FDDI AIST Verbal Ability

Sample Paper – 2

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 **PRUDENT**.

(A) Reckless

(B) Cautious

(C) Impulsive

(D) Hasty

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

(A) Severe and simple in style

(B) Luxurious

(C) Ornate

(D) Comfortable

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

(A) Weak

(B) Lazy

(C) Persistent

(D) Uncertain

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

(A) Proud

(B) Arrogant

(C) Vain

(D) Humble

Q5. Choose the word that is most nearly **OPPOSITE** in meaning to **LUCID**.

(A) Clear

(B) Confusing

(C) Vivid

(D) Coherent

Q6. Choose the word that is closest in meaning to **VIVID**.

(A) Bright and striking

(B) Dull

(C) Faded

(D) Unclear

Q7. Choose the meaning of the word **FLEETING** as used in the sentence:
"The fleeting moment of success made him realise how quickly things change."

(A) Lasting

(B) Significant

(C) Memorable

(D) Short-lived

Q8. Choose the word that is closest in meaning to **TIMOROUS**.

(A) Brave

(B) Confident

(C) Fearful

(D) Aggressive

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

(A) Energetic

(B) Weak and relaxed

(C) Angry

(D) Excited

Q10. Choose the word that best replaces **OBSCURE** in the following sentence:
"Her obscure remarks left the audience puzzled."

(A) Unclear

(B) Humorous

(C) Formal

(D) Inspiring

Q11. Choose the most appropriate word to fill the blank:
"The fashion designer's new collection was praised for its _____ use of traditional Indian textiles."

(A) wasteful

(B) careless

(C) ordinary

(D) innovative

Q12. Choose the option that best fills the two blanks:
"The student was _____ for the scholarship because she had maintained _____ grades throughout the year."

(A) rejected ... poor

(B) disqualified ... excellent

(C) selected ... outstanding

(D) praised ... average

Q13. Choose the grammatically correct option to fill the blank:
"The government has _____ a new policy to promote sustainable fashion."

(A) abolish

(B) announced

(C) announce

(D) abolishes

Q14. Choose the best option to complete the sentence:
"He has been learning French _____ he was a child."

(A) since

(B) for

(C) from

(D) until

Q15. Choose the option that best fills the two blanks:
"The athlete was _____ about her performance but remained _____ about the final result."

(A) confident ... certain

(B) doubtful ... excited

(C) nervous ... positive

(D) satisfied ... uncertain

Q16. Choose the grammatically correct option to fill the blank:
"The principal has _____ all students to maintain discipline in the school."

(A) requesting

(B) request

(C) requested

(D) been requesting

Q17. Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error:
"A bouquet of (A) fresh flowers (B) have been sent to (C) the event organiser as a (D) gesture of goodwill."

(A) fresh flowers

(B) have

(C) the event organiser

(D) gesture of goodwill.

Q18. Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error:
"(A) Despite of the bad weather, (B) the fashion show was (C) held outdoors (D) as planned."

(A) Despite of

(B) the fashion show was

(C) held outdoors

(D) as planned.

Q19. Identify the **grammatically incorrect** sentence:

(A) The cat sat on the mat.

(B) She has lived here for five years.

(C) Neither of the students was present.

(D) He goes to market yesterday.

Q20. Identify the sentence with a grammatical error:

(A) He is as tall as his brother.

(B) She writes better than I do.

(C) I am knowing the answer to this question.

(D) The team has played well today.

Q21. The idiom **"a blessing in disguise"** means:

(A) A hidden curse or problem

(B) Something that seems bad but turns out to be good

(C) A well-disguised gift

(D) An unexpected problem with no solution

Q22. The idiom **"under the weather"** means:

(A) Feeling unwell or ill

(B) Being sheltered from rain

(C) Working in an outdoor environment

(D) Being overly pessimistic

Q23. The idiom **"beat around the bush"** means:

(A) To exercise outdoors

(B) To discover something by chance

(C) To work very hard on a task

(D) To avoid getting to the main point

Q24. To be **"on the fence"** about an issue means to:

