

# ATMA Verbal Skills

## Sample Paper – 4

Duration: 60 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 60

### Instructions

- This paper contains **60** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct Answer) across two sections — **Part I (Q1–Q30)** and **Part II (Q31–Q60)** — modelled on the Verbal Skills portion of **ATMA** entrance.
- Each correct answer carries **+1 mark**. There is a **penalty of 0.25 mark** for each incorrect answer. Unattempted questions receive **0** marks.
- Only **one** option is correct. Choose carefully.
- Syllabus level: **Reading comprehension, vocabulary, grammar & verbal reasoning (ATMA Verbal Skills)**
- Use of mobile phones, calculators, or electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited.

### Part I — Verbal Skills I

**Q1.** Choose the word that is most nearly **similar** in meaning to the word in capitals:

**DILIGENT**

- (A) Lazy
- (B) Careless
- (C) Hardworking
- (D) Cheerful

**Q2.** Choose the word that is most nearly **similar** in meaning to the word in capitals:

**VIVID**

- (A) Bright



- (B) Dull
- (C) Faint
- (D) Vague

**Q3.** Choose the word that is most nearly **opposite** in meaning to the word in capitals:

**ANCIENT**

- (A) Old
- (B) Aged
- (C) Antique
- (D) Modern

**Q4.** Choose the word that is most nearly **opposite** in meaning to the word in capitals:

**VICTORY**

- (A) Triumph
- (B) Defeat
- (C) Success
- (D) Conquest

**Q5.** Fill in the blank with the most appropriate word:

“The old volcano had remained \_\_\_\_\_ for nearly three centuries before it suddenly erupted.”

- (A) active
- (B) dormant
- (C) molten
- (D) glowing

**Q6.** Fill in the two blanks with the most appropriate pair of words:

“The \_\_\_\_\_ negotiations between the two firms finally produced a \_\_\_\_\_ agreement that satisfied both sides.”



- (A) brief . . . fragile
- (B) hasty . . . temporary
- (C) protracted . . . lasting
- (D) quick . . . shaky

**Q7.** Fill in the blank with the correct preposition:

“The manager promised to look \_\_\_\_\_ the junior staff while their supervisor was on leave.”

- (A) after
- (B) into
- (C) for
- (D) up

**Q8.** Fill in the blank with the correct word:

“The two friends decided to share the prize money \_\_\_\_\_ themselves equally.”

- (A) among
- (B) between
- (C) amongst
- (D) within

**Q9.** Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error. If there is no error, choose (D).

(A) Neither the manager / (B) nor the workers was / (C) aware of the new rule.  
/ (D) No error

- (A) Neither the manager
- (B) nor the workers was
- (C) aware of the new rule.
- (D) No error



- Q10.** Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error. If there is no error, choose (D).  
(A) He is senior than me / (B) in the office, / (C) yet he treats everyone kindly.  
/ (D) No error
- (A) He is senior than me  
(B) in the office,  
(C) yet he treats everyone kindly.  
(D) No error
- Q11.** Choose the option that best improves the underlined part:  
“Hardly had he entered the hall than the lights went out.”
- (A) than the lights  
(B) then the lights  
(C) when the lights  
(D) that the lights
- Q12.** Choose the option that best improves the underlined part:  
“The children were made to waited outside until the bell rang.”
- (A) to waited  
(B) waiting  
(C) for waiting  
(D) to wait
- Q13.** Rearrange the following four sentences (P, Q, R, S) into a coherent sequence:
- P.** A thirsty crow once flew over a deserted field in search of water.  
**Q.** At last it spotted a pitcher with a little water at the bottom.  
**R.** Unable to reach the water, it dropped pebbles into the pitcher one by one.  
**S.** Slowly the water rose, and the clever crow drank to its heart’s content.



- (A) PQRS
- (B) QPRS
- (C) PRQS
- (D) SRQP

**Q14.** Rearrange the following four sentences (P, Q, R, S) into a coherent paragraph:

**P.** At once the grateful ant bit the hunter's foot, and the startled dove flew safely away.

**Q.** An ant once fell into a stream while drinking and was about to drown.

**R.** A kind dove plucked a leaf and dropped it, and the ant climbed onto it to reach the bank.

**S.** Some days later, a hunter crept up and took aim at that very dove.

- (A) PQRS
- (B) SQPR
- (C) QPSR
- (D) QRSP

**Q15.** Choose the one word that best substitutes the phrase:

“Handwriting that cannot be read.”

- (A) invisible
- (B) inaudible
- (C) illegible
- (D) incoherent

**Q16.** Choose the option that best expresses the meaning of the idiom:

“It was **a piece of cake.**”

- (A) something very expensive
- (B) something very easy to do
- (C) a tasty reward



(D) a foolish mistake

**Q17.** Choose the option that completes the analogy:

**BEE : HIVE :: SPIDER : ?**

(A) insect

(B) silk

(C) leaf

(D) web

**Q18.** Choose the **correctly spelt** word:

(A) Maintenance

(B) Maintainance

(C) Maintenece

(D) Maintnance

**Q19.** Four sentences are given below. Three of them belong to a paragraph on the festivals of India; choose the one that does **not** belong.

(A) Diwali is celebrated by lighting rows of lamps and bursting crackers.

(B) During Holi people smear one another with bright coloured powders.

(C) A new metro line was opened in the city last month.

(D) Eid is marked by special prayers and the sharing of festive meals.

**Q20.** Fill in the blank with the most appropriate connector:

“The skies were perfectly clear that morning; \_\_\_\_\_, the flight was delayed by three hours.”

(A) therefore

(B) however

(C) moreover

(D) hence



**Q21. Directions (Q21–Q23):** Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

*Water is one of the most precious resources on the planet, yet it is also among the most carelessly wasted. Although nearly three quarters of the earth’s surface is covered by water, only a tiny fraction of it is fresh and fit for human use. As populations grow and cities expand, the demand for clean water rises sharply, while sources such as rivers and groundwater are steadily shrinking. Conservation, therefore, is no longer a matter of choice but of survival. Simple habits make a real difference: repairing leaking taps, collecting rainwater, reusing water for gardens and avoiding wasteful practices. Governments may build dams and pipelines, but lasting change begins with the daily choices of ordinary citizens.*

According to the passage, why is only a small part of the earth’s water useful to humans?

- (A) Only a tiny fraction of it is fresh and fit for use.
- (B) Most of it is locked permanently inside dams.
- (C) Rivers have stopped flowing altogether.
- (D) Governments have banned the use of seawater.

