

# BIHAR-BOARD-CLASS-12-ENGLISH-105-124-205-223-SET-A-2025

## Question Paper with Solutions

**Time Allowed :**3 Hours 15 mins

**Maximum Marks :**100

**Total questions :**107

### General Instructions

#### Instructions to the candidates:

1. **Candidate must enter his/her Question Booklet Serial No. (10 Digits) in the OMR Answer Sheet.**
2. Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.
3. Figures in the right-hand margin indicate full marks.
4. An extra time of 15 minutes has been allotted for the candidates to read the questions carefully.
5. This question booklet is divided into two sections — **Section-A** and **Section-B**.

**Q1.** Have you ..... Amrita? (Choose the correct option)

- (A) see
- (B) saw
- (C) seeing
- (D) seen

**Correct Answer:** (D) seen

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Identify tense.**

The sentence starts with “Have you ...” which indicates the Present Perfect tense. This tense always requires the past participle form of the verb.

**Step 2: Verb forms of ”see”.**

- Base form: see
- Past tense: saw
- Present participle: seeing
- Past participle: seen

**Step 3: Apply the rule.**

In Present Perfect, we use “have/has + past participle”. So, the correct sentence is: “Have you seen Amrita?”

**Final Answer:**

*seen*

#### Quick Tip

Always use the past participle with “have/has” in the Present Perfect tense.

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**Q2.** She ..... know the answer. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) have

- (B) ought
- (C) might
- (D) did

**Correct Answer:** (C) might

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Analyze meaning.**

The sentence suggests a possibility or uncertainty about her knowledge of the answer.

**Step 2: Recall modal verbs.**

“Might” expresses possibility. Other options do not fit: - “have” is incorrect structure.

- “ought” implies duty, not possibility.

- “did” is past tense, does not fit with “know”.

**Step 3: Correct sentence.**

“She might know the answer.” is both grammatically correct and meaningful.

**Final Answer:**

*might*

#### Quick Tip

Use “might” to show possibility, especially in uncertain situations.

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**Q3.** The house caught fire. All the books were burnt. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) As the house caught fire and all the books were burnt
- (B) The house having caught fire, all the books were burnt
- (C) All the books were burnt, the house caught fire
- (D) As the books burnt, the house caught fire

**Correct Answer:** (B) The house having caught fire, all the books were burnt

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understand context.**

The fire started in the house, and because of that, the books were burnt.

**Step 2: Evaluate options.**

- (A) Incorrect: “as ... and ...” creates a faulty construction.
- (B) Correct: “The house having caught fire, all the books were burnt.” shows cause-effect relation clearly.
- (C) Incorrect: Changes order of events (books burnt first, then house).
- (D) Incorrect: Wrong causal order (implies books burnt caused house fire).

**Step 3: Correct sentence.**

The logical cause-effect relation is: “The house having caught fire, all the books were burnt.”

**Final Answer:**

The house having caught fire, all the books were burnt

**Quick Tip**

Use “having + past participle” to express cause and effect in complex sentences.

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**Q4.** Chose the correctly spelt word: (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Genuine
- (B) Genune
- (C) Gennuine
- (D) Gennune

**Correct Answer:** (A) Genuine

**Solution:****Step 1: Recall correct spelling.**

The word “Genuine” means “authentic” or “real”.

**Step 2: Evaluate other options.**

- (B) “Genune” is missing the middle ‘i’.

- (C) “Gennuine” has an extra ‘n’.
- (D) “Gennune” is misspelled.

**Step 3: Conclude.**

The correctly spelt word is “Genuine”.

**Final Answer:**

*Genuine*

**Quick Tip**

Check common tricky spellings by breaking the word into syllables: “Gen-u-ine”.

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**Q5.** Veena had written a letter. (Choose the correct passive sentence)

- (A) A letter had been written by Veena
- (B) A letter is wrote by Veena
- (C) A letter was written by Veena
- (D) Write a letter by Veena

**Correct Answer:** (A) A letter had been written by Veena

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall the rule.**

Passive voice of Past Perfect tense:

Subject + had + been + past participle + by + object

**Step 2: Apply to sentence.**

Active: “Veena had written a letter.” Passive: “A letter had been written by Veena.”

**Step 3: Check other options.**

- (B) Wrong tense (“is wrote” is incorrect).
- (C) Changes tense (Past Simple, not Past Perfect).
- (D) Imperative sentence, incorrect.

**Final Answer:**

A letter had been written by Veena

**Quick Tip**

In passive voice, remember to add “been” in Past Perfect constructions.