(A) Support one side strongly

(B) Create a physical barrier

(C) Be undecided between two choices

(D) Ignore the issue completely

Q25. One who kills his or her own mother is called:

(A) Patricide

(B) Matricide

(C) Fratricide

(D) Regicide

Q26. A person who studies the stars and planets scientifically is called:

(A) Astronomer

(B) Astrologer

(C) Cosmologist

(D) Physicist

Q27. A person who walks in their sleep is called a:

(A) Insomniac

(B) Narcoleptic

(C) Somnolent

(D) Somnambulist

Q28. Choose the correct passive voice form of:
"The teacher is correcting the papers."

(A) The papers are corrected by the teacher.

(B) The papers have been corrected by the teacher.

(C) The papers are being corrected by the teacher.

(D) The papers will be corrected by the teacher.

Q29. Which of the following sentences is in the **passive voice**?

(A) The chef is preparing the meal.

(B) The meal was prepared by the chef.

(C) The chef prepared the meal.

(D) The chef prepares the meal daily.

Q30. Choose the correct preposition to fill the blank:

"The new store is located _____ the corner of Main Street and Park Avenue."

(A) at

(B) in

(C) on

(D) by

Detailed Solutions

Q1.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Synonyms. PRUDENT = acting with care and good judgment = CAUTIOUS. Answer: B.

Concept — Synonyms: PRUDENT means acting with careful thought and showing wisdom in practical affairs. CAUTIOUS means being careful to avoid danger or mistakes. Both words convey the idea of careful, considered action before making a decision.

Step 1 — Matching the Meaning: PRUDENT implies wisdom and foresight in avoiding risk. CAUTIOUS implies attentiveness to potential problems and taking necessary precautions. These two words are closest in meaning.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Reckless): Means without caution or care; the direct opposite of PRUDENT.
- Option C (Impulsive): Means acting without thinking; the opposite of PRUDENT.
- Option D (Hasty): Means acting too quickly without due care; contrary to the careful nature of PRUDENT.

Final Answer: PRUDENT is closest in meaning to CAUTIOUS $\Rightarrow$ $\boxed{\text{B}}$

Answer: (B) Go Back to Q 1

Q2.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Synonyms. AUSTERE = plain and strict without luxury = "Severe and simple in style." Answer: A.

Concept — Synonyms: AUSTERE means severe or strict in manner or appearance; without comfort or ornamentation. It is often used to describe a stark, plain lifestyle or a minimalist design style that lacks decoration.

Step 1 — Matching the Meaning: AUSTERE = lacking decoration and comfort = "Severe and simple in style" (Option A).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (Luxurious): The direct opposite of austere; means rich and comfortable.
- Option C (Ornate): Means elaborately decorated; the opposite of the plain nature of AUSTERE.
- Option D (Comfortable): Opposite of the stripped-back, plain meaning of AUSTERE.

Final Answer: AUSTERE means "Severe and simple in style" $\Rightarrow$ A

Answer: (A) Go Back to Q 2

Q3.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Synonyms. TENACIOUS = not giving up easily = PERSISTENT. Answer: C.

Concept — Synonyms: TENACIOUS means holding firm to a goal or position and not readily giving up. PERSISTENT means continuing firmly in spite of difficulty or opposition. Both words describe a quality of steadfast determination and refusal to give in.

Step 1 — Matching the Meaning: TENACIOUS = determined and unwilling to give up = PERSISTENT (Option C).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Weak): The direct opposite of tenacious; implies lack of strength or determination.
- Option B (Lazy): Implies unwillingness to make effort; the opposite of tenacious energy.
- Option D (Uncertain): Implies doubt and lack of resolve; the opposite of tenacious conviction.

Final Answer: TENACIOUS is closest in meaning to PERSISTENT $\Rightarrow$ C

Answer: (C) Go Back to Q 3

Q4.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Antonyms. HAUGHTY = arrogantly superior. Opposite = HUMBLE. Answer: D.

Concept — Antonyms: HAUGHTY means showing an arrogant superiority toward others; looking down on people with contempt. The antonym must capture the idea of modesty and unpretentiousness, which is HUMBLE.