**Q22.** (Refer to the passage in Q21.) The phrase “no longer a matter of choice but of survival” emphasises that conservation is:

- (A) an optional hobby for the wealthy
- (B) useful only during droughts
- (C) important only for farmers
- (D) absolutely necessary for everyone

**Q23.** (Refer to the passage in Q21.) Which of the following does the author suggest as a way to conserve water?

- (A) Importing fresh water from other countries
- (B) Drinking far less water each day



- (C) Repairing leaking taps and collecting rainwater
- (D) Relying entirely on the government

**Q24. Directions (Q24–Q26):** Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

*Fast food has become a part of everyday life for millions of people, especially the young. Its appeal is easy to understand: it is quick, cheap and tasty. Yet behind the convenience lies a serious cost to health. Most fast food is high in salt, sugar and unhealthy fats, while offering very little fibre or essential nutrients. Eaten regularly, it can lead to obesity, high blood pressure and other long-term illnesses. The problem is made worse by aggressive advertising, which targets children and turns occasional treats into daily habits. Nutritionists do not insist that such food be banned altogether; they simply urge people to treat it as an occasional indulgence rather than a staple of the diet.*

According to the passage, why does fast food appeal to so many people?

- (A) It is rich in fibre and nutrients.
  - (B) It is quick, cheap and tasty.
  - (C) It is recommended by nutritionists.
  - (D) It is rarely advertised to children.
- Q25.** (Refer to the passage in Q24.) According to the passage, a major health risk of eating fast food regularly is:
- (A) improved digestion
  - (B) a higher intake of fibre
  - (C) stronger immunity
  - (D) obesity and high blood pressure
- Q26.** (Refer to the passage in Q24.) What do nutritionists actually recommend, according to the passage?
- (A) Treating fast food as an occasional indulgence



- (B) Banning fast food completely
- (C) Eating fast food at every meal
- (D) Allowing more advertising aimed at children

**Q27.** “The city should build a new toll expressway, because doing so will reduce the number of road accidents.” Which of the following is an **assumption** on which this argument depends?

- (A) Toll expressways are expensive to construct.
- (B) Most accidents happen at night.
- (C) Drivers will actually use the new road instead of the old risky one.
- (D) The old road will be closed permanently.

**Q28.** “All squares are rectangles. This shape is a rectangle.” Which conclusion **definitely** follows?

- (A) This shape must be a square.
- (B) It cannot be concluded that this shape is a square.
- (C) No rectangle can ever be a square.
- (D) All rectangles are squares.

**Q29.** Fill in the blank with the grammatically correct word:

“Each of the players \_\_\_\_\_ expected to follow the rules of the game.”

- (A) are
- (B) were
- (C) have
- (D) is

**Q30.** Fill in the blank with the most appropriate word:

“The scientist carried out the experiment with great care so as to obtain \_\_\_\_\_ results.”

- (A) careless



- (B) doubtful
- (C) accurate
- (D) random

Part II — Verbal Skills II

**Q31.** Choose the word that is most nearly **similar** in meaning to the word in capitals:

**SCRUTINISE**

- (A) Examine closely
- (B) Ignore completely
- (C) Approve quickly
- (D) Glance briefly

**Q32.** Choose the word that is most nearly **similar** in meaning to the word in capitals:

**JUBILANT**

- (A) Anxious
- (B) Indifferent
- (C) Joyful
- (D) Exhausted

**Q33.** Choose the word that is most nearly **opposite** in meaning to the word in capitals:

**HOSTILE**

- (A) Aggressive
- (B) Unfriendly
- (C) Antagonistic
- (D) Friendly



**Q34.** Choose the word that is most nearly **opposite** in meaning to the word in capitals:

**CRUDE**

- (A) Rough
- (B) Refined
- (C) Raw
- (D) Coarse

**Q35.** Fill in the blank with the most appropriate word:

“Because the directions were so vague, the visitors found it impossible to \_\_\_\_\_ the correct route to the museum.”

- (A) abandon
- (B) memorise
- (C) determine
- (D) forget

**Q36.** Fill in the two blanks with the most appropriate pair of words:

“Despite the \_\_\_\_\_ criticism from the audience, the speaker remained \_\_\_\_\_ and continued without losing his composure.”

- (A) gentle . . . furious
- (B) harsh . . . calm
- (C) mild . . . nervous
- (D) kind . . . agitated

**Q37.** Fill in the blank with the correct preposition:

“The young intern was not yet accustomed \_\_\_\_\_ the long working hours of the firm.”

- (A) with
- (B) to
- (C) for



(D) of

**Q38.** Fill in the blank with the correct word:

“Honesty has always been the guiding \_\_\_\_\_ of her life.”

- (A) principal
- (B) principals
- (C) principled
- (D) principle

**Q39.** Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error. If there is no error, choose (D).

(A) Each of the candidates were / (B) asked to submit / (C) two passport-size photos  
/ (D) No error

- (A) Each of the candidates were
- (B) asked to submit
- (C) two passport-size photographs.
- (D) No error

**Q40.** Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error. If there is no error, choose (D).

(A) The manager, along with / (B) his assistants, / (C) are attending the conference.  
/ (D) No error

- (A) The manager, along with
- (B) his assistants,
- (C) are attending the conference.
- (D) No error

**Q41.** Choose the option that best improves the underlined part:

“No sooner had the bell rung when the children rushed out of the classroom.”



- (A) when the children
- (B) than the children
- (C) then the children
- (D) that the children

**Q42.** Choose the option that best improves the underlined part:

“The new bridge is more stronger than the old one that collapsed last year.”

- (A) more stronger
- (B) most strong
- (C) more strong
- (D) stronger

**Q43.** Rearrange the following four sentences (P, Q, R, S) into a coherent paragraph:

**P.** A milkmaid set out for the market, carrying a pail of milk balanced on her head.

**Q.** Lost in her daydream, she tossed her head proudly, just as she imagined refusing a suitor.

**R.** The pail tumbled down, the milk spilled across the road, and all her bright dreams were lost.

**S.** As she walked, she dreamed of the eggs, the chickens and the fine gown the milk money would buy.

- (A) PSQR
- (B) QPRS
- (C) PQSR
- (D) SPQR

**Q44.** Rearrange the following four sentences (P, Q, R, S) into a coherent paragraph:

**P.** It allows a person to wait calmly for results instead of demanding them



at once.

**Q.** Patience is one of the quietest yet most powerful of all human virtues.

**R.** As a result, many people give up on worthwhile goals long before their efforts can bear fruit.

**S.** However, in an age of instant messages and quick rewards, this virtue is fast disappearing.

(A) PQSR

(B) QSPR

(C) QPSR

(D) SPQR

**Q45.** Choose the one word that best substitutes the phrase:

“A doctor who specialises in the treatment of teeth.”

(A) Surgeon

(B) Dentist

(C) Optician

(D) Physician

**Q46.** Choose the option that best expresses the meaning of the idiom:

“To **make ends meet**”

(A) to manage to live on a limited income

(B) to finish a task just in time

(C) to bring two opposing parties together

(D) to complete a long journey successfully

**Q47.** Choose the option that completes the analogy:

**CARPENTER : HAMMER :: TAILOR : ?**

(A) cloth

(B) shirt

(C) shop



(D) needle

**Q48.** Choose the **correctly spelt** word:

- (A) Bureucracy
- (B) Beaurocracy
- (C) Bureaucracy
- (D) Bureaucrazy

**Q49.** Four sentences are given below. Three of them belong to a paragraph on flowers; choose the one that does **not** belong.