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**Q6.** He is wiser than you. (Choose the correct negative sentence)

- (A) He is not wise than you
- (B) He is not the wisest man
- (C) You are not so wise as he
- (D) You are not wiser than you

**Correct Answer:** (C) You are not so wise as he

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall the rule.**

Negative transformation of a comparative sentence (“X is wiser than Y”) is expressed as:

$$Y \text{ is not so/ as + adjective + as } X$$

**Step 2: Apply to the sentence.**

“He is wiser than you” → “You are not so wise as he.”

**Step 3: Check other options.**

- (A) Incorrect: “not wise than” is ungrammatical.
- (B) Changes meaning, talking about general comparison, not same idea.
- (D) Nonsensical, compares person with himself.

**Final Answer:**

You are not so wise as he

### Quick Tip

To negate comparatives, use the structure: “not so/as ... as”.

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**Q7.** Her employer always finds fault ..... her. (Choose the correct option)

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

**Correct Answer:** (C) with

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall the idiomatic phrase.**

The correct phrase is “find fault with someone.” This is an idiomatic usage in English.

**Step 2: Check other prepositions.**

- “find fault in” is incorrect.
- “find fault by” is meaningless.
- “find fault to” is grammatically wrong.

**Step 3: Correct sentence.**

“Her employer always finds fault with her.”

**Final Answer:**

with

### Quick Tip

Certain prepositions are fixed in idioms; memorize them (e.g., “find fault with”).

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**Q8.** Let us have ..... drink now. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) a
- (B) the
- (C) an
- (D) any

**Correct Answer:** (A) a

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall article usage.**

The indefinite article “a” is used before singular countable nouns starting with a consonant sound.

**Step 2: Apply to the sentence.**

The noun “drink” is singular and begins with a consonant sound. So, “a drink” is correct.

**Step 3: Check other options.**

- “the” would refer to a specific drink, not correct here.
- “an” is used before vowel sounds, not applicable.
- “any” is used in negative or interrogative contexts.

**Final Answer:**

a

#### Quick Tip

Use “a” before consonant sounds and “an” before vowel sounds.

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**Q9.** My friend and I ..... our homework everyday. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) do
- (B) does
- (C) have
- (D) has done

**Correct Answer:** (A) do

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Identify subject.**

The subject is “My friend and I” → plural.

**Step 2: Apply subject-verb agreement.**

For plural subjects, we use “do” not “does.”

**Step 3: Correct sentence.**

“My friend and I do our homework everyday.”

**Final Answer:**

*do*

**Quick Tip**

Always match the verb with the subject in number (singular/plural).

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**Q10.** The cat is hiding ..... the bed. (Choose the correct option)

(A) in

(B) under

(C) on

(D) between

**Correct Answer:** (B) under

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall preposition of place.**

The correct preposition to show something below another object is “under.”

**Step 2: Apply to the sentence.**

“The cat is hiding under the bed.”

**Step 3: Check other options.**

- “in” means inside, not correct here.
- “on” means over the surface.
- “between” means in the middle of two objects.

**Final Answer:**

*under*

### Quick Tip

Use “under” for position below something; use “on” for above surface.

**Q11.** ..... of my friends are coming to the party. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) The number
- (B) Much
- (C) Most
- (D) Mere

**Correct Answer:** (C) Most

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understand the context.**

The subject is “friends” (plural countable noun). We need a quantifier that works with plural countable nouns.

**Step 2: Check each option.**

- “The number of my friends” → refers to the count, not the people themselves.
- “Much” is used with uncountable nouns, not correct.
- “Mere” means “only”, does not fit here.
- “Most” means the majority and is correct.

**Step 3: Correct sentence.**

“Most of my friends are coming to the party.”

**Final Answer:**

*Most*

### Quick Tip

Use “most” with plural countable nouns to show majority.

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**Q12.** I can't believe ..... my purse at home. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) I forget
- (B) I have forget
- (C) I forgotten
- (D) I forgot

**Correct Answer:** (D) I forgot

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Check tense requirement.**

The sentence expresses a completed action in the past.

**Step 2: Compare options.**

- (A) “I forget” → present tense, incorrect.
- (B) “I have forget” → grammatically wrong, should be “have forgotten.”
- (C) “I forgotten” → incorrect without auxiliary verb.
- (D) “I forgot” → correct past tense form.

**Step 3: Correct sentence.**

“I can't believe I forgot my purse at home.”

**Final Answer:**

*I forgot*

### Quick Tip

Use simple past (“forgot”) for a completed past action.

