CUET UG 2026 English Question Paper 11 May Shift 1

NATIONAL TESTING AGENCY
Excellence in Assessment

General Instructions

(i) This question paper contains 50 questions. All questions are compulsory.

(ii) It comprises 50 single-correct multiple-choice questions.

(iii) These questions follow the CUET (UG) examination pattern.

(iv) Each correct answer is awarded +5 marks, with -1 for an incorrect answer.

(v) The time allotted for this paper is 60 minutes.

(vi) Attempt every question; detailed solutions are provided in the companion solutions booklet.

1. Rearrange the following phrases to complete the beginning of the given sentence:

Scientists and Naturals believe,

A. that early humans were fruit and vegetable eaters

B. our anatomy has not changed

C. including the great Charles Darwin who gave the theory of evolution,

D. and throughout history

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:-

(A) A, C, B, D

(B) C, A, B, D

(C) C, A, D, B

(D) A, B, D, C

2. Rearrange the following phrases to form a meaningful sentence:-

A. species continue to live through

B. by natural or anthropogenic extinction

C. while individual organisms die without fail,

D. millions of years unless threatened

Choose the **most appropriate** answer from the options given below:

(A) C, A, D, B

(B) C, B, D, A

(C) A, C, D, B

(D) A, B, C, D

3. Rearrange the following phrases to form a meaningful sentence:

A. to understand the cause of difficulties

B. in which the counsellor helps the clients

C. and guide them to sort out issues

D. counselling is an interactive process

Choose the **most appropriate** answer from the options given below:-

(A) D, C, A, B

(B) A, B, C, D

(C) D, B, A, C

(D) C, D, B, A

4. Rearrange the following phrases to form a meaningful sentence:

A. within the country and internationally, for many reasons

B. with globalization

C. where people travel from one place to another,

D. the world has become a small place

Choose the **most appropriate** answer from the options given below:

(A) A, C, D, B

(B) C, D, B, A

(C) D, B, A, C

(D) B, D, C, A

5. Rearrange the following phrases to form a meaningful sentence:

A. Rama and Lakshmana accompanying sage Vishwamitra

B. distress the hermits by disturbing their meditative practices

C. to the forests to defeat the demons who would

D. another painting from the same set depicts

Choose the **most appropriate** answer from the options given below:-

(A) A, D, B, C

(B) D, A, C, B

(C) D, C, B, A

(D) C, D, B, A

6. Select the most appropriate word from the given options that has a similar meaning to the word: **BRITTLE.**

(A) Fragile

(B) Tangy

(C) Flexible

(D) Radiant

7. Identify the most appropriate word which is similar to the underlined word in the following sentence:
The first day at the new school is always a **MOMENTOUS** day for the students.

(A) Emotional

(B) Melancholic

(C) Sentimental

(D) Important

8. Select the most appropriate **antonym** to the underlined word in the sentence given below:
The judge appreciated the young speaker for his **IMMACULATE** style of speaking.

(A) Tidy

(B) Perilous

(C) Flawed

(D) Flawless

9. Select the correct pairs of antonyms from the given options:

A. feisty, frisky

B. feasting, starving

C. feline, cunning

D. fecund, barren

Choose the *correct* answer from the options given below:

(A) A and D only

(B) B and D only

(C) A, B and D only

(D) B and C only

10. Choose the most appropriate word from the given options to fill in the blank:

All the ministers paid homage and placed the ---------- on the platform.

(A) Wrath

(B) wreath

(C) rattle

(D) rattan

11. Choose the appropriate word from the options to fill in the blank:

As the structure was illegal, the authorities decided to_____ it.

(A) rise

(B) rays

(C) raise

(D) raze

12. Select the options that can substitute the given group of words:
One who cares about and helps others selflessly.

A. Altruist
B. Philanthropist
C. Benevolent
D. Philistine

(A) A and B only

(B) A and D only

(C) A, B and D only

(D) A, B and C only

13. Select the options that can correctly substitute the given phrase:

One who likes to fight-

A. cheeky
B. belligerent
C. bellicose
D. flippant

(A) A, B and C only

(B) A and D only

(C) A, B and D

(D) B and C only

14. Select the correct word from the given options to fill in the blank in the given sentence:

I am _____ to solve this problem today.

(A) determination

(B) determined

(C) determine

(D) determining

15. Choose the correctly spelled word from the given options :

(A) ingrediants

(B) ingredients

(C) ingradients

(D) engredients

16. Fill in the blank with the most suitable word from the options given below:-

The nurse asked the patient to _____ down and take some rest for speedy recovery.

(A) lain

(B) lie

(C) lay

(D) laid

17. Fill in the blank with the correctly spelled word from the options given below:

After signing the agreement with the authorities, the mood of the company's director became _____.

