

FDDI AIST Verbal Ability

Sample Paper – 3

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. Which of the following is closest in meaning to the word **AMICABLE**?

- (A) Friendly and pleasant
- (B) Hostile
- (C) Cold and indifferent
- (D) Reserved

Q2. Which of the following is closest in meaning to the word **STRENUOUS**?

- (A) Easy
- (B) Demanding and vigorous
- (C) Relaxed
- (D) Light and simple

Q3. Which of the following is the **opposite** of the word **SOMBRE**?



- (A) Dark
- (B) Gloomy
- (C) Cheerful
- (D) Silent

Q4. Which of the following is the **opposite** of the word **COVERT**?

- (A) Open and unconcealed
- (B) Secret
- (C) Hidden
- (D) Subtle

Q5. Which of the following is closest in meaning to the word **VACUOUS**?

- (A) Meaningful
- (B) Full
- (C) Intelligent
- (D) Empty and without substance

Q6. Which of the following is the **opposite** of the word **RETICENT**?

- (A) Quiet
- (B) Talkative
- (C) Shy
- (D) Reserved

Q7. Read the sentence below and choose the meaning of the underlined word.

“The prodigal son returned after wasting all his inheritance.”

- (A) Responsible
- (B) Successful
- (C) Wastefully extravagant



(D) Hardworking

Q8. Choose the best word to fill in the blank.

“The sales figures for this quarter were _____ compared to the same period last year — a clear sign of growth.”

(A) dismal

(B) unchanged

(C) poor

(D) impressive

Q9. Which of the following most closely means **TURBULENT**?

(A) Characterised by conflict or disorder

(B) Calm

(C) Peaceful

(D) Predictable

Q10. Read the sentence below and choose the correct meaning of the underlined word.

“She was given ample time to complete the assignment.”

(A) Insufficient

(B) More than enough

(C) Exactly equal

(D) Limited

Q11. Choose the best replacement for the underlined word in the sentence below.

“The insolent student talked back to the teacher.”

(A) Polite

(B) Studious



- (C) Rude and disrespectful
- (D) Shy

Q12. Choose the correct word to fill in the blank.

“The audience applauded _____ when the designer unveiled the final collection.”

- (A) enthusiastically
- (B) enthusiasm
- (C) enthusiastic
- (D) enthusing

Q13. Choose the pair of words that best completes the sentence.

“The new collection was _____ received by critics, which was _____ since the designer had taken many risks.”

- (A) poorly ... expected
- (B) well ... disappointing
- (C) badly ... surprising
- (D) warmly ... surprising

Q14. Choose the correct word to fill in the blank.

“In this industry, success depends not _____ talent but also on networking.”

- (A) just
- (B) only
- (C) merely
- (D) solely

Q15. Choose the correct word to fill in the blank.

“The store was closed _____ the renovation was still in progress.”



- (A) although
- (B) because of
- (C) because
- (D) unless

Q16. Choose the pair of words that best completes the sentence.

“She was _____ by her team’s performance and felt _____ about the upcoming competition.”

- (A) disappointed ... hopeful
- (B) inspired ... nervous
- (C) surprised ... worried
- (D) impressed ... confident

Q17. Identify the part of the sentence that contains a grammatical error.

“(A) Each of the designs (B) are unique (C) and reflect (D) the designer’s personal style.”

- (A) Each of the designs
- (B) are unique
- (C) and reflect
- (D) the designer’s personal style.

Q18. Identify the part of the sentence that contains a grammatical error.

“(A) The dress that she (B) wore to the award ceremony (C) were designed (D) by a famous Italian fashion house.”

- (A) The dress that she
- (B) wore to the award ceremony
- (C) were designed
- (D) by a famous Italian fashion house.



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

- (A) “She has worked here for ten years.”
- (B) “Neither of the items was damaged.”
- (C) “The data were clearly showed that sales were rising.”
- (D) “His work has earned him a promotion.”

Q20. Identify the part of the sentence that contains a grammatical error.

“(A) Neither the manager nor the team (B) are responsible for (C) the error; it was (D) an oversight that everyone regrets.”

- (A) Neither the manager nor the team
- (B) are responsible for
- (C) the error; it was
- (D) an oversight that everyone regrets.

Q21. What does the idiom “**add fuel to the fire**” mean?