Step 1 — Identifying the Antonym: HAUGHTY = arrogant, condescending. Antonym = HUMBLE = modest, not arrogant (Option D).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Proud): A near-synonym of HAUGHTY, not its opposite.
- Option B (Arrogant): A direct synonym of HAUGHTY; cannot be its antonym.
- Option C (Vain): Means excessively proud of oneself; another synonym of HAUGHTY.

Final Answer: Antonym of HAUGHTY is HUMBLE $\Rightarrow$ $\boxed{\text{D}}$

Answer: (D) Go Back to Q 4

Q5.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Antonyms. LUCID = clearly expressed. Opposite = CONFUSING. Answer: B.

Concept — Antonyms: LUCID means clearly expressed and easy to understand; free from confusion or ambiguity. Its antonym must describe something that is hard to understand or unclear, which is CONFUSING.

Step 1 — Identifying the Antonym: LUCID = clear, easily understood. Antonym = CONFUSING = not clear, difficult to understand (Option B).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Clear): A direct synonym of LUCID, not its antonym.
- Option C (Vivid): Means bright and clear; a near-synonym of LUCID.
- Option D (Coherent): Means logically connected and clear; a near-synonym of LUCID.

Final Answer: Antonym of LUCID is CONFUSING $\Rightarrow$ $\boxed{\text{B}}$

Answer: (B) Go Back to Q 5

Q6.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Synonyms. VIVID = producing powerful, bright impressions = "Bright and striking." Answer: A.

Concept — Synonyms: VIVID means producing powerful feelings or strong, clear images in the mind; remarkably bright or intense in colour or detail. Option A, "Bright and striking," accurately captures this meaning.

Step 1 — Matching the Meaning: VIVID = intensely bright, visually strong, leaving a clear impression = "Bright and striking" (Option A).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (Dull): The direct opposite of VIVID; means lacking brightness or interest.
- Option C (Faded): Means lacking brightness or colour; the opposite of VIVID.
- Option D (Unclear): Means not distinct or not easy to see; the opposite of the clarity conveyed by VIVID.

Final Answer: VIVID means "Bright and striking" $\Rightarrow$ A

Answer: (A) Go Back to Q 6

Q7.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Vocabulary in Context. FLEETING = passing very quickly = Short-lived. Answer: D.

Concept — Vocabulary in Context: FLEETING means lasting only for a very short time; quickly passing. The sentence context ("how quickly things change") confirms that the moment of success was brief and transient.

Step 1 — Contextual Clue: "The fleeting moment of success made him realise how quickly things change." The phrase "how quickly things change" signals brevity. FLEETING = short-lived (Option D).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Lasting): The direct opposite of FLEETING; means enduring or

permanent.

- Option B (Significant): Does not capture the brevity or transience implied by FLEETING.
- Option C (Memorable): Does not capture the transient, quick-passing nature; something fleeting may not even be memorable.

Final Answer: FLEETING means Short-lived ⇒ D

Answer: (D) Go Back to Q 7

Q8.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Synonyms. TIMOROUS = showing nervousness and lack of confidence = FEARFUL. Answer: C.

Concept — Synonyms: TIMOROUS means easily frightened; showing nervousness or a lack of confidence. FEARFUL means feeling afraid or anxious. Both words describe a disposition toward fear or apprehension.

Step 1 — Matching the Meaning: TIMOROUS = nervous, afraid, lacking confidence = FEARFUL (Option C).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Brave): The direct opposite of TIMOROUS; means showing courage without fear.
- Option B (Confident): The opposite of TIMOROUS; means self-assured and not afraid.
- Option D (Aggressive): Unrelated; means ready to attack or confront, not fearful.

Final Answer: TIMOROUS is closest in meaning to FEARFUL ⇒ C

Answer: (C) Go Back to Q 8

Q9.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Synonyms. LANGUID = displaying weakness or fatigue; pleasantly slow = "Weak and relaxed." Answer: B.