- (A) The new highway has greatly reduced the travel time between the two cities.
- (B) The rose is admired everywhere for its rich fragrance and bright petals.
- (C) The lotus blooms gracefully on the still surface of ponds and lakes.
- (D) Jasmine fills the evening air with its sweet and gentle scent.

**Q50.** Fill in the blank with the most appropriate connector:

“The factory installed several new safety devices; \_\_\_\_\_, the number of accidents fell sharply within a month.”

- (A) however
- (B) consequently
- (C) nonetheless
- (D) otherwise

**Q51. Directions (Q51–Q53):** Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

*Saving money is a habit that rewards those who practise it patiently. Many people believe that they can save only when their income grows, yet the truth is the opposite: those who set aside a small amount regularly, no*



*matter how modest their earnings, are the ones who build lasting security. A savings habit cushions a household against sudden shocks, such as illness or job loss, and it slowly turns small sums into a meaningful fund through the power of compounding. The greatest obstacle is not low income but the temptation to spend first and save whatever is left, which usually means saving nothing at all. The wiser rule is to save first and spend what remains.*

According to the passage, the main reason many people fail to save is:

- (A) that their income is genuinely too low to allow saving
- (B) that banks offer very poor rates of interest
- (C) the habit of spending first and saving only what is left
- (D) the absence of any sudden emergencies in their lives

**Q52.** (Refer to the passage in Q51.) The passage suggests that the ability to save depends mainly on:

- (A) a regular habit rather than the size of one's income
- (B) earning a very high salary
- (C) avoiding all forms of investment
- (D) waiting until one's income grows larger

**Q53.** (Refer to the passage in Q51.) The phrase “the power of compounding” is used in the passage to explain how:

- (A) households are forced to spend more during emergencies
- (B) a high income automatically guarantees wealth
- (C) saving becomes impossible for low earners
- (D) small sums saved regularly grow into a meaningful fund

**Q54. Directions (Q54–Q56):** Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

*Space exploration has always been driven by human curiosity about what*



*lies beyond our planet. Critics often argue that the enormous sums spent on rockets and satellites would be better used to solve problems here on Earth. Yet the benefits of exploring space frequently return to ordinary life in unexpected ways. Technologies first developed for missions, from weather satellites to advances in materials and medical imaging, now shape everyday living. Moreover, studying other worlds deepens our understanding of our own, teaching us how fragile and precious the Earth's environment truly is. Space exploration, then, is not an escape from earthly concerns but a way of serving them.*

One argument raised by critics of space exploration, as stated in the passage, is that:

- (A) space missions are technically impossible to complete
- (B) the money spent could be better used to solve problems on Earth
- (C) satellites have no use in daily life
- (D) curiosity about space is a recent development

**Q55.** (Refer to the passage in Q54.) According to the passage, one practical benefit of space technology is:

- (A) advances in fields such as medical imaging and materials
- (B) the complete elimination of poverty on Earth
- (C) a permanent end to all natural disasters
- (D) free travel to other planets for everyone

**Q56.** (Refer to the passage in Q54.) The author's overall attitude towards space exploration is best described as:

- (A) strongly opposed, viewing it as a waste of money
- (B) completely neutral, taking no clear position
- (C) supportive, seeing it as a way of serving life on Earth
- (D) indifferent to its effects on everyday living



- Q57.** “The town council has decided to plant thousands of trees along the main roads, expecting that the air in the town will become noticeably cleaner.” Which of the following is an **assumption** on which this plan depends?
- (A) Trees make the roads look more attractive to visitors.
  - (B) Planting trees is cheaper than installing air filters.
  - (C) The town has plenty of open space along its roads.
  - (D) The trees will measurably reduce the level of air pollution.
- Q58.** “Every triangle has three sides. This shape has three sides.” Which conclusion **definitely** follows?
- (A) This shape must be a triangle.
  - (B) It cannot be concluded that this shape is a triangle.
  - (C) No shape other than a triangle can have three sides.
  - (D) Every three-sided shape is a triangle.
- Q59.** Fill in the blank with the grammatically correct word:  
“Neither the players nor the coach \_\_\_\_\_ satisfied with the result of the match.”
- (A) was
  - (B) were
  - (C) have
  - (D) are
- Q60.** Fill in the blank with the most appropriate word:  
“The doctor strongly advised him to \_\_\_\_\_ from smoking completely.”
- (A) indulge
  - (B) benefit
  - (C) suffer
  - (D) abstain



## Detailed Solutions

Q1.

## Solution

**Concept — Synonym (vocabulary):** A synonym shares the core meaning of the target word. “Diligent” describes someone who works with steady, careful effort.

**Step 1 — Meaning:** *Diligent* = showing care and persistent effort in one’s work; industrious.

**Step 2 — Test the options:** “Hardworking” directly captures the idea of putting in steady effort.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) Lazy and (B) Careless are opposites of diligent.
- (D) Cheerful describes mood, not effort, so it is unrelated.

**Final Answer:** Diligent  $\approx$  Hardworking  $\Rightarrow$

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

Q2.

## Solution

**Concept — Synonym (vocabulary):** Identify the core sense of the word and match it.

**Step 1 — Meaning:** *Vivid* = producing strong, clear and bright images; intensely colourful or distinct.

**Step 2 — Test the options:** “Bright” captures the strong, clear quality of “vivid” most closely.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (B) Dull, (C) Faint and (D) Vague all suggest a lack of clarity or brightness, the opposite of vivid.

**Final Answer:** Vivid  $\approx$  Bright  $\Rightarrow$

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



Q3.

**Solution**

**Concept — Antonym (vocabulary):** An antonym carries the opposite meaning. “Ancient” means very old, belonging to the distant past.

**Step 1 — Meaning:** *Ancient* = of times long past; very old.

**Step 2 — Find the opposite:** “Modern” means of the present or recent times, the clear opposite of ancient.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) Old, (B) Aged and (C) Antique are all synonyms of ancient, not antonyms.

**Final Answer:** Opposite of Ancient is Modern ⇒ **D**

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

Q4.

**Solution**

**Concept — Antonym (vocabulary):** Match the word to its opposite. “Victory” means success in a contest or struggle.

**Step 1 — Meaning:** *Victory* = a triumph or win.

**Step 2 — Find the opposite:** “Defeat” means losing or being beaten, the direct opposite of victory.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) Triumph, (C) Success and (D) Conquest all mean winning, so they are synonyms, not antonyms.

**Final Answer:** Opposite of Victory is Defeat ⇒ **B**

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



Q5.

**Solution**

**Concept — Sentence completion:** The blank describes the volcano's state during the long, quiet period before it erupted, so it must mean "inactive but capable of waking."

**Step 1 — Spot the link:** "had remained \_\_\_ for nearly three centuries before it suddenly erupted" tells us the volcano was quiet for a long time and then woke up.