- (A) Extinguish a problem
- (B) Start a new project
- (C) Reach a compromise
- (D) Make a bad situation even worse

Q22. What does the idiom “**let the cat out of the bag**” mean?

- (A) Free a trapped animal
- (B) Accidentally reveal a secret
- (C) Cause a distraction
- (D) Create a new opportunity

Q23. What does the idiom “**once in a blue moon**” mean?

- (A) Every month



- (B) Frequently
- (C) Very rarely
- (D) Predictably

Q24. What does the idiom “**the tip of the iceberg**” mean?

- (A) The complete and full problem
- (B) The most difficult part of a task
- (C) The beginning of a project
- (D) A small visible part of a much larger problem

Q25. Choose the **one word** that best substitutes the given phrase.

One who does not believe in the existence of God.

- (A) Atheist
- (B) Agnostic
- (C) Theist
- (D) Deist

Q26. Choose the **one word** that best substitutes the given phrase.

The art of beautiful handwriting.

- (A) Typography
- (B) Calligraphy
- (C) Cursive
- (D) Graphology

Q27. Choose the **one word** that best substitutes the given phrase.

One who has an extreme hatred of women.

- (A) Sexist
- (B) Chauvinist



- (C) Misogynist
- (D) Narcissist

Q28. Choose the correct passive form of the following sentence.

“The company will launch the new product next month.”

- (A) The new product will be launching next month by the company.
- (B) The new product is launched by the company next month.
- (C) The new product has been launched by the company.
- (D) The new product will be launched by the company next month.

Q29. Which of the following sentences is **NOT** in the passive voice?

- (A) “The bridge was built in 1985.”
- (B) “The letter has been signed by the director.”
- (C) “The students submitted their assignments on time.”
- (D) “The meeting was postponed by the manager.”

Q30. Choose the correct preposition to fill in the blank.

“The new design policy conforms ____ international standards.”

- (A) to
- (B) with
- (C) by
- (D) at



Detailed Solutions**Q1.****Solution**

Quick Solution: Concept: Synonyms. AMICABLE = having a spirit of friendship; friendly and pleasant. **Answer:** A.

Concept — Synonyms: A synonym is a word or phrase that means exactly or nearly the same as another word. AMICABLE derives from the Latin *amicabilis* (friendly) and describes a relationship or atmosphere that is characterised by goodwill and absence of hostility.

Step 1 — Analyse the word: AMICABLE is commonly used in contexts such as “an amicable settlement” or “an amicable discussion,” both implying a cooperative and pleasant tone.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (Hostile): Directly opposite to amicable; hostility implies antagonism.
- Option C (Cold and indifferent): The opposite of warmth and friendliness.
- Option D (Reserved): Near-opposite; reserved implies restraint and lack of openness.

Final Answer: AMICABLE means friendly and pleasant ⇒ A

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

Q2.**Solution**

Quick Solution: Concept: Synonyms. STRENUOUS = requiring great effort or energy; demanding and vigorous. **Answer:** B.

Concept — Synonyms: STRENUOUS describes something that demands considerable physical or mental exertion. It is often used with words like “exercise,” “effort,” or “activity.”

Step 1 — Analyse the word: “A strenuous workout” or “strenuous objections” both reflect something that takes significant energy or force.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Easy): Directly opposite to strenuous.



- Option C (Relaxed): Implies a lack of effort; opposite in meaning.
- Option D (Light and simple): Contradicts the demanding nature of strenuous.

Final Answer: STRENUOUS means demanding and vigorous ⇒ **B**

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

Q3.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Antonyms. SOMBRE = dark and gloomy; sad and serious. Its antonym is CHEERFUL. **Answer:** C.

Concept — Antonyms: An antonym is a word that is opposite in meaning. SOMBRE conveys darkness, sadness, and seriousness. Its antonym must convey brightness and happiness.

Step 1 — Identify synonyms vs. antonym: Options A (Dark) and B (Gloomy) are synonyms of SOMBRE, not antonyms. Option D (Silent) is unrelated to the emotional register of SOMBRE.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Dark): A synonym of SOMBRE.
- Option B (Gloomy): A synonym of SOMBRE.
- Option D (Silent): Describes absence of sound; unrelated to mood brightness.

Final Answer: Opposite of SOMBRE is CHEERFUL ⇒ **C**

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

Q4.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Antonyms. COVERT = not openly acknowledged; secret or hidden. Its antonym is OPEN AND UNCONCEALED. **Answer:** A.