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**Q13.** He is the ..... of the two brothers. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) younger
- (B) more young
- (C) young
- (D) youngest

**Correct Answer:** (A) younger

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall rule.**

When comparing two persons or things, we use the comparative degree (–er form).

**Step 2: Apply the rule.**

Between two brothers → use “younger.”

**Step 3: Check other options.**

- “more young” is incorrect form.
- “young” is positive degree, not comparative.
- “youngest” is superlative, used for more than two.

**Step 4: Correct sentence.**

“He is the younger of the two brothers.”

**Final Answer:**

*younger*

**Quick Tip**

Use comparative degree (–er) for two, and superlative (–est) for more than two.

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**Q14.** The cake tasted ..... sweet that I couldn’t finish it. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) so

- (B) very
- (C) such
- (D) too

**Correct Answer:** (A) so

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall the structure.**

“So ... that” is the correct correlative structure.

**Step 2: Apply to sentence.**

“The cake tasted so sweet that I couldn’t finish it.”

**Step 3: Check other options.**

- “very sweet that” → wrong structure.
- “such sweet that” → incorrect.
- “too sweet that” → incorrect combination; correct is “too sweet to eat.”

**Final Answer:**

so

#### Quick Tip

Remember: use “so ... that” for cause-effect; use “too ... to” for impossibility.

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**Q15.** The teacher said, “Is anyone there?” (Choose the correct indirect speech)

- (A) The teacher asked if anyone was there
- (B) The teacher will ask if anyone was there
- (C) The teacher had said if anyone was there
- (D) The teacher will say if anyone was there

**Correct Answer:** (A) The teacher asked if anyone was there

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall rules of indirect speech.**

When converting a direct question into indirect speech: - Reporting verb “said” becomes “asked” in questions. - Present tense verbs are changed into past tense.

**Step 2: Apply to the sentence.**

Direct: The teacher said, “Is anyone there?” Indirect: The teacher asked if anyone was there.

**Step 3: Check other options.**

- (B) Future tense “will ask” is incorrect.
- (C) “had said if” is grammatically wrong.
- (D) “will say” changes the tense.

**Final Answer:**

The teacher asked if anyone was there

**Quick Tip**

In indirect questions, replace “said” with “asked” and change present to past tense.

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**Q16.** We ..... be punctual. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) ought
- (B) might
- (C) may
- (D) must

**Correct Answer:** (D) must

**Solution:****Step 1: Understand context.**

The sentence expresses obligation or necessity.

**Step 2: Recall modal verbs.**

- “must” is used to show strong necessity or obligation.
- “ought” means duty but is weaker than “must.”

- “may” shows possibility, not obligation.
- “might” shows weak possibility.

**Step 3: Correct sentence.**

“We must be punctual.”

**Final Answer:**

*must*

**Quick Tip**

Use “must” to indicate strict necessity or obligation.

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**Q17.** Is Hindi spoken by them? (Choose the correct active voice)

- (A) Do they speak Hindi?
- (B) Speak Hindi will they?
- (C) Should they speak Hindi?
- (D) Hindi must they speak?

**Correct Answer:** (A) Do they speak Hindi?

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall active-passive conversion.**

Passive: Is Hindi spoken by them? Active: Do they speak Hindi?

**Step 2: Check subject and tense.**

- Subject in passive = “Hindi.” - Subject in active = “they.” - Tense: Present Simple → use “do.”

**Step 3: Check other options.**

- (B) Incorrect word order.
- (C) Changes meaning (suggestion, not fact).
- (D) Grammatically incorrect.

**Final Answer:**

Do they speak Hindi?

**Quick Tip**

When converting passive to active, identify the subject and tense carefully.

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**Q18.** Smita is rich. Smita is a miser. (Choose the correct combination)

- (A) Smita is rich, still she is not a miser
- (B) Smita is rich, still she is a miser
- (C) Smita is not rich, still she is a miser
- (D) Smita is rich, still she was a miser

**Correct Answer:** (B) Smita is rich, still she is a miser

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understand meaning.**

Both sentences should be joined logically. Smita being rich but still a miser expresses a contrast.

**Step 2: Use connector “still.”**

“Still” shows unexpected contrast between two facts.

**Step 3: Correct sentence.**

“Smita is rich, still she is a miser.”

**Step 4: Eliminate wrong options.**

- (A) Wrong: contradicts the given fact.
- (C) Wrong: says “not rich” (false).
- (D) Wrong: tense mismatch “was.”