Concept — Synonyms: LANGUID means having or showing a disinclination for physical exertion or effort; slow and relaxed in movement. It often describes a person who is pleasantly tired or lacking in energy without being distressed about it.

Step 1 — Matching the Meaning: LANGUID = slow, lacking energy, pleasantly relaxed = "Weak and relaxed" (Option B).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Energetic): The direct opposite of LANGUID; means full of energy and vigour.
- Option C (Angry): An unrelated emotion; LANGUID concerns energy level, not temperament.
- Option D (Excited): The opposite of the slow, calm quality of LANGUID.

Final Answer: LANGUID means "Weak and relaxed" $\Rightarrow$ $\boxed{\text{B}}$

Answer: (B) Go Back to Q 9

Q10.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Vocabulary in Context. OBSCURE = not clearly expressed = UNCLEAR. Answer: A.

Concept — Vocabulary in Context: OBSCURE means not clearly expressed or easily understood; it can also mean not famous or well-known. In the context "Her obscure remarks left the audience puzzled," the word means unclear or hard to understand.

Step 1 — Contextual Clue: "Left the audience puzzled" indicates the remarks were hard to understand. OBSCURE = UNCLEAR (Option A).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (Humorous): Unrelated; funny remarks would not necessarily leave an audience puzzled.

- Option C (Formal): Formal remarks can still be clear; does not match OBSCURE in this context.
- Option D (Inspiring): The opposite connotation; inspiring remarks would not leave people puzzled.

Final Answer: OBSCURE (in context) = UNCLEAR $\Rightarrow$ A

Answer: (A) Go Back to Q 10

Q11.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Vocabulary / Fill in the Blank. Context: praised collection; positive adjective needed = INNOVATIVE. Answer: D.

Concept — Vocabulary in Context: The sentence says the collection "was praised," which is a positive statement. The blank must be filled with a word that explains why it was praised. INNOVATIVE = introducing new ideas or methods; showing originality.

Step 1 — Contextual Clue: "Was praised for its ____ use of traditional Indian textiles." A praised collection would use textiles in a creative, novel, forward-thinking way. INNOVATIVE fits perfectly.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Wasteful): Negative connotation; a collection praised for wasteful use of material makes no sense.
- Option B (Careless): Negative connotation; a careless design would not be praised.
- Option C (Ordinary): Implies nothing special or creative; would not warrant praise for remarkable use of textiles.

Final Answer: The blank is best filled with INNOVATIVE $\Rightarrow$ D

Answer: (D) Go Back to Q 11

Q12.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Sentence Completion. Good grades → scholarship awarded. Selected + outstanding = logical pair. Answer: C.

Concept — Sentence Completion (Logical Coherence): The sentence sets up a cause-and-effect relationship introduced by "because": the student's grade performance (cause) determines the scholarship outcome (effect). The two blanks must be logically consistent with each other and with the "because" clause.

Step 1 — Logical Reasoning: The student "maintained ____ grades throughout the year" (cause) → she "was ____ for the scholarship" (effect). High grades lead to selection. SELECTED + OUTSTANDING (Option C) is the only pair where the cause (outstanding grades) logically produces the effect (selected for scholarship).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (rejected + poor): Internally consistent but does not match the sentence context implying strong performance.
- Option B (disqualified + excellent): Contradictory; excellent grades would not lead to disqualification.
- Option D (praised + average): Average grades usually do not earn competitive scholarships; logically inconsistent.

Final Answer: SELECTED ... OUTSTANDING forms the logical pair ⇒ $\boxed{C}$

Answer: (C) Go Back to Q 12

Q13.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Grammar (Present Perfect Tense). "Has ____" requires a past participle = ANNOUNCED. Answer: B.

Concept — Grammar (Present Perfect Tense): The present perfect tense is formed with "has/have + past participle." The sentence already provides the auxiliary verb "has," so the blank must be filled with the past participle of an appropriate verb.

Step 1 — Identifying the Correct Form: "The government has _____" → blank = past participle of "announce" = ANNOUNCED (Option B). "Has announced" is grammatically correct present perfect tense.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (abolish): Base form of a different verb; "has abolish" is grammatically incorrect.
- Option C (announce): Base form of the verb; "has announce" is incorrect.
- Option D (abolishes): Third-person singular simple present; does not pair with "has."