(A) ebulient

(B) ebullient

(C) ebbulient

(D) ebuleint

18. Fill in the blank in the given sentence with the most suitable word from the options given below:

She'll have a birthday present of one thousand rupees for five _____ years.

(A) Success

(B) Successive

(C) Successful

(D) Succeed

19. Fill in the blank with the most suitable word from the options given below :-

The Principal gave some _____ suggestions to the students and asked them to call off the strike.

(A) Alternate

(B) Alternating

(C) Alternately

(D) Altering

20. Fill in the blank with the most appropriate word from the options given below:

Although Sudhir did not get much time to prepare, yet he could present the topic ---------- before the board of directors.

(A) Effective

(B) Effectively

(C) Effectfully

(D) Affective

21. Choose the option which is grammatically correct:

(A) She is enough wise to decide on the right course of action.

(B) She is wise enough to decide on the right course of action.

(C) She is too wise to decide on the right course of action.

(D) She is wise rather to decide on the right course of action.

22. Fill in the blanks with the most suitable word from the options given below:

The desire for revenge is very dangerous_____ it does not diminish with time.

(A) whereas

(B) while

(C) because

(D) so

23. Select the appropriate word to fill in the blank:

Rahul thought he had a good chance to get the job _____ his uncle was on the company's board of directors.

(A) but

(B) yet

(C) since

(D) unless

24. Choose the option which best expresses the same sentence in **Passive voice**:

Every Monday, she paid him rent without fail.

(A) She had paid him rent every Monday without fail.

(B) Every Monday, he was paid rent by her without fail.

(C) Every Monday, he has been paid rent by her.

(D) He is paid rent by her, every Monday without fail.

25. Select the option that best expresses the synonym of the given word:

Mortify

(A) embarrass

(B) puzzle

(C) praise

(D) coax

26. Select the option which expresses the given sentence in **Indirect speech**:

The visitor said to Sameer," Why did your father drag you into this situation?"

(A) The visitor said to Sameer that why his father dragged him into this situation.

(B) The visitor asked Sameer why his father dragged him into that situation?

(C) The visitor asked Sameer why his father had dragged him into that situation.

(D) The visitor told Sameer why his father had dragged him into that situation?

27. Select the antonym of the given word: **Ostentatious**

(A) grand

(B) magnificent

(C) unobtrusive

(D) lofty

28. Match the idioms in **List-I** with their appropriate meanings in **List-II**

LIST-I (IDIOMS)	**LIST-II (MEANINGS)**
A. Black and blue	I. Sudden or unexpected shock
B. Bolt from the blue	II. To be the first to do something
C. Blaze a trial	III. To beat mercilessly
D. Blue blood	IV. Belong to the royal family

Choose the *correct* answer from the options given below:

(A) A - I, B - II, C - III, D - IV

(B) A - III, B - I, C - II, D - IV

(C) A - I, B - III, C - II, D - IV

(D) A - II, B - IV, C - III, D - I

29. Match the idioms given in List-I with the appropriate meanings in List-II

	LIST-I (IDIOMS)		LIST-II (MEANINGS)
A	Get into hot waters	I	Inexperienced
B	Green horn	II	To bribe
C	Give a wide berth	III	Get into trouble
D	Grease the palm	IV	To avoid

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(A) A - II, B - IV, C - I, D - III

(B) A - I, B - II, C - III, D - IV

(C) A - III, B - I, C - IV, D - II

(D) A - I, B - III, C - IV, D - II

30. Fill in the blanks in the sentences given in List I with the appropriate idioms given in List II :-

	LIST-I (Sentences)		**LIST-II (Idioms)**
A	Harassed by the repeated rebukes by the manager, the salesman decided to _____.	I	tall order
B	It is a _____ to control pollution in the cities.	II	my cup of tea
C	Swimming is not _____ as I have no courage.	III	bone of contention
D	The new flat is a _____ between the two brothers.	IV	put his foot down

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(A) A - I, B - III, C - II, D - IV

(B) A - I, B - II, C - IV, D - III

(C) A - II, B - III, C - I, D - IV

(D) A - IV, B - I, C - II, D - III

31. Select the correct words given in List-I to complete the sentences given in List-II :-

LIST-I		LIST-II
A laid off	I	The wise people always _____ money for old age.
B lay up	II	The workers were _____ due to financial problems.
C laid out	III	He always violated the rules _____ by the office.
D laid down	IV	The gardens were _____ with lawns and flower beds.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(A) A - II, B - III, C - I, D - IV

(B) A - IV, B - II, C - I, D - III

(C) A - II, B - I, C - IV, D - III

(D) A - I, B - III, C - II, D - IV

32. Match the phrasal verbs given in List-I with the meanings given in List-II

LIST-I		LIST-II
A Call off	I	visit a place to meet someone
B Call at	II	Demand
C Call out	III	Suspend or abandon
D Call for	IV	Ask to come for help

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(A) A - I, B - III, C - II, D - IV

(B) A - III, B - I, C - IV, D - II

(C) A - III, B - II, C - I, D - IV

(D) A - II, B - IV, C - I, D - III

33. Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate option :

Kindness is a quality that is alien ____ Harish.