**Final Answer:**

Smita is rich, still she is a miser

### Quick Tip

Use “still” to connect two contrasting facts in the same tense.

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**Q19.** Shyam teaches Mathematics ..... English. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) across
- (B) besides
- (C) beside
- (D) over

**Correct Answer:** (B) besides

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall meaning of “besides.”**

“Besides” means “in addition to.”

**Step 2: Apply to the sentence.**

“Shyam teaches Mathematics besides English.” → Correct.

**Step 3: Check other options.**

- “across” shows direction, not suitable.
- “beside” means “next to,” not relevant.
- “over” means “above,” not correct here.

**Final Answer:**

*besides*

### Quick Tip

Remember: “besides” = “in addition to,” while “beside” = “next to.”

**Q20.** You take it very easy, ..... ? (Choose the correct option)

- (A) didn't you
- (B) mustn't you
- (C) won't you
- (D) don't you

**Correct Answer:** (D) don't you

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall tag question rules.**

Tag questions repeat the auxiliary verb of the main sentence.

**Step 2: Apply rule.**

Sentence: "You take it very easy." → Verb "take" (present simple). Auxiliary: "do." Negative tag: "don't you?"

**Step 3: Correct sentence.**

"You take it very easy, don't you?"

**Final Answer:**

don't you

#### Quick Tip

In tag questions, repeat the helping verb; if none present, use "do/does/did."

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**Q21.** I am going to ..... (Choose the correct option)

- (A) cutting my hair
- (B) hair cut
- (C) have my hair cut
- (D) cut my hair up

**Correct Answer:** (C) have my hair cut

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall causative construction.**

When you arrange for someone else to do something for you, use:

have + object + past participle

**Step 2: Apply to sentence.**

“I am going to have my hair cut.” → correct usage.

**Step 3: Check other options.**

- (A) Wrong structure.
- (B) Not a proper verb phrase.
- (D) Unnatural expression.

**Final Answer:**

have my hair cut

**Quick Tip**

For services done by others, use causative: “have + object + past participle.”

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**Q22.** Choose the correct spelling: (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Suced
- (B) Sicued
- (C) Succeed
- (D) Suceud

**Correct Answer:** (C) Succeed

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall correct spelling.**

The correct spelling of the word meaning “to achieve something” is “Succeed.”

**Step 2: Check other options.**

- (A) “Suced” → incorrect, missing letters.

- (B) “Sicued” → incorrect arrangement of letters.
- (D) “Suceud” → incorrect spelling.

**Step 3: Conclude.**

The correct spelling is “Succeed.”

**Final Answer:**

*Succeed*

**Quick Tip**

Learn spellings by syllable division: suc-ceed.

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**Q23.** He speaks ..... French nor English. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) either
- (B) and
- (C) or
- (D) neither

**Correct Answer:** (D) neither

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall correlative conjunctions.**

The correct pair is “neither . . . nor.”

**Step 2: Apply to the sentence.**

“He speaks neither French nor English.”

**Step 3: Check other options.**

- “either” requires “or.”
- “and” changes meaning.
- “or” alone is incomplete.

**Final Answer:**

*neither*

### Quick Tip

Remember the pair: “neither . . . nor” for negative combinations.

---

**Q24.** The synonym of ‘Genuine’ is (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Pleasant
- (B) Angry
- (C) Graceful
- (D) Real

**Correct Answer:** (D) Real

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall meaning.**

“Genuine” means “authentic, true, real.”

**Step 2: Check options.**

- “Pleasant” means nice, not same.
- “Angry” is opposite in mood.
- “Graceful” relates to elegance, not authenticity.
- “Real” matches perfectly.

**Step 3: Conclude.**

Thus, synonym = “Real.”

**Final Answer:**

*Real*

### Quick Tip

For synonyms, focus on the exact meaning in context.

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**Q25.** The antonym of ‘Admit’ is (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Confess
- (B) Accept
- (C) Deny
- (D) Comply

**Correct Answer:** (C) Deny

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall meaning.**

“Admit” means “to accept or acknowledge.”

**Step 2: Find opposite.**

The opposite is “Deny” (to refuse to accept).

**Step 3: Check other options.**

- “Confess” is similar, not opposite.
- “Accept” is same meaning.
- “Comply” means agree, not opposite.

**Final Answer:**

*Deny*

**Quick Tip**

Antonyms are exact opposites: Admit Deny.

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**Q26.** The synonym of ‘Strategy’ is (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Fame
- (B) Criminal
- (C) Plan
- (D) Invasion

**Correct Answer:** (C) Plan

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall meaning.**

“Strategy” means a method or plan to achieve a goal.