Final Answer: "has ANNOUNCED" is the correct present perfect form ⇒ B

Answer: (B) Go Back to Q 13

Q14.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Grammar (Preposition of Time). SINCE is used for a specific point in the past when an action started. Answer: A.

Concept — Grammar (SINCE vs. FOR): SINCE is used with a specific point in time ("since he was a child," "since 2010") to mark when a continuous action began. FOR is used with a period of duration ("for five years," "for a long time").

Step 1 — Applying the Rule: "He has been learning French _____ he was a child." The clause "he was a child" is a specific point in the past, so SINCE is the correct preposition.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (for): Used for a duration, not a specific starting point; "for he was a child" is ungrammatical.
- Option C (from): Non-standard usage here; "from he was a child" is ungrammatical.
- Option D (until): Implies the action stopped at a certain point, which contradicts "has been learning" (still ongoing).

Final Answer: SINCE is correct for a specific starting point in time ⇒ A

Answer: (A) Go Back to Q 14

Q15.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Sentence Completion (Contrast). Satisfied about performance + uncertain about result = logical contrast with "but." Answer: D.

Concept — Sentence Completion (Logical Contrast): The conjunction "but" signals a contrast between the athlete's feelings about her own performance and her feelings about the final result. The two blanks should contrast naturally and make real-world sense.

Step 1 — Logical Reasoning: "Satisfied" about her own performance (she did her best) + "but" + "uncertain" about the final result (the outcome is still unknown to her) = a realistic and meaningful contrast (Option D). This reflects a common experience: one can feel content with personal effort while still being unsure of the final outcome.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (confident + certain): Both words convey the same positive certainty; no real contrast is created with "but."
- Option B (doubtful + excited): Illogical pairing; doubt about performance would not naturally pair with excitement about results.
- Option C (nervous + positive): Possible but weaker contrast; nervous and positive is less coherent as a paired response.

Final Answer: SATISFIED . . . UNCERTAIN creates the best logical contrast $\Rightarrow$ $\boxed{\text{D}}$

Answer: (D) Go Back to Q 15

Q16.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Grammar (Present Perfect Tense). "Has ____" requires a past participle = REQUESTED. Answer: C.

Concept — Grammar (Present Perfect Tense): The present perfect tense is formed with "has/have + past participle." The sentence uses "has," so the blank requires the past participle of the appropriate verb.

Step 1 — Identifying the Correct Form: "The principal has _____ all students. . . " $\rightarrow$ past participle of "request" = REQUESTED (Option C). "Has requested" is grammatically correct.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (requesting): Present participle; "has requesting" is incorrect grammar.
- Option B (request): Base form; "has request" is incorrect grammar.
- Option D (been requesting): Would create "has been requesting" = present perfect continuous, which changes the tense and implies an ongoing repeated action rather than a completed announcement.

Final Answer: "has REQUESTED" is the correct present perfect form $\Rightarrow$ C

Answer: (C) Go Back to Q 16

Q17.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Grammar (Subject-Verb Agreement). "A bouquet" is singular $\rightarrow$ "has been sent," not "have been sent." Error is in Part B. Answer: B.

Concept — Grammar (Subject-Verb Agreement): The subject of the sentence is "A bouquet" (singular), not "flowers." The phrase "of fresh flowers" is a prepositional phrase modifying the subject but does not change the number of the verb. A singular subject requires a singular auxiliary verb.

Step 1 — Identifying the Error: "A bouquet of fresh flowers have been sent..." $\rightarrow$ "A bouquet" (singular) requires "has been sent," not "have been sent." The error is in Part B: "have."

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (fresh flowers): Grammatically correct descriptive phrase within the prepositional phrase.
- Option C (the event organiser): Grammatically correct as the recipient in the prepositional phrase.
- Option D (gesture of goodwill): Grammatically correct noun phrase used as an appositive.