(A) for

(B) to

(C) about

(D) of

34. Fill in the blanks with the most suitable option :

The two brothers quarrelled ____ the share of their ancestral property.

(A) for

(B) at

(C) over

(D) off

35. Match the Figures of speech given in List-I with their examples in List-II

LIST-I (Figures of speech)		LIST-II (Examples)
A Hyperbole	I	Dearth dwells in every nook and cranny of the slums.
B Simile	II	The fair, funny, fragile looking waif
C Personification	III	Malicious words are like bullets that tear through you.
D Alliteration	IV	The husband's cruel desertion broke her heart into smithereens.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(A) A - II, B - I, C - III, D - IV

(B) A - III, B - I, C - IV, D - II

(C) A - IV, B - III, C - I, D - II

(D) A - II, B - IV, C - I, D - III

36. Match the expressions given in List I with the appropriate figures of speech given in List II :

LIST-I (Phrases)	LIST-II (Figures of speech)
A. Her voice crowds up and down the lawn	I. Alliteration
B. He makes no friend, who never made a foe.	II. Personification
C. Singing in summer in full-throated ease	III. Hyperbole
D. Winter laid its icy hands over the city.	IV. Epigram

Choose the *correct* answer from the options given below:

(A) A - II, B - III, C - I, D - IV

(B) A - IV, B - I, C - II, D - III

(C) A - III, B - II, C - I, D - IV

(D) A - III, B - IV, C - I, D - II

37. Select the appropriate word to replace the given group of words:

The study of the structure, historical development and a relationship of a language.

(A) Philology

(B) Philately

(C) Petrology

(D) Phonetics

38. Select the appropriate option to fill in the blank:

The mob was _____ to indulge in a series of acts of arson.

(A) inspired

(B) instigated

(C) motivated

(D) animated

39. Fill in the blank with the correct word:

The _____ lady followed the sacrosanct rituals with full devotion.

(A) pious

(B) devious

(C) sacrilegious

(D) careless

40. Fill in the blank with the appropriate word:

His folly will surely _____ his ruin.

(A) bring out

(B) bring up

(C) bring about

(D) bring in

41.

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:-

There's a certain magic in the first chill of season… that moment when India's forests stir back to life. The sanctuary gates creak open, migratory birds return, and air carries that unmistakable scent of damp leaves and wild earth. In western Odisha, Dibrugarh Wildlife Sanctuary, near Sambalpur, is at the heart of this quiet awakening. Now on the cusp of being declared India's newest tiger reserve, it's drawing attention not just for its Wildlife, but for the people who have helped it thrive. Spread across forested slopes along the shimmering Hirakud reservoir, Dibrugarh is a revelation—serene, scenic, and full of small surprises. Mornings here are a melody of birdsongs echoing over still water. Spotted deer and langurs, dart through sal forests while eagles trace lazy circles in the sky. On Bot Island, thousands of bats hang like dark fruits from ancient trees. What was once an overlooked stretch of woodland is today one of eastern India's most inspiring stories of eco-tourism and community-led conservation.

At the edge of this wilderness lies Sambalpur, a city that rests gracefully along Mahanadi River. Its past stretches from the Chauhan dynasty to colonial days, and its present hums with trade, textiles, and temple bells. The river runs through it all, shaping lives, livelihoods, and legends.

A short drive away, Hirakud Dam stands as both an engineering marvel and landscape poetry, a structure that tames Mahanadi yet adds to its splendour. Built in 1950, it remains one of world's longest earthen dams. From Gandhi Minar viewpoint, the reservoir stretches like molten silver, dotted with fishing boats and green islets— same waters that cradle Dibrugarh's forests. Back in the narrow lanes of Sambalpur, looms click, and threads gleam. This is where the famed Sambalpuri ikat is born, each fabric a labor of precision and patience. During festivals, the city turns into a living gallery, women draped in ikat saris, men in handwoven kurtas—each garment carrying stories of skill, soil, and heritage.

Dibrugarh Wildlife Sanctuary is attracting tourists because of its-

(A) Wildlife

(B) Mahanadi River

(C) Community-led Conservation

(D) Engineering Marvel

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Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:-

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Identify the figure of speech used in the line 'Thousands of bats hang like dark fruits'.

