

Why other options are wrong: B, C, and D misinterpret the literal image of the idiom and miss its figurative meaning of being precisely correct.

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 21](#)

Q22.

Solution

Quick Solution: “Bite the bullet” means to **endure a difficult or painful situation with courage and without complaint**.

Concept: The phrase has military origins — wounded soldiers would bite on a bullet during surgery to bear the pain. Today it means to face something unpleasant stoically.

Steps:

- Historical origin: biting a bullet to endure pain of surgery without anaesthesia.
- Modern meaning: to accept something difficult and deal with it bravely.
- (A) Start a new project with enthusiasm — relates to beginning, not enduring.
- (B) **Endure a difficult situation with courage.** ✓



- (C) Refuse to cooperate — relates to resistance, not endurance.
- (D) Act without thinking of consequences — relates to recklessness, not courage.

Why other options are wrong: A, C, and D each describe entirely different behaviours unrelated to stoic endurance of hardship.

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 22](#)

Q23.

Solution

Quick Solution: “Burn the midnight oil” means to **work or study late into the night**.

Concept: Before electric lighting, people used oil lamps for illumination. Burning oil at midnight meant working through the night. Today, the phrase means to stay up very late to work or study.

Steps:

- Historical context: oil lamps used at midnight = working very late.
- (A) Waste valuable resources — misinterprets “burning” literally.
- (B) Fall asleep while working — the opposite of what the idiom means.
- (C) **Work or study late into the night.** ✓
- (D) Celebrate after completing a task — entirely unrelated.

Why other options are wrong: A, B, and D all misinterpret the idiom, either by focusing on the literal word “burn,” confusing it with exhaustion, or with celebration.

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 23](#)



Q24.

Solution

Quick Solution: “Break the ice” means to **initiate a conversation or do something to reduce tension in a social setting**.

Concept: Historically, “breaking the ice” referred to ships that broke through frozen water to open a path. Figuratively, it means to do or say something to reduce social awkwardness and start a conversation.

Steps:

- Historical image: icebreaker ships clearing a frozen passage = opening the way.
- Figurative meaning: overcoming social awkwardness to start interaction.
- (A) Destroy an existing agreement — misapplies the word “break.”
- (B) Start an argument over a minor issue — confuses “break” with conflict.
- (C) Avoid a difficult topic — the opposite; breaking the ice opens conversation.
- (D) **Initiate a conversation in a social setting.** ✓

Why other options are wrong: A and B misinterpret “break” as destructive or combative; C is the opposite of the idiom’s meaning.

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 24](#)

Q25.

Solution

Quick Solution: One who speaks many languages is called a **POLYGLOT**.

Concept: “Poly-” (Greek: many) + “glotta” (Greek: tongue/language) = one who speaks many languages.

Steps:

- (A) **Polyglot** = one who knows and uses several languages. ✓
- (B) Bilingual = one who speaks exactly two languages (“bi-” = two).
- (C) Linguist = one who studies linguistics/language scientifically; not necessarily a speaker of many languages.
- (D) Diplomat = a government representative; unrelated to language ability.

Why other options are wrong: “Bilingual” is too narrow (only two languages);



“linguist” refers to scientific study, not multilingual speaking; “diplomat” is a professional role, not a language descriptor.

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 25](#)

Q26.

Solution

Quick Solution: An abnormal fear of open or crowded public places is called **AGORAPHOBIA**.

Concept: “Agora” (Greek: marketplace, public space) + “phobia” (Greek: fear) = fear of open/public spaces.

Steps:

- Key: “open or crowded public spaces” = agora (marketplace/public gathering place).
- (A) Claustrophobia = fear of enclosed or confined spaces (“clastro-” = enclosed space).
- (B) **Agoraphobia** = fear of open or public spaces. ✓
- (C) Hydrophobia = fear of water (“hydro-” = water); also a symptom of rabies.
- (D) Acrophobia = fear of heights (“acro-” = peak/height).

Why other options are wrong: Each of A, C, and D names a different specific phobia — enclosed spaces, water, and heights respectively — none of which matches open or crowded public spaces.

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 26](#)

Q27.

Solution

Quick Solution: The scientific study of heredity and genes is called **GENETICS**.

Concept: “Genetics” derives from Greek *genesis* (origin). It is the branch of biology concerned with genes, heredity, and genetic variation in organisms.

Steps:

- Key: “heredity and genes” = genetics.
- (A) Ecology = study of relationships between organisms and their environ-



ment.

- (B) Anatomy = study of the structure of the body and its parts.
- (C) **Genetics** = branch of biology dealing with heredity and genes. ✓
- (D) Pathology = study and diagnosis of disease.

Why other options are wrong: Ecology, Anatomy, and Pathology are distinct branches of biology dealing with environment, structure, and disease respectively — none deals specifically with heredity and genes.

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 27](#)

Q28.

Solution

Quick Solution: “The director approved the new design” is in simple past active voice. The correct passive form is: **“The new design was approved by the director.”**

Concept: To convert active to passive:

- Active object becomes passive subject.
- Verb: “was/were + past participle” (for simple past).
- Active subject becomes “by + agent.”

Steps:

- Active: “The director [subject] approved [simple past] the new design [object].”
- Passive subject = “The new design.”
- Passive verb = “was approved” (simple past passive).
- Agent = “by the director.”
- (A) “The new design **is** approved” = present simple passive (wrong tense).
- (B) “The director is approving” = present continuous active (not passive).
- (C) “was being approved” = past continuous passive (wrong aspect).
- (D) **“The new design was approved by the director.”** ✓

Why other options are wrong: A uses the wrong tense; B is active voice; C uses past continuous passive, which would correspond to an active past continuous (“was approving”).



Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 28](#)

Q29.

Solution

Quick Solution: In passive voice, the subject receives the action rather than performing it. A (“The report was submitted by the intern”) is passive — “The report” is the subject receiving the action.

Concept: Passive voice structure: Subject + *be* verb + past participle (+ by + agent).

Active voice structure: Subject (doer) + verb + object.

Steps:

- (A) “The report **was submitted** by the intern” — “The report” (subject) receives the action; “was submitted” = passive construction. ✓
- (B) “The intern **submitted** the report” — active voice; intern is the doer.
- (C) “The intern **will submit**” — active voice, future tense; intern is the doer.
- (D) “The intern **is submitting**” — active voice, present continuous; intern is the doer.

Why other options are wrong: B, C, and D are all in the active voice, where the intern (the doer) is the grammatical subject performing the action.

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 29](#)

Q30.

Solution

Quick Solution: The correct collocation is “good **at**” when expressing skill or ability in doing something. The answer is **at**.

Concept: In English, the adjective “good” collocates with specific prepositions depending on meaning:

- “Good **at**” = skilled in / proficient at (followed by a skill/activity).
- “Good **for**” = beneficial to something/someone.
- “Good **in**” = non-standard in this context.

Steps:



- Context: “She is very good ____ designing clothes” = expressing skill/proficiency.
- (A) in — “good in” is non-standard when expressing skill; incorrect here.
- (B) **at** — “good at designing” = correct standard expression of skill. ✓
- (C) on — “good on” is not a standard collocation with an activity.
- (D) for — “good for designing” changes meaning to “beneficial for” rather than skilled at.

Why other options are wrong: “In” is non-standard for skill; “on” is not a valid collocation; “for” shifts the meaning to usefulness rather than proficiency.

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 30](#)



Answer Key

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