Final Answer: Error is in Part B — "have" should be "has" $\Rightarrow$ B

Answer: (B) Go Back to Q 17

Q18.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Grammar (Preposition Usage). "Despite" never takes "of" after it. "Despite of" is incorrect. Error is in Part A. Answer: A.

Concept — Grammar (Preposition Usage): "Despite" is a preposition that directly precedes a noun or noun phrase without requiring "of." This is a common error in Indian English, where "despite of" is used by analogy with "in spite of." The correct form is simply "Despite the bad weather."

Step 1 — Identifying the Error: "Despite of the bad weather" $\rightarrow$ "of" is redundant and incorrect after "despite." Correct form: "Despite the bad weather." Error is in Part A.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (the fashion show was): Grammatically correct subject-verb phrase.
- Option C (held outdoors): Grammatically correct past participle phrase indicating location.
- Option D (as planned): Grammatically correct adverbial phrase modifying the action.

Final Answer: Error is in Part A — "Despite of" should be "Despite" $\Rightarrow$ $\boxed{\text{A}}$

Answer: (A) Go Back to Q 18

Q19.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Grammar (Tense Error). "He goes to market yesterday" uses present tense with a past time marker. Error is in Option D. Answer: D.

Concept — Grammar (Tense Consistency): A time marker like "yesterday" indicates a past event, so the verb must be in the simple past tense. Using a present tense verb ("goes") with "yesterday" creates a tense inconsistency that renders the sentence grammatically incorrect.

Step 1 — Identifying the Incorrect Sentence: "He goes to market yesterday." $\rightarrow$ "goes" (simple present) + "yesterday" (past time marker) = tense mismatch. Correct form: "He went to market yesterday."

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (The cat sat on the mat): Grammatically correct simple past sentence.
- Option B (She has lived here for five years): Grammatically correct present perfect with the duration marker "for."
- Option C (Neither of the students was present): Grammatically correct; "neither" requires a singular verb "was."

Final Answer: Option D is grammatically incorrect — "goes" should be "went" $\Rightarrow$ D

Answer: (D) Go Back to Q 19

Q20.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Grammar (Stative Verbs). KNOW is a stative verb and cannot be used in continuous form. "I am knowing" is incorrect. Error is in Option C. Answer: C.

Concept — Grammar (Stative Verbs): Stative verbs describe a state (mental, emotional, sensory, or possessive) rather than an action. They are NOT normally used in continuous (progressive) tenses. Common stative verbs include: know, believe, understand, love, hate, want, need, prefer, own.

Step 1 — Identifying the Error: "I am knowing the answer" $\rightarrow$ KNOW is a stative verb; it cannot be used in the continuous form. The correct form is simply: "I know the answer."

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (He is as tall as his brother): Correct comparative construction using "as ... as."
- Option B (She writes better than I do): Correct comparative construction using "better than."
- Option D (The team has played well today): Correct present perfect sentence with the time marker "today."

Final Answer: "I am knowing" is grammatically incorrect; correct form is "I know" $\Rightarrow$ C

Answer: (C) Go Back to Q 20

Q21.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Idioms. "A blessing in disguise" = something initially appearing negative but ultimately beneficial. Answer: B.

Concept — Idioms: "A blessing in disguise" refers to something that seems bad or unfortunate at first, but turns out to have a good or positive outcome. The word "disguise" indicates that the good nature of the situation is hidden at first glance.

Step 1 — Meaning of the Idiom: "A blessing in disguise" = a seemingly negative event that has a positive result = Option B ("Something that seems bad but turns out to be good").

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (A hidden curse): The opposite interpretation; the idiom refers to a hidden *blessing*, not a curse.
- Option C (A well-disguised gift): Too literal; misses the element of initial apparent misfortune.
- Option D (An unexpected problem with no solution): Opposite meaning; the idiom always has a positive outcome.

Final Answer: "A blessing in disguise" = something that seems bad but turns out to be good $\Rightarrow$ B

Answer: (B) Go Back to Q 21

Q22.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Idioms. "Under the weather" = feeling ill or unwell. Answer: A.