Concept — Antonyms: COVERT implies something done in a concealed or secretive manner (e.g., “a covert operation”). Its antonym must express openness and transparency.

Step 1 — Eliminate synonyms: Options B (Secret), C (Hidden), and D (Sub-



tle) all share or approach the meaning of COVERT. Only Option A captures the opposite meaning.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (Secret): A direct synonym of covert.
- Option C (Hidden): A synonym of covert.
- Option D (Subtle): Near-synonym; implies something not obvious or overt.

Final Answer: Opposite of COVERT is OPEN AND UNCONCEALED $\Rightarrow$ A

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

Q5.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Synonyms. VACUOUS = showing a lack of thought or intelligence; empty and without substance. **Answer:** D.

Concept — Synonyms: VACUOUS literally means empty (from Latin *vacuus*). It is used figuratively to mean lacking in thought, meaning, or substance (e.g., “a vacuous remark”).

Step 1 — Analyse the word: “A vacuous smile” or “a vacuous argument” both describe an absence of genuine content or intelligence.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Meaningful): The direct antonym of vacuous.
- Option B (Full): Opposite of the literal sense (empty).
- Option C (Intelligent): The direct antonym of the figurative sense.

Final Answer: VACUOUS means empty and without substance $\Rightarrow$ D

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



Q6.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Antonyms. RETICENT = not revealing one's thoughts; reserved and quiet. Its antonym is TALKATIVE. **Answer:** B.

Concept — Antonyms: RETICENT describes someone who is unwilling to speak freely or who is habitually silent. The antonym must describe someone who speaks freely and openly.

Step 1 — Identify synonyms vs. antonym: Options A (Quiet), C (Shy), and D (Reserved) are all synonyms or near-synonyms of reticent. Only TALKATIVE is the antonym.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Quiet): A synonym of reticent.
- Option C (Shy): Closely related; shyness often accompanies reticence.
- Option D (Reserved): A direct synonym of reticent.

Final Answer: Opposite of RETICENT is TALKATIVE ⇒ B

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

Q7.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Vocabulary in context. PRODIGAL = spending money or resources freely and recklessly; wastefully extravagant. **Answer:** C.

Concept — Vocabulary: PRODIGAL (adjective) means recklessly wasteful or extravagant. The sentence's context — "wasting all his inheritance" — directly confirms this meaning. The biblical "Prodigal Son" parable is the most famous usage.

Step 1 — Use context clues: The phrase "wasting all his inheritance" is the key contextual clue, pointing directly to extravagant, reckless spending.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Responsible): Contradicts "wasting all his inheritance."
- Option B (Successful): Contradicts the notion of wasting resources.
- Option D (Hardworking): The opposite of one who wastes rather than earns.

Final Answer: PRODIGAL means wastefully extravagant ⇒ C

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



Q8.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Vocabulary / Sentence Completion using context. “A clear sign of growth” requires a positive word. **Answer:** D.

Concept — Context Clues: The phrase “a clear sign of growth” at the end of the sentence functions as a positive result indicator. The blank must be filled with a word that is consistent with growth, i.e., a positive descriptor for sales figures.

Step 1 — Eliminate negatives: Options A (dismal), B (unchanged), and C (poor) are all neutral-to-negative descriptors and contradict the phrase “clear sign of growth.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (dismal): Means very poor; contradicts growth.
- Option B (unchanged): Flat figures cannot be a sign of growth.
- Option C (poor): Contradicts the positive signal of growth.

Final Answer: The correct word is IMPRESSIVE ⇒ D

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

Q9.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Synonyms. TURBULENT = characterised by conflict, disorder, or confusion. **Answer:** A.

Concept — Synonyms: TURBULENT (from Latin *turbulentus*) describes something in a state of unrest, agitation, or disorder. It applies to both physical phenomena (turbulent water) and figurative ones (turbulent times).

Step 1 — Analyse the word: “Turbulent markets,” “turbulent childhood,” or “turbulent flight” all imply instability and disorder.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (Calm): Direct antonym; implies peace and stillness.
- Option C (Peaceful): Direct antonym; free from disturbance.
- Option D (Predictable): Antonym; turbulence implies unpredictability.