**Step 2: Compare options.**

- “Fame” means popularity, not related.
- “Criminal” is unrelated.
- “Plan” fits perfectly with the meaning of “strategy.”
- “Invasion” means attack, not similar.

**Final Answer:**

*Plan*

**Quick Tip**

Strategy and plan are synonyms because both involve preparation to achieve a goal.

---

**Q27.** The antonym of ‘Common’ is (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Ordinary
- (B) Rare
- (C) Natural
- (D) Beautiful

**Correct Answer:** (B) Rare

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall meaning.**

“Common” means something usual, ordinary, or frequently found.

**Step 2: Find opposite.**

The opposite is “Rare,” which means unusual or not frequently found.

**Step 3: Eliminate wrong options.**

- “Ordinary” is similar, not opposite.
- “Natural” is unrelated.
- “Beautiful” is unrelated.

**Final Answer:**

*Rare*

**Quick Tip**

When finding antonyms, look for the word that expresses the exact opposite meaning.

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**Q28.** The synonym of ‘Justify’ is (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Attack
- (B) Explain
- (C) React
- (D) Erase

**Correct Answer:** (B) Explain

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall meaning.**

“To justify” means to give reasons or to explain why something is right.

**Step 2: Compare options.**

- “Attack” is unrelated.
- “Explain” is the correct synonym.
- “React” means respond, not same.
- “Erase” means remove, opposite context.

**Final Answer:**

*Explain*

### Quick Tip

Justify means to defend or explain an action with valid reasons.

---

**Q29.** The antonym of ‘Duplicate’ is (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Copy
- (B) Clone
- (C) Original
- (D) Photostat

**Correct Answer:** (C) Original

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall meaning.**

“Duplicate” means an exact copy of something.

**Step 2: Find opposite.**

The opposite is “Original,” meaning the first or authentic one.

**Step 3: Eliminate wrong options.**

- “Copy” has similar meaning, not opposite.
- “Clone” also means duplicate.
- “Photostat” is another kind of copy.

**Final Answer:**

*Original*

### Quick Tip

Remember: Duplicate = Copy, while Original = the authentic one.

---

**Q30.** He is a straightforward man and keeps flatterers ..... . (Choose the correct option)

- (A) at any rate
- (B) at arm's length
- (C) all the rage
- (D) all told

**Correct Answer:** (B) at arm's length

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall the idiom.**

The phrase “at arm's length” means to keep someone at a distance, especially when you don't trust them.

**Step 2: Apply to the sentence.**

A straightforward man avoids flatterers, so he keeps them “at arm's length.”

**Step 3: Eliminate wrong options.**

- “at any rate” means anyhow.
- “all the rage” means very popular.
- “all told” means in total.

**Final Answer:**

|                 |
|-----------------|
| at arm's length |
|-----------------|

**Quick Tip**

Remember: “at arm's length” = keep at a safe or cautious distance.

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**Q31.** He declared his ..... . (Choose the correct option)

- (A) innocence
- (B) innocently
- (C) innocent
- (D) by innocent

**Correct Answer:** (A) innocence

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Identify the form needed.**

After “declared his,” a noun should follow.

**Step 2: Compare options.**

- “innocence” is a noun, correct.
- “innocently” is an adverb, wrong.
- “innocent” is an adjective, wrong.
- “by innocent” is incorrect usage.

**Step 3: Correct sentence.**

“He declared his innocence.”

**Final Answer:**

*innocence*

**Quick Tip**

Always check the part of speech required by the sentence structure.

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**Q32.** They were surprised ..... hear him sing. (Choose the correct option)

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

**Correct Answer:** (B) to

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall correct preposition.**

The correct construction is “surprised to hear.”

**Step 2: Apply to the sentence.**

“They were surprised to hear him sing.”

**Step 3: Eliminate wrong options.**

- “by hear” → wrong structure.
- “at hear” → incorrect.
- “of hear” → incorrect.

**Final Answer:**

*to*

**Quick Tip**

Common verbs/adjectives follow fixed prepositions: “surprised to hear” is correct.

---

**Q33.** He has properly ..... the rules and regulations. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) understand
- (B) to understand
- (C) understood
- (D) understanding

**Correct Answer:** (C) understood

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Identify the tense.**

The helping verb “has” requires the past participle form.

**Step 2: Compare options.**

- “understand” → base form, incorrect.
- “to understand” → infinitive, incorrect.
- “understood” → past participle, correct.
- “understanding” → participle/gerund, incorrect here.