Concept — Idioms: "Under the weather" is an idiomatic expression meaning to feel sick, unwell, or not in one's best health. It is entirely figurative and has nothing to do with actual weather conditions.

Step 1 — Meaning of the Idiom: "Under the weather" = feeling ill or slightly sick = Option A ("Feeling unwell or ill").

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (Being sheltered from rain): Too literal; misinterprets the idiom by taking the word "weather" at face value.

- Option C (Working in an outdoor environment): Unrelated to the idiom's figurative meaning.
- Option D (Being overly pessimistic): Unrelated; the idiom is about physical health, not outlook or attitude.

Final Answer: "Under the weather" = Feeling unwell or ill $\Rightarrow$ A

Answer: (A) Go Back to Q 22

Q23.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Idioms. "Beat around the bush" = to avoid getting to the main point. Answer: D.

Concept — Idioms: "Beat around the bush" means to approach a subject in a roundabout way; to avoid talking about the main issue directly by discussing irrelevant matters first. It implies evasion rather than directness.

Step 1 — Meaning of the Idiom: "Beat around the bush" = approaching a topic indirectly, not coming to the point = Option D ("To avoid getting to the main point").

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (To exercise outdoors): Too literal; a misinterpretation of "bush."
- Option B (To discover something by chance): An unrelated meaning with no connection to this idiom.
- Option C (To work very hard on a task): The opposite connotation; the idiom implies avoidance rather than diligent effort.

Final Answer: "Beat around the bush" = to avoid getting to the main point $\Rightarrow$ D

Answer: (D) Go Back to Q 23

Q24.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Idioms. "On the fence" = undecided or neutral about an issue. Answer: C.

Concept — Idioms: "On the fence" means to be in a position of neutrality or indecision between two choices or sides of an argument. It implies not taking a definite side, remaining undecided or uncommitted.

Step 1 — Meaning of the Idiom: "On the fence" = not yet decided, remaining neutral or uncommitted = Option C ("Be undecided between two choices").

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Support one side strongly): The direct opposite of being on the fence; choosing a side means you are off the fence.
- Option B (Create a physical barrier): Too literal; misinterprets "fence" as a physical object.
- Option D (Ignore the issue completely): Different from being undecided; one who is on the fence is aware of both sides but has not chosen.

Final Answer: "On the fence" = be undecided between two choices $\Rightarrow$ $\boxed{C}$

Answer: (C) Go Back to Q 24

Q25.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: One Word Substitution. Killer of one's own mother = MATRICIDE. Answer: B.

Concept — One Word Substitution (Latin Roots): Many English words for killers of specific people derive from Latin. "Matri-" comes from the Latin word for mother (*mater*). The suffix "-cide" means an act of killing or one who kills. Therefore, MATRICIDE = the act of killing one's own mother, or one who commits this act.

Step 1 — Word Root Analysis: MATRI- (mother) + -CIDE (killing) = MATRICIDE = one who kills their own mother (Option B).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Patricide): PATRI- = father; patricide = the killing of one's own father.

- Option C (Fratricide): FRATRI- = brother; fratricide = the killing of one's own brother.
- Option D (Regicide): REGI- = king; regicide = the killing of a king or monarch.

Final Answer: Killer of one's own mother = MATRICIDE $\Rightarrow$ B

Answer: (B) Go Back to Q 25

Q26.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: One Word Substitution. Scientific study of stars and planets = ASTRONOMER. Answer: A.

Concept — One Word Substitution: An ASTRONOMER is a scientist who studies celestial objects such as stars, planets, galaxies, and other phenomena beyond Earth's atmosphere, using scientific and mathematical methods and empirical observation.

Step 1 — Distinguishing Similar Terms: ASTRONOMER (Option A) = one who studies celestial bodies scientifically using observation and data analysis.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (Astrologer): Studies the supposed influence of stars on human affairs; this is not a scientific discipline.
- Option C (Cosmologist): Studies the origin, structure, and large-scale evolution of the universe; a narrower sub-field of physics.
- Option D (Physicist): Studies matter and energy broadly; not specifically focused on stars and planets as celestial bodies.