Final Answer: TURBULENT means characterised by conflict or disorder ⇒ A

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



Q10.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Vocabulary in context. AMPLE = enough or more than enough; plentiful. **Answer:** B.

Concept — Vocabulary: AMPLE goes beyond “sufficient” — it means a generous or abundant quantity. “She was given ample time” implies she had more than enough time.

Step 1 — Distinguish from synonyms and antonyms: Option C (Exactly equal) misses the abundance implied by “ample.” Options A and D are antonyms.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Insufficient): The direct antonym of ample.
- Option C (Exactly equal): Ample implies a surplus, not an exact match.
- Option D (Limited): Contradicts the generous sense of ample.

Final Answer: AMPLE means more than enough ⇒ **B**

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

Q11.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Vocabulary in context. INSOLENT = showing a rude and arrogant lack of respect. **Answer:** C.

Concept — Vocabulary: INSOLENT (from Latin *insolens*) describes behaviour that is boldly rude or disrespectful. The act of “talking back to the teacher” perfectly illustrates insolence.

Step 1 — Use context clues: “Talked back to the teacher” indicates disrespectful behaviour, confirming Option C.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Polite): The direct opposite of insolent.
- Option B (Studious): Irrelevant; a studious student may still be insolent.
- Option D (Shy): Opposite; shy students rarely talk back.

Final Answer: INSOLENT means rude and disrespectful ⇒ **C**

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



Q12.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Sentence Completion — Parts of Speech. The blank modifies the verb “applauded” and requires an *adverb*. **Answer:** A.

Concept — Adverb Usage: Adverbs modify verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs. Here, the blank follows the verb “applauded” and describes *how* the audience applauded, so an adverb is required.

Step 1 — Identify the required part of speech: “The audience applauded [HOW?]” demands an adverb. ENTHUSIASTICALLY is an adverb (ending in *-ly*).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (enthusiasm): A noun; cannot modify a verb directly.
- Option C (enthusiastic): An adjective; modifies a noun, not a verb.
- Option D (enthusing): A verb form (present participle); grammatically inappropriate here.

Final Answer: The correct word is ENTHUSIASTICALLY (adverb) ⇒ A

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

Q13.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Sentence Completion — Logic and Coherence. “Warmly received” is positive; “surprising” fits because the designer took risks. **Answer:** D.

Concept — Contextual Logic: The second blank describes the reaction to the critics’ response given that the designer “had taken many risks.” Risk-taking typically raises doubt about success, so a positive reception would be *surprising*.

Step 1 — Analyse the logic: Taking risks → uncertain outcome → positive reception is unexpected → *surprising*. The first blank must then be positive: “warmly received.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (poorly . . . expected): If poorly received, it would be expected, but the logic of “risk = uncertainty” makes a bad outcome less surprising, not more.



- Option B (well ... disappointing): A well-received collection cannot be disappointing simultaneously.
- Option C (badly ... surprising): A bad outcome after risk-taking is plausible but less logically surprising than a good one.

Final Answer: The correct pair is WARMLY ... SURPRISING ⇒ D

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

Q14.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Sentence Completion — Correlative Conjunctions. The standard pair is “not *only* ... but also.” **Answer:** B.

Concept — Correlative Conjunctions: In English, the correlative conjunction “not *only* ... but also” is a fixed phrase used to add emphasis. It is the only form that pairs naturally and idiomatically with “but also.”

Step 1 — Apply the rule: “Success depends not only talent but also on network-ing” — the pair “not *only* ... but also” is grammatically and idiomatically correct.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (just): “Not just ... but also” is acceptable informally but is less standard than “not *only*.”
- Option C (merely): “Not merely ... but also” is acceptable but less idiomatic.
- Option D (solely): “Not solely ... but also” is grammatically awkward.

Final Answer: The correct word is ONLY (“not *only* ... but also”) ⇒ B

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

Q15.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Sentence Completion — Conjunctions. The blank introduces a reason clause (finite clause), requiring BECAUSE. **Answer:** C.

Concept — Cause and Effect Conjunctions: BECAUSE introduces a finite clause (subject + verb) giving the reason for the main clause. BECAUSE OF is a preposition and must be followed by a noun phrase, not a clause.

Step 1 — Identify the clause structure: “The renovation was still in progress” =



subject + verb = a finite clause. Therefore, a conjunction (BECAUSE) is required, not a preposition (BECAUSE OF).