**Step 2 — Test the options:** "Dormant" means temporarily inactive yet able to become active again, which exactly describes a volcano that is quiet for centuries and then erupts.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) Active contradicts "remained . . . before it suddenly erupted," since an active volcano is already erupting.
- (C) Molten describes rock that is melted, not the dormant state of the whole volcano.
- (D) Glowing suggests visible heat or light, which conflicts with three quiet centuries.

**Final Answer:** "had remained dormant" ⇒

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

Q6.

**Solution**

**Concept — Double-blank completion:** Both blanks must fit the same logic: long talks lead to a deal that holds firm. The first blank describes the negotiations, the second describes the agreement.

**Step 1 — First blank:** "The \_\_\_ negotiations . . . finally produced" suggests the talks took a long time, so a word meaning "drawn out" is needed: "protracted."

**Step 2 — Second blank:** An agreement that "satisfied both sides" is one that endures, so the second word should mean "long-lasting": "lasting."

**Step 3 — Check the pair:** Only (C) pairs long, drawn-out talks with a firm, enduring deal, which matches the whole sentence.

**Why other options are wrong:**



- (A) brief ... fragile and (B) hasty ... temporary both make the talks short and the deal weak, which clashes with “finally produced.”
- (D) quick ... shaky also gives a short, unstable deal, the opposite of one that satisfied both sides.

**Final Answer:** protracted ... lasting ⇒

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

Q7.

### Solution

**Concept — Phrasal verb / preposition:** Different prepositions change the meaning of “look.”

**Step 1 — Meaning needed:** The manager will *take care of* the junior staff while their supervisor is away.

**Step 2 — Match the phrasal verb:** “look after” means to take care of, which fits exactly.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (B) look into = investigate; (C) look for = search for; (D) look up = consult or find information. None means “take care of” as “look after” does.

**Final Answer:** “look after the junior staff” ⇒

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

Q8.

### Solution

**Concept — Commonly confused words (between vs among):** “Between” is used for two people or things; “among” is used for three or more.

**Step 1 — Count the parties:** The sentence mentions “the two friends,” that is exactly two.

**Step 2 — Choose the word:** For two parties, the correct word is “between.”

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) Among and (C) Amongst are used for three or more, so they do not suit “the two friends.”



- (D) Within means inside something and does not express sharing.

**Final Answer:** “between themselves” ⇒

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

Q9.

### Solution

**Concept — Spotting errors (neither . . . nor agreement):** With “neither . . . nor,” the verb agrees with the subject nearer to it.

**Step 1 — Find the nearer subject:** The subject closer to the verb is “the workers” (plural).

**Step 2 — Correct the verb:** A plural subject needs “were,” not “was,” so the error lies in segment (B).

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) “Neither the manager” and (C) “aware of the new rule” are correct.
- (D) is wrong because there is a genuine error in (B).

**Final Answer:** Error is in segment (B) ⇒

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

Q10.

### Solution

**Concept — Spotting errors (Latin comparatives):** Words like “senior,” “junior” and “superior” take “to,” never “than.”

**Step 1 — Identify the rule:** “Senior” is a Latin comparative and must be followed by “to.”

**Step 2 — Apply it:** The correct form is “He is senior *to* me,” so the error is in segment (A).

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (B) “in the office” and (C) “yet he treats everyone kindly” are correct.
- (D) is wrong because segment (A) carries the error.

**Final Answer:** Error is in segment (A) ⇒



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

Q11.

### Solution

**Concept — Sentence improvement (Hardly . . . when):** The fixed pair is “Hardly . . . when,” just as “No sooner” pairs with “than.”

**Step 1 — Recall the structure:** “Hardly had he entered . . .” must be completed with “when.”

**Step 2 — Choose the option:** “when the lights” gives the correct “Hardly . . . when” pattern.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) “than” pairs with “No sooner,” not “Hardly.”
- (B) “then” and (D) “that” do not form a correct correlative with “Hardly.”

**Final Answer:** “when the lights” ⇒  C

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

Q12.

### Solution

**Concept — Sentence improvement (passive “be made to”):** In the passive, “be made” is followed by the full infinitive “to + base verb.”

**Step 1 — Identify the structure:** “The children were made \_\_\_ outside” is passive and needs “to + base form.”

**Step 2 — Choose the correct form:** “to wait” (base verb after “to”) is correct.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) “to waited” wrongly uses a past form after “to.”
- (B) “waiting” and (C) “for waiting” do not follow the passive “be made to” pattern.

**Final Answer:** “to wait” ⇒  D

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



Q13.

**Solution**

**Concept — Para jumble (narrative order):** A story follows cause and effect in time. Find the opening statement, then follow the events.

**Step 1 — Opening:** (P) introduces the thirsty crow and its search, so it begins the paragraph.

**Step 2 — Follow the action:** (Q) it spots a pitcher with a little water; (R) unable to reach it, it drops pebbles in; (S) the water rises and the crow drinks.

**Step 3 — Sequence:** P → Q → R → S.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (B), (C) and (D) break the cause-and-effect order, e.g. (D) begins with the crow already drinking (S) before the pitcher is even found.

**Final Answer:** Correct order is PQRS ⇒ A

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

Q14.

**Solution**

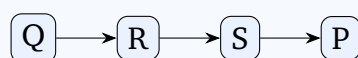
**Concept — Para jumble (narrative order):** A fable follows events in time. Find the opening, then trace cause and effect to the close.

**Step 1 — Opening:** (Q) sets the scene: an ant falls into a stream and is about to drown, so it begins the story.

**Step 2 — The rescue:** (R) a kind dove drops a leaf and the ant climbs onto it to reach the bank, so R follows Q.

**Step 3 — The danger and the return:** (S) “Some days later” a hunter takes aim at that very dove; (P) “At once” the grateful ant bites the hunter and the dove escapes.

**Step 4 — Sequence:** Q → R → S → P, shown below.



**Why other options are wrong:**



- (A), (B) and (C) place “At once” (P) or “Some days later” (S) before the events they depend on, breaking the time order.

**Final Answer:** Correct order is QRSP ⇒

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

Q15.

### Solution

**Concept — One-word substitution:** Choose the single word whose definition matches the full phrase exactly.

**Step 1 — Phrase meaning:** “Handwriting that cannot be read.”

**Step 2 — Exact match:** *Illegible* means impossible or very hard to read, which fits handwriting precisely.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) Invisible means unable to be seen, not unable to be read.
- (B) Inaudible refers to sound that cannot be heard.
- (D) Incoherent describes unclear ideas, not unreadable writing.

**Final Answer:** Illegible ⇒

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

Q16.

### Solution

**Concept — Idioms:** An idiom has a fixed figurative meaning that cannot be guessed word by word.

**Step 1 — Recall the idiom:** “A piece of cake” means something that is very easy to do.

**Step 2 — Match the option:** (B) “something very easy to do” states this meaning exactly.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) expensive, (C) a tasty reward and (D) a foolish mistake take the words literally and miss the idiomatic sense.

**Final Answer:** Something very easy ⇒



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

Q17.