Final Answer: A scientist who studies stars and planets = ASTRONOMER $\Rightarrow$ A

Answer: (A) Go Back to Q 26

Q27.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: One Word Substitution. One who walks in sleep = SOMNAMBULIST. Answer: D.

Concept — One Word Substitution (Latin Roots): SOMNAMBULIST comes from Latin: "somnus" (sleep) + "ambulare" (to walk). A somnambulist is a person who walks while asleep, a condition known as somnambulism or sleepwalking.

Step 1 — Word Root Analysis: SOMN- (sleep) + AMBUL- (walk) + -IST (one who does) = SOMNAMBULIST = one who walks in their sleep (Option D).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Insomniac): One who is unable to sleep or has great difficulty sleeping; an entirely different condition.
- Option B (Narcoleptic): One who suffers sudden, uncontrollable episodes of falling asleep; different from sleepwalking.
- Option C (Somnolent): An adjective meaning feeling drowsy or sleepy; does not describe the specific act of walking in sleep.

Final Answer: One who walks in sleep = SOMNAMBULIST $\Rightarrow$ $\boxed{D}$

Answer: (D) Go Back to Q 27

Q28.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Active and Passive Voice. Present continuous active $\rightarrow$ passive = "is/are being + past participle." Answer: C.

Concept — Active and Passive Voice (Present Continuous): To convert present continuous active to passive:

- Active: Subject + is/are + V-ing + Object
- Passive: Object + is/are + being + past participle + by + Subject

Step 1 — Applying the Rule: Active: "The teacher is correcting the papers." Object ("the papers") becomes new subject $\rightarrow$ "The papers are being corrected by the teacher." (Option C).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (are corrected): Simple present passive; does not preserve the continuous aspect of the original sentence.
- Option B (have been corrected): Present perfect passive; incorrect tense, changes the meaning.
- Option D (will be corrected): Future passive; incorrect tense, changes the meaning.

Final Answer: Passive of present continuous = "The papers are being corrected by the teacher" $\Rightarrow$ C

Answer: (C) Go Back to Q 28

Q29.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Active and Passive Voice. In passive voice, the subject receives the action and the agent is in a "by" phrase. Answer: B.

Concept — Active vs. Passive Voice: In **active voice**, the subject performs the action (Subject + Verb + Object). In **passive voice**, the subject receives the action (Subject + be + past participle + by + agent).

Step 1 — Identifying the Passive Sentence: "The meal was prepared by the chef." $\rightarrow$ Subject ("the meal") receives the action ("was prepared"); agent ("the chef") is placed in a "by" phrase. This is passive voice (Option B).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (The chef is preparing the meal): Active voice; subject "chef" actively performs the action.
- Option C (The chef prepared the meal): Active voice; simple past active sentence.
- Option D (The chef prepares the meal daily): Active voice; simple present active sentence.

Final Answer: "The meal was prepared by the chef" is in passive voice $\Rightarrow$ B

Answer: (B) Go Back to Q 29

Q30.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Prepositions. "Located AT the corner" = standard collocation for specific points and intersections. Answer: A.

Concept — Prepositions of Place: AT is used for specific points, precise locations, or intersections. "At the corner" is the standard English collocated phrase for a location situated at a street intersection or corner.

Step 1 — Applying the Rule: "Located ____ the corner of Main Street and Park Avenue" $\rightarrow$ AT is used for precise locations/points = "located AT the corner" (Option A). A corner is a specific point where two streets meet.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (in): Used for enclosed areas or larger regions ("in the city," "in a building"); not used for a corner point.
- Option C (on): Used for surfaces or streets ("on Main Street"); "on the corner" is sometimes used informally, but "at the corner" is the standard, more precise collocation.
- Option D (by): Means "near" or "beside," which is less precise than "at the corner" and does not specify the exact location.

Final Answer: "Located AT the corner" is the correct prepositional phrase $\Rightarrow$ $\boxed{\text{A}}$

Answer: (A) Go Back to Q 30

Answer Key

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