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (although): Introduces a contrast/concession clause, not a reason.
- Option B (because of): A preposition requiring a noun phrase (e.g., “because of the renovation”), not a full clause.
- Option D (unless): Introduces a conditional clause (“unless X, Y”), not a reason.

Final Answer: The correct word is BECAUSE ⇒ C

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

Q16.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Sentence Completion — Logical Consistency. Being IMPRESSED leads to feeling CONFIDENT. **Answer:** D.

Concept — Semantic Coherence: Both blanks must be logically consistent with each other. If she felt positively about her team’s performance (first blank), her outlook for the upcoming competition should also be positive (second blank).

Step 1 — Test Option D: “Impressed by her team” = positive reaction to performance. “Confident about the competition” = positive outlook. The two are logically consistent and reinforce each other.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (disappointed ... hopeful): Disappointed (negative) leading to hopeful (positive) is contradictory without additional context.
- Option B (inspired ... nervous): Inspired (positive) should not naturally lead to nervous (negative).
- Option C (surprised ... worried): Surprised is neutral; worried is negative. Inconsistent pairing.

Final Answer: The correct pair is IMPRESSED ... CONFIDENT ⇒ D

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



Q17.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Grammar — Subject–Verb Agreement. “Each” is singular → requires singular verb “IS,” not “ARE.” The error is in part (B). **Answer:** A.

Concept — Subject–Verb Agreement with “Each”: The indefinite pronoun “each” is always singular in standard English, even when followed by “of + plural noun” (e.g., “each of the designs”). The verb must therefore be singular: *is*, not *are*.

Step 1 — Identify the subject and verb: Subject = “Each” (singular). Verb = “are” (plural). This is a subject–verb agreement error.

Correction: “Each of the designs **is** unique and reflects the designer’s personal style.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (and reflect): Part C in the original; “reflect” agreeing with “designs” is acceptable as a compound predicate if “is” is corrected first, but the question flags only the primary error.
- Option C (the designer’s personal style): Grammatically correct as a noun phrase.
- Option D (No error): Incorrect; there is a clear subject–verb agreement error.

Final Answer: Error is in Part (B) “are” — should be “is” ⇒ **B**

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

Q18.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Grammar — Subject–Verb Agreement. Singular subject “dress” requires singular verb “WAS,” not “WERE.” The error is in part (C). **Answer:** C.

Concept — Subject–Verb Agreement: The relative clause “that she wore to the award ceremony” is a modifier; the true subject of the main verb is “The dress” (singular). The verb must therefore be “was designed,” not “were designed.”

Step 1 — Identify the true subject: “The dress [*that she wore to the award ceremony*] were designed by a famous Italian fashion house.”



Subject = “The dress” (singular) → Verb must be “was designed.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (The dress that she): Grammatically correct noun phrase with relative pronoun.
- Option C (were designed): This IS the part containing the error — “were designed” should be “was designed”; answer is C.
- Option D (by a famous Italian fashion house): Correct prepositional phrase.

Final Answer: Error is “were designed” — should be “was designed” ⇒ C

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

Q19.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Grammar — Passive Voice Construction. “Were clearly showed” mixes passive auxiliary “were” with active past tense “showed” incorrectly. **Answer:** C.

Concept — Passive Voice Formation: Passive voice = auxiliary BE + past participle. The past participle of “show” is “shown,” not “showed.” The sentence “The data were clearly showed” incorrectly uses the simple past “showed” instead of the past participle “shown.”

Step 1 — Correct form:

- Active: “The data clearly showed that sales were rising.” (correct)
- Passive: “The data were clearly **shown** to indicate rising sales.” (correct)
- As written: “The data were clearly **showed**” (incorrect mix)

Why other options are correct:

- Option A: “She has worked here for ten years” — correct present perfect.
- Option B: “Neither of the items was damaged” — singular “neither” with singular “was”; correct.
- Option D: “His work has earned him a promotion” — correct present perfect.

Final Answer: The incorrect sentence is Option C ⇒ C

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



Q20.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Grammar — Subject–Verb Agreement with “Neither ... nor.” The verb agrees with the nearer subject; “team” (singular) requires “IS,” not “ARE.” The error is in Part (B) “are responsible.” **Answer:** B.