**Step 3: Correct sentence.**

“He has properly understood the rules and regulations.”

**Final Answer:**

*understood*

**Quick Tip**

After “has/have/had,” always use the past participle form of the verb.

---

**Q34.** ....., a borrower nor a lender be. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Either
- (B) Nor
- (C) Neither
- (D) Or

**Correct Answer:** (C) Neither

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Identify the sentence structure.**

The expression “\_\_\_\_\_, a borrower nor a lender be” suggests a negative construction. It follows the correlative pair pattern “Neither ... nor ...”.

**Step 2: Apply rule.**

In English grammar, “neither” is always paired with “nor”. Thus the sentence must begin with “Neither”.

**Step 3: Verify.**

“Neither a borrower nor a lender be” is a well-known phrase from Shakespeare’s Hamlet.

**Final Answer:**

*Neither*

### Quick Tip

Correlative conjunctions like “either ... or” and “neither ... nor” must always be used in pairs.

**Q35.** India is progressing ..... (Choose the correct option)

- (A) by leaps and bounds
- (B) by fits and starts
- (C) by body and soul
- (D) by hook or by crook

**Correct Answer:** (A) by leaps and bounds

### Solution:

#### Step 1: Recall meaning of idioms.

- “By leaps and bounds” = very fast progress.
- “By fits and starts” = irregular progress.
- “By body and soul” = not a standard idiom.
- “By hook or by crook” = by any means, fair or unfair.

#### Step 2: Match with context.

The sentence “India is progressing ...” requires a positive idiom that conveys rapid development.

#### Step 3: Select answer.

Hence, “by leaps and bounds” is correct.

### Final Answer:

by leaps and bounds

### Quick Tip

Idioms must fit the logical and positive sense of the sentence.

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**Q36.** I want to take ----- classes this year. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) less
- (B) little
- (C) fewer
- (D) any

**Correct Answer:** (C) fewer

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Identify the noun type.**

The word “classes” is a countable plural noun.

**Step 2: Apply grammar rule.**

- “Less” is used with uncountable nouns.
- “Little” is also used with uncountable nouns.
- “Fewer” is used with countable plural nouns.
- “Any” does not fit naturally in this comparative sense.

**Step 3: Choose correct.**

Therefore, the right option is “fewer”.

**Final Answer:**

fewer

**Quick Tip**

Remember: “fewer” = countable nouns, “less/little” = uncountable nouns.

---

**Q37.** Do you think we will be unhappy ----- ? (Choose the correct option)

- (A) ever
- (B) forever
- (C) never

(D) not

**Correct Answer:** (B) forever

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understand meaning.**

The sentence asks about a state of being unhappy in the future.

**Step 2: Check options.**

- “Ever” = at any time; doesn’t suit here.
- “Forever” = for all time; makes sense with “unhappy”.
- “Never” = at no time; grammatically doesn’t fit after “will be”.
- “Not” = incomplete and awkward.

**Step 3: Select best fit.**

Thus, “forever” completes the sentence correctly: “Do you think we will be unhappy forever?”

**Final Answer:**

|         |
|---------|
| forever |
|---------|

#### Quick Tip

When checking options, ensure the meaning is natural and grammatically correct in context.

---

**Q38.** I have nothing \_\_\_\_\_ to say. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) further
- (B) neither
- (C) farther
- (D) either

**Correct Answer:** (A) further

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understand context.**

The sentence implies “I have no additional thing to say.”

**Step 2: Check meanings.**

- “Further” = additional, more.
- “Farther” = more distant (used in physical distance).
- “Neither” = negative option (does not fit here).
- “Either” = one of the two (not suitable here).

**Step 3: Apply.**

Thus, “further” correctly conveys “no additional thing to say.”

**Final Answer:**

further

**Quick Tip**

Use “further” for additional information, “farther” for distance.

---

**Q39.** London is the \_\_\_\_\_ city in England. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) larger
- (B) largest
- (C) more large
- (D) large

**Correct Answer:** (B) largest

**Solution:****Step 1: Identify degree of comparison.**

The sentence uses “the ... city,” which requires the superlative form.

**Step 2: Compare forms.**

- “Large” = positive degree.
- “Larger” = comparative degree (between two).

- “Largest” = superlative degree (among many).
- “More large” = incorrect formation.

**Step 3: Apply.**

Among all cities in England, London is the biggest. Thus “largest” fits.

**Final Answer:**

largest

**Quick Tip**

Use superlatives with “the” when comparing more than two.