### Solution

**Concept — Verbal analogy (creature : home it builds):** Find how the first pair relates, then apply the same relation.

**Step 1 — First pair:** A bee builds and lives in a *hive*; the second word is the home the creature makes.

**Step 2 — Apply to “spider”:** A spider builds and lives in a *web*.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) insect names a category, not a home.
- (B) silk is the material a spider produces, not its home.
- (C) leaf is where a web may hang, but it is not the home the spider builds.

**Final Answer:** Spider : Web  $\Rightarrow$

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

Q18.

### Solution

**Concept — Spelling:** Recall the standard spelling: the noun is “maintenance,” even though the verb is “maintain.”

**Step 1 — Apply the rule:** M-A-I-N-T-E-N-A-N-C-E. The “ai” of “maintain” becomes “e” in the noun.

**Step 2 — Check the options:** Only (A) “Maintenance” matches this exactly.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (B) Maintainance keeps the verb’s “ai”; (C) Maintenance misspells the second vowel; (D) Maintnance drops a vowel.

**Final Answer:** Maintenance  $\Rightarrow$

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



Q19.

**Solution**

**Concept — Odd one out (theme coherence):** Three sentences must share a single theme; the misfit is on a different topic.

**Step 1 — Find the theme:** (A), (B) and (D) all describe festivals of India and how they are celebrated (Diwali with lamps, Holi with colours, Eid with prayers and meals).

**Step 2 — Spot the misfit:** (C) talks about a new metro line opening in the city, which has nothing to do with the festivals of India.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A), (B) and (D) belong to the festivals-of-India paragraph, so they are not the odd one out.

**Final Answer:** Sentence (C) does not belong ⇒

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

Q20.

**Solution**

**Concept — Connectors (contrast):** The two clauses point in opposite directions, so a contrast connector is needed.

**Step 1 — Spot the relationship:** Clear skies normally mean smooth flying, yet the flight was still delayed. The expected outcome and the actual outcome clash, signalling a contrast.

**Step 2 — Choose the connector:** “However” marks a contrast between the clear morning and the surprising delay, so it fits.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) therefore and (D) hence both signal a result, but a delay is not the natural result of clear skies.
- (C) moreover adds a similar point, whereas the second clause opposes the first rather than extending it.

**Final Answer:** “however” ⇒

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



Q21.

**Solution**

**Concept — Reading comprehension (locating a reason):** Scan the passage for the stated reason behind the fact.

**Step 1 — Locate the reason:** The passage says “only a tiny fraction of it is fresh and fit for human use.”

**Step 2 — Match the option:** (A) restates this directly.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (B) dams, (C) rivers stopping and (D) a seawater ban are never stated in the passage.

**Final Answer:** Only a tiny fraction is fresh ⇒

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

Q22.

**Solution**

**Concept — Reading comprehension (interpreting a phrase):** The phrase stresses how urgent conservation has become.

**Step 1 — Unpack the phrase:** “no longer a matter of choice but of survival” means it is now essential, not optional.

**Step 2 — Match the option:** (D) “absolutely necessary for everyone” captures this meaning.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) an optional hobby contradicts “no longer a matter of choice.”
- (B) only during droughts and (C) only for farmers wrongly narrow a need the passage applies to all.

**Final Answer:** Absolutely necessary for everyone ⇒

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



Q23.

**Solution**

**Concept — Reading comprehension (locating a suggestion):** Find the author's stated advice in the passage.

**Step 1 — Locate the advice:** The passage lists “repairing leaking taps, collecting rainwater, reusing water . . .”

**Step 2 — Match the option:** (C) “repairing leaking taps and collecting rainwater” is taken straight from the text.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) importing water and (B) drinking far less are never advised.
- (D) relying entirely on the government contradicts “lasting change begins with . . . ordinary citizens.”

**Final Answer:** Repair taps and collect rainwater ⇒

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

Q24.

**Solution**

**Concept — Reading comprehension (locating a reason):** Find the appeal the passage explicitly lists.

**Step 1 — Locate the reason:** The passage says fast food's appeal is that “it is quick, cheap and tasty.”

**Step 2 — Match the option:** (B) “It is quick, cheap and tasty” restates this directly.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) rich in fibre contradicts the passage, which says it offers “very little fibre.”
- (C) recommended by nutritionists and (D) rarely advertised to children both contradict the text.

**Final Answer:** Quick, cheap and tasty ⇒

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



Q25.

**Solution**

**Concept — Reading comprehension (locating a risk):** Identify the negative outcome the passage states.

**Step 1 — Locate the risk:** The passage says eaten regularly it “can lead to obesity, high blood pressure and other long-term illnesses.”

**Step 2 — Match the option:** (D) “obesity and high blood pressure” matches the text.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) better digestion, (B) more fibre and (C) stronger immunity are positive outcomes the passage never claims.

**Final Answer:** Obesity and high blood pressure ⇒

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

Q26.

**Solution**

**Concept — Reading comprehension (author’s recommendation):** The closing sentence states what nutritionists advise.

**Step 1 — Locate the recommendation:** They “urge people to treat it as an occasional indulgence rather than a staple of the diet.”

**Step 2 — Match the option:** (A) “treating fast food as an occasional indulgence” restates this.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (B) banning it completely is explicitly rejected: “do not insist that such food be banned.”
- (C) eating it at every meal and (D) more advertising to children contradict the advice.

**Final Answer:** An occasional indulgence ⇒

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



Q27.

**Solution**

**Concept — Critical reasoning (assumption):** An assumption is an unstated idea that must be true for the argument to hold.

**Step 1 — State the argument:** New toll expressway → fewer road accidents.

**Step 2 — Find the missing link:** This works only if drivers actually use the new, safer road instead of the old risky one. If they keep using the old road, accidents will not fall.

**Step 3 — Match the option:** (C) “drivers will actually use the new road instead of the old risky one” is the required assumption.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) cost, (B) when accidents happen and (D) closing the old road may be true but are not needed for the safety conclusion.

**Final Answer:** Drivers will use the new road ⇒

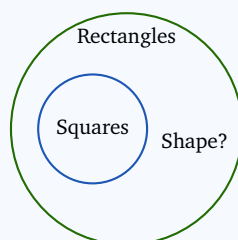
[Go Back to Q 27](#)

Q28.

**Solution**

**Concept — Critical reasoning (valid conclusion):** “All squares are rectangles” does not mean “all rectangles are squares.” Treating it so is the fallacy of affirming the consequent.

**Step 1 — Map the statement:** Squares  $\subseteq$  rectangles. Many rectangles are not squares.



**Step 2 — Place the shape:** The shape is a rectangle, so it lies somewhere in the “Rectangles” circle, but it may be inside or outside the “Squares” circle. We cannot decide.

**Step 3 — Conclusion:** It cannot be concluded that this shape is a square.



**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) assumes the converse, which is the fallacy.
- (C) and (D) make claims the statement never supports.