Concept — Proximity Rule with “Neither ... nor”: When using “neither ... nor,” the verb agrees with the subject *closer* to it (the proximity rule). Here, “the team” (singular) is closer to the verb, so the verb must be singular: “is responsible,” not “are responsible.”

Step 1 — Apply the proximity rule: “Neither the manager *nor* the team [singular] are [plural] responsible” → Error. Correct: “**is** responsible.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (are responsible for): This IS the part containing the error — “are responsible” should be “is responsible”; answer is B.
- Option C (the error; it was): Correctly structured with a semicolon and pronoun reference.
- Option D (an oversight that everyone regrets): Grammatically correct relative clause.

Final Answer: Error is in Part (B) “are responsible” — should be “is responsible”
⇒ B

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

Q21.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Idioms. “Add fuel to the fire” = to make a bad situation even worse by introducing further provocation or problems. **Answer:** D.

Concept — Idiom Meaning: This idiom comes from the literal image of adding fuel (wood, oil) to a fire, making it burn more intensely. Figuratively, it means to intensify a conflict or negative situation by adding more provocative elements.

Step 1 — Literal to figurative mapping: Fire = existing problem/conflict. Adding fuel = doing something that intensifies it. Result = worse situation.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Extinguish a problem): The opposite; fire should worsen, not be



put out.

- Option B (Start a new project): Unrelated; the idiom refers to worsening existing situations.
- Option C (Reach a compromise): Compromise implies resolution; the idiom implies escalation.

Final Answer: “Add fuel to the fire” means make a bad situation even worse ⇒

D

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

Q22.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Idioms. “Let the cat out of the bag” = to accidentally reveal a secret. **Answer:** B.

Concept — Idiom Origin: This idiom originates from the practice of substituting a worthless cat for a pig in a bag at markets; if the bag was opened (“the cat was let out”), the deception was revealed. Figuratively, it means to accidentally disclose secret information.

Step 1 — Confirm the figurative meaning: The emphasis is on *accidental* revelation of a *secret* — both elements are captured in Option B.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Free a trapped animal): This is too literal an interpretation.
- Option C (Cause a distraction): Does not involve revealing information.
- Option D (Create a new opportunity): Unrelated to secrets or revelation.

Final Answer: “Let the cat out of the bag” means accidentally reveal a secret ⇒

B

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



Q23.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Idioms. “Once in a blue moon” = something that happens very rarely. **Answer:** C.

Concept — Idiom Origin: A “blue moon” refers to the rare occurrence of a second full moon within a single calendar month (approximately every 2–3 years). The phrase therefore denotes something that happens very infrequently.

Step 1 — Identify frequency: The word “once” combined with “blue moon” (rare event) signals extremely low frequency.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Every month): Contradicts the rarity; a blue moon is the opposite of monthly.
- Option B (Frequently): The direct opposite of the idiom’s meaning.
- Option D (Predictably): Rarity and unpredictability go together; a blue moon is not predictable.

Final Answer: “Once in a blue moon” means very rarely ⇒ C

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

Q24.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Idioms. “The tip of the iceberg” = a small visible part of a much larger, mostly hidden problem. **Answer:** D.

Concept — Idiom Origin: Icebergs are known for showing only about 10% of their mass above water, with 90% submerged and hidden. The idiom captures the idea that what is visible or known is only a fraction of the full reality.

Step 1 — Apply the metaphor: Tip (visible part) = what is apparent. Iceberg (full mass, mostly hidden) = the larger underlying problem.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (The complete and full problem): The opposite; the tip is a small fraction, not the whole.
- Option B (The most difficult part): The iceberg metaphor is about scale and visibility, not difficulty.



- Option C (The beginning of a project): Unrelated to the hidden-majority concept.

Final Answer: “The tip of the iceberg” means a small visible part of a much larger problem ⇒

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

Q25.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: One Word Substitution. One who does not believe in the existence of God = ATHEIST. **Answer:** A.

Concept — One Word Substitution: These questions test the ability to replace a descriptive phrase with a precise single word.

Step 1 — Distinguish related terms:

- ATHEIST: Actively disbelieves in or denies the existence of God.
- AGNOSTIC: Believes the existence of God is unknown or unknowable.
- THEIST: Believes in the existence of God.
- DEIST: Believes God created the universe but does not intervene in it.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (Agnostic): Holds uncertainty about God’s existence, not outright disbelief.
- Option C (Theist): Believes in God; opposite of the definition.
- Option D (Deist): Believes in a creator God who does not intervene; still believes in God.