---

**Q40.** I am not ill, but I am \_\_\_\_\_ tired. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) a little
- (B) a few
- (C) some
- (D) few

**Correct Answer:** (A) a little

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Identify noun type.**

The word “tired” is an uncountable adjective condition.

**Step 2: Check usage.**

- “A little” = small amount, used with uncountables.
- “A few” = small number, used with countables.
- “Some” = indefinite quantity, but not exact here.
- “Few” = very small number (countable).

**Step 3: Apply.**

Since “tired” is uncountable, “a little” is correct.

**Final Answer:**

a little

### Quick Tip

Use “a little” with uncountables (water, tiredness), “a few” with countables (books).

---

**Q41.** Are they not cheating us? (Choose the correct passive voice)

- (A) Are we not being cheated?
- (B) Are we being not cheated?
- (C) Are not we being cheated?
- (D) Are we being cheated?

**Correct Answer:** (A) Are we not being cheated?

### Solution:

**Step 1: Convert active to passive.**

Active: “Are they not cheating us?”

Object = “us” → becomes subject “we” in passive.

**Step 2: Structure passive.**

Passive: “Are we not being cheated (by them)?”

**Step 3: Check word order.**

Option (A) maintains correct auxiliary placement and negative.

**Final Answer:**

Are we not being cheated?

### Quick Tip

While converting to passive, the object of active becomes the subject, and auxiliary verbs maintain their order.

---

**Q42.** He said, “I am going to college just now.” (Choose the correct indirect narration)

- (A) He said that he was going to college just now.

- (B) He asked that he was going to college just then.  
(C) He said that he was going to college just then.  
(D) He asked that he was going to college just now.

**Correct Answer:** (C) He said that he was going to college just then.

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Identify tense.**

Direct speech: “I am going . . .” (present continuous). In indirect speech after a past reporting verb (“he said”), present continuous becomes past continuous (“was going”).

**Step 2: Change of adverb.**

The phrase “just now” in direct speech changes to “just then” in indirect speech.

**Step 3: Apply rules.**

So, the correct sentence is: “He said that he was going to college just then.”

**Final Answer:**

He said that he was going to college just then.

#### Quick Tip

When converting direct to indirect speech, shift tense back one step and adjust time expressions (e.g., now → then, today → that day).

---

**Q43.** Have some more tea, \_\_\_\_\_ ? (Choose the correct option)

- (A) won't you  
(B) must you  
(C) can you  
(D) should you

**Correct Answer:** (A) won't you

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recognize sentence type.**

This is an imperative sentence (“Have some more tea”). In English, question tags for imperatives are usually “will you” or “won’t you.”

**Step 2: Select correct option.**

Here, the polite form “won’t you” is used to make the suggestion sound softer and more inviting.

**Step 3: Verify.**

Thus, “Have some more tea, won’t you?” is correct.

**Final Answer:**

won’t you

**Quick Tip**

Imperative sentences often take “will you” or “won’t you” in question tags.

---

**Q44.** The rise and fall of the tide \_\_\_\_\_ due to lunar influence. (Choose the correct option)

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

**Correct Answer:** (B) is

**Solution:****Step 1: Identify subject.**

The subject is “The rise and fall of the tide.” This is a compound phrase, but it refers to a single phenomenon (one event).

**Step 2: Apply verb agreement.**

When two nouns are joined by “and” but refer to a single idea, they take a singular verb.

**Step 3: Apply rule.**

Thus, the correct verb is singular “is.”

**Final Answer:**

is

**Quick Tip**

When two subjects joined by “and” express a single idea, use a singular verb (e.g., “Bread and butter is my favorite breakfast”).

---

**Q45.** The children locked \_\_\_\_\_ up in the cupboard. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) their
- (B) himself
- (C) them
- (D) themselves

**Correct Answer:** (D) themselves

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Identify subject.**

The subject is “The children,” which is plural.

**Step 2: Reflexive pronouns.**

When the subject and object are the same, reflexive pronouns are used: myself, himself, themselves, etc.

**Step 3: Apply rule.**

Since “children” is plural, the reflexive pronoun must be “themselves.”

**Final Answer:**

themselves

**Quick Tip**

Reflexive pronouns are used when the subject and object refer to the same entity.

---

**Q46.** The synonym of ‘Concealed’ is (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Covered
- (B) Sealed
- (C) Closed
- (D) Hidden

**Correct Answer:** (D) Hidden

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Meaning of concealed.**

“Concealed” means kept secret, hidden from view, not easily seen.