**Final Answer:** Cannot conclude it is a square  $\Rightarrow$  **B**

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

**Q29.**

### Solution

**Concept — Subject-verb agreement (“each of”):** “Each” is a singular subject and takes a singular verb, even when followed by “of the + plural noun.”

**Step 1 — Identify the subject:** The grammatical subject is “Each” (singular), not “the players.”

**Step 2 — Choose the verb:** The singular “is” agrees with “Each.”

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) “are” and (B) “were” are plural and wrongly agree with “players.”
- (C) “have” does not fit the passive “\_\_\_ expected” structure, which needs “is expected.”

**Final Answer:** “Each . . . is expected”  $\Rightarrow$  **D**

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

**Q30.**

### Solution

**Concept — Contextual vocabulary:** Choose the adjective whose meaning fits a careful experiment.

**Step 1 — Sense needed:** Great care in an experiment is taken in order to get *correct, exact* results.

**Step 2 — Match the word:** “accurate” means correct and precise, fitting the careful work.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) careless, (B) doubtful and (D) random all describe poor or uncertain



results, the opposite of what care is meant to produce.

**Final Answer:** “accurate results” ⇒

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

Q31.

### Solution

**Concept — Synonym (vocabulary):** A synonym shares the core meaning of the target word. “Scrutinise” means to inspect with great care.

**Step 1 — Meaning:** *Scrutinise* = to look at something very carefully and critically.

**Step 2 — Test the options:** “Examine closely” restates exactly the act of careful inspection.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (B) Ignore completely is the opposite of looking carefully.
- (C) Approve quickly skips inspection altogether.
- (D) Glance briefly is a quick look, the opposite of close study.

**Final Answer:** Scrutinise  $\approx$  Examine closely ⇒

**Answer:** (A) [Go Back to Q 31](#)

Q32.

### Solution

**Concept — Synonym (vocabulary):** Identify the core sense of the word and match it.

**Step 1 — Meaning:** *Jubilant* = feeling or showing great happiness, usually after a success.

**Step 2 — Test the options:** “Joyful” means full of joy, an exact match for jubilant.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) Anxious means worried, the opposite of happy.
- (B) Indifferent means showing no feeling at all.
- (D) Exhausted refers to tiredness, not joy.

**Final Answer:** Jubilant  $\approx$  Joyful ⇒



**Answer: (C)** [Go Back to Q 32](#)

Q33.

### Solution

**Concept — Antonym (vocabulary):** An antonym carries the opposite meaning. “Hostile” means unfriendly or aggressive.

**Step 1 — Meaning:** *Hostile* = showing strong dislike or opposition; unfriendly.

**Step 2 — Find the opposite:** “Friendly” means kind and welcoming, the direct opposite of hostile.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) Aggressive, (B) Unfriendly and (C) Antagonistic are all synonyms of hostile, not antonyms.

**Final Answer:** Opposite of Hostile is Friendly ⇒ **D**

**Answer: (D)** [Go Back to Q 33](#)

Q34.

### Solution

**Concept — Antonym (vocabulary):** Match the word to its opposite. “Crude” means rough or unpolished.

**Step 1 — Meaning:** *Crude* = in a raw or natural state; lacking finish or polish.

**Step 2 — Find the opposite:** “Refined” means processed, polished and elegant, the clear opposite.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) Rough, (C) Raw and (D) Coarse are all synonyms of crude, not antonyms.

**Final Answer:** Opposite of Crude is Refined ⇒ **B**

**Answer: (B)** [Go Back to Q 34](#)



Q35.

**Solution**

**Concept — Sentence completion:** The blank needs a verb that fits the visitors' attempt to work out the route despite vague directions.

**Step 1 — Read the sense:** Vague directions make it hard to *work out* or *decide* the correct route.

**Step 2 — Test the options:** “Determine” means to find out or establish exactly, which fits the act of working out the route.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) Abandon and (D) Forget mean to give up the route, not work it out.
- (B) Memorise means to learn by heart, which the visitors cannot do without first knowing the route.

**Final Answer:** “determine the correct route” ⇒

**Answer: (C)** [Go Back to Q 35](#)

Q36.

**Solution**

**Concept — Double-blank completion:** The word “Despite” signals a contrast between the criticism and the speaker’s reaction.

**Step 1 — First blank:** For the contrast to work, the criticism must be unpleasant, so the first word should be “harsh.”

**Step 2 — Second blank:** “Without losing his composure” tells us he stayed in control, so the second word should be “calm.”

**Step 3 — Check the pair:** Only option (B) gives harsh criticism met with a calm response, producing a true contrast.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A), (C) and (D) pair a mild criticism (gentle / mild / kind) with a negative reaction (furious / nervous / agitated), which contradicts “without losing his composure.”

**Final Answer:** harsh . . . calm ⇒

**Answer: (B)** [Go Back to Q 36](#)



Q37.

**Solution**

**Concept — Preposition (fixed collocation):** Certain adjectives take a fixed preposition. “Accustomed” is always followed by “to.”

**Step 1 — Identify the collocation:** The standard form is “accustomed to something.”

**Step 2 — Apply it:** “accustomed to the long working hours” is correct.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) with, (C) for and (D) of do not combine with “accustomed” in standard English.

**Final Answer:** “accustomed to” ⇒

**Answer: (B)** [Go Back to Q 37](#)

Q38.

**Solution**

**Concept — Commonly confused words (principle vs principal):** “Principle” is a noun meaning a rule or guiding belief; “principal” means chief, or the head of a school.

**Step 1 — Sense of the blank:** The sentence speaks of honesty as the guiding *rule or belief* of her life, so a noun meaning a moral rule is needed.

**Step 2 — Choose the word:** “Principle” is exactly a fundamental rule or belief, so it fits.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) Principal means chief or the head of a school, not a guiding belief.
- (B) Principals is the plural of that wrong word and does not fit the singular blank.
- (C) Principled is an adjective (“having strong morals”), not the noun the sentence needs.

**Final Answer:** “the guiding principle” ⇒

**Answer: (D)** [Go Back to Q 38](#)



Q39.

**Solution**

**Concept — Spotting errors (“each of” takes a singular verb):** The pronoun “each” is singular, so it needs a singular verb regardless of the plural noun after “of.”

**Step 1 — Find the subject:** The subject is “Each,” which is singular, not “candidates.”

**Step 2 — Correct the verb:** “were” should be “was,” so the error lies in segment (A).

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (B) “asked to submit” and (C) “two passport-size photographs” are grammatically correct.
- (D) is wrong because there is a genuine error in (A).

**Final Answer:** Error is in segment (A) ⇒

[Go Back to Q 39](#)

Q40.

**Solution**

**Concept — Spotting errors (“along with” does not change the number):** A phrase like “along with . . .” is parenthetical, so the verb agrees only with the main subject.

**Step 1 — Find the real subject:** The subject is “The manager” (singular); “along with his assistants” is just additional information.

**Step 2 — Correct the verb:** The verb should be singular “is attending,” so “are attending” in segment (C) is the error.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) “The manager, along with” and (B) “his assistants,” are correct.
- (D) is wrong because segment (C) carries the agreement error.