Final Answer: One who does not believe in God = ATHEIST ⇒

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



Q26.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: One Word Substitution. The art of beautiful handwriting = CALLIGRAPHY. **Answer:** B.

Concept — One Word Substitution: CALLIGRAPHY comes from Greek *kallos* (beauty) + *graphia* (writing). It refers specifically to the art of producing decorative, visually appealing handwriting.

Step 1 — Distinguish related terms:

- **TYPOGRAPHY:** The design and arrangement of printed type; not handwriting.
- **CURSIVE:** A style of connected handwriting; a technique, not the art form itself.
- **GRAPHOLOGY:** Analysis of handwriting to infer personality; not an art form.

Why other options are wrong:

- **Option A (Typography):** Concerns printed/digital typefaces, not handwriting.
- **Option C (Cursive):** Describes a handwriting style but not the art of beautiful writing.
- **Option D (Graphology):** A pseudo-scientific analysis tool, not an art form.

Final Answer: Art of beautiful handwriting = CALLIGRAPHY ⇒ **B**

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

Q27.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: One Word Substitution. One who has an extreme hatred of women = MISOGYNIST. **Answer:** C.

Concept — One Word Substitution: MISOGYNIST comes from Greek *misos* (hatred) + *gyne* (woman). It specifically denotes a person who hates or has strong prejudice against women.

Step 1 — Distinguish related terms:

- **SEXIST:** One who discriminates based on sex (broader term, not necessarily hate).



- CHAUVINIST: Originally means excessive patriotism; in modern use, male chauvinist = one who believes men are superior to women.
- NARCISSIST: One who has excessive self-love; unrelated to women.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (Sexist): Broader; covers gender discrimination of any kind.
- Option B (Chauvinist): Relates to a sense of superiority, not necessarily extreme hatred.
- Option D (Narcissist): Refers to self-obsession; completely unrelated.

Final Answer: One who hates women = MISOGYNIST ⇒ C

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

Q28.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Active and Passive Voice. Future simple active → Future simple passive = will + be + past participle. **Answer:** D.

Concept — Future Simple Passive:

- Active: Subject + **will** + base verb + object.
- Passive: Object (now subject) + **will be** + past participle + by + agent.

Step 1 — Apply the formula: Active: “The company will launch the new product next month.”

Passive: “The new product **will be launched** by the company next month.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A (will be launching): Future continuous passive — incorrect tense form.
- Option B (is launched ... next month): Present simple passive — wrong tense.
- Option C (has been launched): Present perfect passive — wrong tense; omits “next month.”

Final Answer: Correct passive = will be launched by the company next month ⇒

D

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



Q29.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Active and Passive Voice. Identify the sentence NOT in passive voice. Option C uses active voice. **Answer:** C.

Concept — Active vs. Passive Voice:

- Passive voice = subject receives the action; contains auxiliary BE + past participle.
- Active voice = subject performs the action; no BE + past participle construction.

Step 1 — Analyse each sentence:

- A: “The bridge **was built**” — passive (was + built).
- B: “The letter **has been signed**” — passive (has been + signed).
- C: “The students **submitted** their assignments” — active (students perform the action).
- D: “The meeting **was postponed**” — passive (was + postponed).

Why other options are wrong:

- Options A, B, D: All use auxiliary BE (or HAVE + BEEN) + past participle = passive constructions.

Final Answer: The sentence NOT in passive voice is Option C ⇒ C

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

Q30.

Solution

Quick Solution: Concept: Prepositions — Collocations. “Conform TO” is the correct prepositional collocate. **Answer:** A.

Concept — Prepositional Collocations: Many verbs in English have fixed prepositions that follow them (collocations). The verb CONFORM is always followed by TO when indicating compliance with a standard or rule.

Step 1 — Recall the collocation: “Conform to” = to comply with, adhere to, or be consistent with (rules, standards, expectations).

Examples: “The building conforms to safety standards.” “The product must con-



form to EU regulations.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B (with): “Conform with” is occasionally used in informal British English but is non-standard; “conform to” is the accepted form.
- Option C (by): Not a collocate of “conform.”
- Option D (at): Not a collocate of “conform.”

Final Answer: “Conforms TO international standards” is correct ⇒ A

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



Answer Key

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