(A) Alliteration

(B) Metaphor

(C) Personification

(D) Simile

43.

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Which of the following river runs through the city of Sambalpur?

(A) Western river

(B) Hirakund river

(C) Woodland river

(D) Mahanadi river

44.

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Identify the meaning of the underlined word in the line, 'this is where the famed sambalpuri ikat is born.'

(A) Gallery

(B) Handwoven fabric

(C) mass produced fabric

(D) Heritage

45.

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The main profession of the people in sambalpur is-

(A) Animal Training

(B) Wild life awakening

(C) Textile and weaving

(D) Engineering the dam

46.

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:-

One day several months ago, my elder brother, who was ninety-five years old then, called me, on phone from Rameswaram. He started the conversation by narrating an incident about my friend's visit to him. During the discussion, my friend asked my brother, "How old is your house?" He said, "The house was built by our father, more than a century ago. My younger brother, and my earning grandchildren have now come out with a proposal to build a new house in the same place after demolishing this one." My friend said he would not want to see such a historical place demolished. He was willing to make an arrangement through a trust to transform the house into a museum and library, while alternative accommodation was worked out for my brother and his family. My brother, was calling me, to say he was against the friend's proposal. "I would like to live in the house where I have grown and lived for ninety-five years. I would like to build a new house in the same place through the earnings of my kith and kin. I would not like to have any other arrangements. You thank your friend in a nice way". It struck me,—here is a man who would like to lead his life on his own terms and does not want any help, well-meant though it might be. It was a great learning for me, and I saw in my brother, a reflection of my father, who lived to 103 years and inculcated such a tradition in us.

Choose the best option to complete the sentence:

From the offer made by the narrator's friend, it's evident that the friend is-

(A) greedy

(B) an opportunist

(C) a Romanist

(D) an Antiquarian

47.

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Which among the following was not a topic of conversation between the narrator and his elder brother?

(A) Buying a new house for the narrator

(B) Transforming the house into a museum

(C) Transforming the house into a library

(D) Making arrangements through a trust

48.

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Choose the correct option to complete the sentence-
The narrator's friend did not want the house to be demolished because it was ___.

(A) a magnificent building

(B) a historical building

(C) an architectural marvel

(D) a newly constructed building

49.

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:-

One day several months ago, my elder brother, who was ninety-five years old then, called me, on phone from Rameswaram. He started the conversation by narrating an incident about my friend's visit to him. During the discussion, my friend asked my brother, "How old is your house?" He said, "The house was built by our father, more than a century ago. My younger brother, and my earning grandchildren have now come out with a proposal to build a new house in the same place after demolishing this one." My friend said he would not want to see such a historical place demolished. He was willing to make an arrangement through a trust to transform the house into a museum and library, while alternative accommodation was worked out for my brother and his family. My brother, was calling me, to say he was against the friend's proposal. "I would like to live in the house where I have grown and lived for ninety-five years. I would like to build a new house in the same place through the earnings of my kith and kin. I would not like to have any other arrangements. You thank your friend in a nice way". It struck me,—here is a man who would like to lead his life on his own terms and does not want any help, well-meant though it might be. It was a great learning for me, and I saw in my brother, a reflection of my father, who lived to 103 years and inculcated such a tradition in us.

Choose the best option to explain the given phrase.
It struck me

(A) To hit as a kick

(B) To attack suddenly

(C) To come to mind suddenly

(D) To take down or dismantle

50.

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:-

One day several months ago, my elder brother, who was ninety-five years old then, called me, on phone from Rameswaram. He started the conversation by narrating an incident about my friend's visit to him. During the discussion, my friend asked my brother, "How old is your house?" He said, "The house was built by our father, more than a century ago. My younger brother, and my earning grandchildren have now come out with a proposal to build a new house in the same place after demolishing this one." My friend said he would not want to see such a historical place demolished. He was willing to make an arrangement through a trust to transform the house into a museum and library, while alternative accommodation was worked out for my brother and his family. My brother, was calling me, to say he was against the friend's proposal. "I would like to live in the house where I have grown and lived for ninety-five years. I would like to build a new house in the same place through the earnings of my kith and kin. I would not like to have any other arrangements. You thank your friend in a nice way". It struck me,—here is a man who would like to lead his life on his own terms and does not want any help, well-meant though it might be. It was a great learning for me, and I saw in my brother, a reflection of my father, who lived to 103 years and inculcated such a tradition in us.

Choose the best option-

Identify the meaning of the phrase **'kith and kin'**

(A) Friends

(B) Relatives

(C) Parents

(D) Students