**Final Answer:** Error is in segment (C) ⇒

[Go Back to Q 40](#)



Q41.

**Solution**

**Concept — Sentence improvement (“no sooner . . . than”):** The correlative “no sooner” is always paired with “than,” never with “when” or “then.”

**Step 1 — Identify the structure:** The sentence begins “No sooner had the bell rung,” which demands “than.”

**Step 2 — Choose the correct pairing:** “than the children rushed out” completes the correct correlative.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) “when” is the wrong correlative for “no sooner.”
- (C) “then” is an adverb of time, not a correlative.
- (D) “that” does not pair with “no sooner.”

**Final Answer:** “than the children” ⇒

**Answer: (B)** [Go Back to Q 41](#)

Q42.

**Solution**

**Concept — Sentence improvement (double comparative):** “Stronger” is already the comparative form, so adding “more” creates a double comparative, which is incorrect.

**Step 1 — Spot the error:** “more stronger” wrongly stacks “more” on a word that is already comparative.

**Step 2 — Correct it:** The single comparative “stronger” is the correct form, used with “than.”

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) “more stronger” is a double comparative.
- (B) “most strong” is a superlative, which does not fit a comparison between two bridges.
- (C) “more strong” is non-standard; the correct comparative of “strong” is “stronger.”

**Final Answer:** “stronger than the old one” ⇒

**Answer: (D)** [Go Back to Q 42](#)



Q43.

**Solution**

**Concept — Para jumble (narrative order):** A fable follows cause and effect in time. Find the opening, then trace the events to the close.

**Step 1 — Opening:** (P) introduces the milkmaid carrying a pail of milk to market, so it starts the story.

**Step 2 — Follow the action:** (S) as she walks she daydreams of all the milk money will buy; (Q) lost in the daydream she proudly tosses her head; (R) the pail falls, the milk spills, and her dreams are lost.

**Step 3 — Sequence:** P → S → Q → R.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (B), (C) and (D) break the cause-and-effect order, for example placing the toss of the head (Q) or the spilling of the milk (R) before the daydream (S) that causes it.

**Final Answer:** Correct order is PSQR ⇒ A

**Answer: (A)** [Go Back to Q 43](#)

Q44.

**Solution**

**Concept — Para jumble (idea → detail → contrast → consequence):** An expository paragraph opens with the main idea, adds a supporting detail, turns with a contrast, then states the result.

**Step 1 — Opening idea:** (Q) makes the broad claim that patience is one of the most powerful human virtues.

**Step 2 — Supporting detail:** (P) “It allows a person to wait calmly . . .” explains what patience does; “It” refers back to patience, so P follows Q.

**Step 3 — Contrast and consequence:** (S) “However, in an age of instant . . .” turns to the problem; (R) “As a result, many people give up . . .” states the consequence.

**Step 4 — Sequence:** Q → P → S → R.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A), (B) and (D) misplace the linking words, for example putting “However”



(S) or “As a result” (R) before the ideas they depend on.

**Final Answer:** Correct order is QPSR ⇒

**Answer:** (C) [Go Back to Q 44](#)

Q45.

### Solution

**Concept — One-word substitution:** Choose the single word whose definition matches the full phrase exactly.

**Step 1 — Phrase meaning:** “A doctor who specialises in the treatment of teeth.”

**Step 2 — Exact match:** A *dentist* is precisely a doctor who treats the teeth and gums.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) Surgeon performs operations in general, not specifically on teeth.
- (C) Optician deals with eyesight and spectacles.
- (D) Physician treats general illnesses, not teeth in particular.

**Final Answer:** Dentist ⇒

**Answer:** (B) [Go Back to Q 45](#)

Q46.

### Solution

**Concept — Idioms:** An idiom has a fixed figurative meaning that cannot be guessed word by word.

**Step 1 — Recall the idiom:** “Make ends meet” means to earn just enough money to cover one’s needs.

**Step 2 — Match the option:** (A) “to manage to live on a limited income” states this meaning.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (B) finishing a task in time, (C) reconciling two parties and (D) completing a journey are unrelated to managing money.

**Final Answer:** To manage on a limited income ⇒



Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 46](#)

Q47.

### Solution

**Concept — Verbal analogy (worker : tool):** Find how the first pair relates, then apply the same relation.

**Step 1 — First pair:** A carpenter uses a *hammer* as a basic tool of the trade.

**Step 2 — Apply to “tailor”:** A tailor uses a *needle* as a basic tool of the trade, so the relation matches.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) cloth is the material a tailor works on, not the tool.
- (B) shirt is the product made, not the tool.
- (C) shop is the place of work, not the tool.

**Final Answer:** Tailor : Needle  $\Rightarrow$

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 47](#)

Q48.

### Solution

**Concept — Spelling:** Recall the standard spelling: “bureaucracy” is B-U-R-E-A-U-C-R-A-C-Y, built from “bureau” plus “-cracy.”

**Step 1 — Apply the rule:** Keep the “bureau” stem intact, then add “-cracy” (rule, as in democracy).

**Step 2 — Check the options:** Only (C) “Bureaucracy” matches this exactly.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) Bureucracy drops the “a” from “bureau.”
- (B) Beaucracy reorders the vowels of the stem.
- (D) Bureaucrazy misspells the “-cracy” ending.

**Final Answer:** Bureaucracy  $\Rightarrow$

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 48](#)



Q49.

**Solution**

**Concept — Odd one out (theme coherence):** Three sentences must share a single theme; the misfit is on a different topic.

**Step 1 — Find the theme:** (B), (C) and (D) all describe flowers (the rose, the lotus and jasmine, with their fragrance and beauty).

**Step 2 — Spot the misfit:** (A) talks about a new highway cutting travel time between cities, which has nothing to do with flowers.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (B), (C) and (D) belong to the flowers paragraph, so they are not the odd one out.

**Final Answer:** Sentence (A) does not belong ⇒ **A**

**Answer: (A)** [Go Back to Q 49](#)

Q50.

**Solution**

**Concept — Connectors (result):** The second clause is the outcome of the first: safety devices were installed, so accidents fell. A result connector is needed.

**Step 1 — Spot the relationship:** Installing safety devices logically leads to fewer accidents, so the link expresses a result.

**Step 2 — Choose the connector:** “Consequently” (as a result) signals the outcome correctly.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) however and (C) nonetheless show contrast, not result.
- (D) otherwise introduces an alternative or warning, which does not fit a positive outcome.

**Final Answer:** “consequently” ⇒ **B**

**Answer: (B)** [Go Back to Q 50](#)



Q51.

**Solution**

**Concept — Reading comprehension (locating a stated cause):** Scan the passage for the reason it gives behind a failure to save.

**Step 1 — Locate the cause:** The passage says the greatest obstacle is “the temptation to spend first and save whatever is left, which usually means saving nothing at all.”

**Step 2 — Match the option:** (C) “the habit of spending first and saving only what is left” restates this directly.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) The passage explicitly says low income is not the real obstacle.
- (B) Bank interest rates are never mentioned.
- (D) The passage names emergencies as a reason to save, not a reason people fail to save.

**Final Answer:** Spending first and saving the rest ⇒

**Answer:** (C) [Go Back to Q 51](#)

Q52.

**Solution**

**Concept — Reading comprehension (main idea):** Identify what the passage says the ability to save truly depends on.

**Step 1 — Locate the claim:** The passage states that those who “set aside a small amount regularly, no matter how modest their earnings,” build lasting security.

**Step 2 — Match the option:** (A) “a regular habit rather than the size of one’s income” captures this point.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (B) A high salary contradicts the passage, which stresses that income size is not the key.
- (C) Avoiding investment is never advised.
- (D) Waiting for income to grow is the very belief the passage rejects.

**Final Answer:** A regular habit, not income size ⇒

**Answer:** (A) [Go Back to Q 52](#)



Q53.

**Solution**

**Concept — Reading comprehension (interpreting a phrase):** Work out what “the power of compounding” explains in the passage.

**Step 1 — Locate the phrase:** The passage says a savings habit “slowly turns small sums into a meaningful fund through the power of compounding.”

**Step 2 — Match the option:** (D) “small sums saved regularly grow into a meaningful fund” restates this idea exactly.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) Spending in emergencies is unrelated to compounding.
- (B) The passage denies that a high income alone guarantees wealth.
- (C) The passage says saving is possible for low earners, not impossible.

**Final Answer:** Small regular sums grow into a fund ⇒

**Answer: (D)** [Go Back to Q 53](#)

Q54.

**Solution**

**Concept — Reading comprehension (locating an argument):** Find the criticism the passage attributes to opponents of space exploration.

**Step 1 — Locate the argument:** The passage says critics argue that “the enormous sums spent on rockets and satellites would be better used to solve problems here on Earth.”

**Step 2 — Match the option:** (B) “the money spent could be better used to solve problems on Earth” restates this directly.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) The passage never says missions are impossible.
- (C) The passage shows satellites are useful in daily life.
- (D) It calls curiosity long-standing, not recent.

**Final Answer:** Money better spent on Earth ⇒

**Answer: (B)** [Go Back to Q 54](#)



Q55.

**Solution**

**Concept — Reading comprehension (locating a benefit):** Identify a practical benefit the passage explicitly lists.

**Step 1 — Locate the benefit:** The passage mentions technologies first developed for missions, “from weather satellites to advances in materials and medical imaging.”

**Step 2 — Match the option:** (A) “advances in fields such as medical imaging and materials” is taken straight from the text.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (B) Ending poverty, (C) ending all disasters and (D) free travel for everyone are far stronger claims than the passage makes.

**Final Answer:** Advances in medical imaging and materials ⇒

**Answer: (A)** [Go Back to Q 55](#)

Q56.

**Solution**

**Concept — Reading comprehension (author’s attitude):** The closing sentence usually reveals the author’s stance.

**Step 1 — Locate the conclusion:** The passage ends, “Space exploration, then, is not an escape from earthly concerns but a way of serving them.”

**Step 2 — Match the option:** (C) “supportive, seeing it as a way of serving life on Earth” captures this stance.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) Strongly opposed is the opposite of the author’s view.
- (B) Neutral and (D) Indifferent ignore the clearly positive conclusion.

**Final Answer:** Supportive, it serves life on Earth ⇒

**Answer: (C)** [Go Back to Q 56](#)



Q57.

**Solution**

**Concept — Critical reasoning (assumption):** An assumption is an unstated idea that must be true for the argument to hold.

**Step 1 — State the argument:** Plant thousands of trees → the town's air becomes noticeably cleaner.

**Step 2 — Find the missing link:** The plan works only if the trees actually cut air pollution by a measurable amount. If they do not, cleaner air will not follow.

**Step 3 — Match the option:** (D) “the trees will measurably reduce the level of air pollution” is the required assumption.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) attractiveness, (B) cost compared with filters and (C) availability of space may be true but are not needed for the cleaner-air conclusion.

**Final Answer:** Trees will measurably reduce pollution ⇒  D

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 57](#)

Q58.

**Solution**

**Concept — Critical reasoning (valid conclusion):** “All triangles have three sides” does not mean “all three-sided shapes are triangles.” Treating it so is the fallacy of affirming the consequent.

**Step 1 — Map the statement:** Triangles  $\subseteq$  three-sided shapes, but the statement does not say the reverse. Having three sides is a property of triangles, not a guarantee of being one in this argument's logic.

**Step 2 — Test the shape:** The shape has three sides, yet the two given facts alone do not force it to be a triangle; nothing rules out other descriptions, so we cannot decide from these premises.

**Step 3 — Conclusion:** It cannot be concluded that this shape is a triangle.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) assumes the converse, which is the fallacy.
- (C) and (D) assert “every three-sided shape is a triangle,” a claim the two premises never establish.



**Final Answer:** Cannot conclude it is a triangle  $\Rightarrow$

**Answer:** (B) [Go Back to Q 58](#)

Q59.

### Solution

**Concept — Subject-verb agreement (“neither . . . nor”):** With “neither . . . nor,” the verb agrees with the subject nearer to it (the proximity rule).

**Step 1 — Find the nearer subject:** The subject closer to the verb is “the coach” (singular).

**Step 2 — Choose the verb:** A singular subject takes the singular “was.”

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (B) “were” and (D) “are” are plural and disagree with the nearer singular “coach.”
- (C) “have” does not fit, since the sentence needs the verb “be” before “satisfied.”

**Final Answer:** “the coach was satisfied”  $\Rightarrow$

**Answer:** (A) [Go Back to Q 59](#)

Q60.

### Solution

**Concept — Contextual vocabulary:** Choose the verb whose meaning fits a doctor urging a patient to keep away from smoking.

**Step 1 — Sense needed:** A doctor advising someone about smoking wants the patient to *keep away from* or *hold back from* it completely.

**Step 2 — Match the verb:** “abstain” means to deliberately keep away from something harmful, fitting “abstain from smoking.”

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) indulge means to give in to a habit, the opposite of what a doctor would advise.
- (B) benefit does not take “from” in this sense and gives the wrong meaning.
- (C) suffer means to undergo pain, not to keep away from smoking.



**Final Answer:** “abstain from smoking” ⇒

**Answer: (D)** [Go Back to Q 60](#)



Answer Key

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	C	2	A	3	D	4	B	5	B
6	C	7	A	8	B	9	B	10	A
11	C	12	D	13	A	14	D	15	C
16	B	17	D	18	A	19	C	20	B
21	A	22	D	23	C	24	B	25	D
26	A	27	C	28	B	29	D	30	C
31	A	32	C	33	D	34	B	35	C
36	B	37	B	38	D	39	A	40	C
41	B	42	D	43	A	44	C	45	B
46	A	47	D	48	C	49	A	50	B
51	C	52	A	53	D	54	B	55	A
56	C	57	D	58	B	59	A	60	D