**Step 2: Compare options.**

- Covered = placed something over.
- Sealed = closed tightly.
- Closed = shut.
- Hidden = kept out of sight.

**Step 3: Best synonym.**

The exact synonym is “hidden.”

**Final Answer:**

Hidden

**Quick Tip**

Always look for the option closest in meaning, not just loosely related.

---

**Q47.** The antonym of ‘Urban’ is (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Rustic
- (B) Rural
- (C) Civil

(D) Foreign

**Correct Answer:** (B) Rural

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Meaning of urban.**

“Urban” refers to cities and towns.

**Step 2: Identify opposite.**

- Rustic = relating to countryside, simple (close, but not exact).
- Rural = belonging to the countryside (direct opposite).
- Civil = related to citizens.
- Foreign = from another country.

**Step 3: Apply.**

The exact antonym is “rural.”

**Final Answer:**

Rural

#### Quick Tip

Urban = city life; Rural = village life. Keep antonyms precise.

---

**Q48.** ‘To make both ends meet’ means (Choose the correct option)

- (A) to buy costly articles
- (B) to live within one’s income
- (C) live a luxurious life
- (D) to please all people

**Correct Answer:** (B) to live within one’s income

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Meaning of idiom.**

“To make both ends meet” refers to balancing expenses with income.

**Step 2: Compare options.**

- Buying costly articles contradicts the idea.
- Living within one’s income fits perfectly.
- Luxurious life means overspending.
- Pleasing all people is irrelevant.

**Step 3: Conclude.**

Therefore, the meaning is “to live within one’s income.”

**Final Answer:**

to live within one’s income

**Quick Tip**

Idioms often carry figurative meanings. Always think beyond literal words.

---

**Q49.** The examination will begin \_\_\_\_\_ Monday. (Choose the correct option)

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

**Correct Answer:** (D) on

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Identify the preposition rule.**

When referring to days of the week, the correct preposition is “on.”

**Step 2: Compare options.**

- “From Monday” → indicates starting point but requires continuation (e.g., from Monday to Friday).
- “At Monday” → incorrect usage.

- “In Monday” → incorrect preposition.
- “On Monday” → correct usage for a day reference.

**Step 3: Apply.**

Thus, the correct sentence is: “The examination will begin on Monday.”

**Final Answer:**

on

**Quick Tip**

Use “on” for days/dates, “in” for months/years, and “at” for specific times.

---

**Q50.** I sing ..... (Choose the correct option)

- (A) badly
- (B) lately
- (C) largely
- (D) orderly

**Correct Answer:** (A) badly

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Identify required part of speech.**

The sentence “I sing ...” requires an adverb to describe the verb “sing.”

**Step 2: Check options.**

- “Badly” = poorly, incorrectly (adverb).
- “Lately” = recently (doesn’t fit here).
- “Largely” = mostly (illogical here).
- “Orderly” = adjective, not an adverb of manner here.

**Step 3: Apply.**

Hence, “I sing badly” is correct.

**Final Answer:**

badly

**Quick Tip**

Adverbs modify verbs. Always match the adverb that describes the action logically.

**Q51.** Choose the correct sentence: (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Neither of the girls solves its task
- (B) Neither of the girls solves her task
- (C) Neither of the girls solves their task
- (D) Neither of the girls solve her tasks

**Correct Answer:** (B) Neither of the girls solves her task

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Rule of “Neither.”**

“Neither” is singular and takes a singular verb.

**Step 2: Check options.**

- (A) “its task” is incorrect because “girls” are human beings, not objects.
- (B) “her task” is correct because “girl” is singular and feminine.
- (C) “their task” is plural, which is incorrect with “neither.”
- (D) “solve” (plural verb) does not match “neither.”

**Step 3: Conclude.**

Thus, the correct sentence is: “Neither of the girls solves her task.”

**Final Answer:**

Neither of the girls solves her task

**Quick Tip**

“Neither” and “Either” are always singular and take singular verbs.

---

**Q52.** A variety of music \_\_\_\_\_ available here. (Choose the correct option)

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

**Correct Answer:** (A) is

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Identify subject.**

The subject is “A variety,” which is singular. The phrase “of music” is only a qualifier.

**Step 2: Apply subject-verb agreement.**

Since “a variety” is singular, the verb must also be singular.

**Step 3: Choose correct form.**

Thus, the correct verb is “is.”

**Final Answer:**

is

**Quick Tip**

When “a variety of” is used, the verb agrees with “variety” (singular), not with the noun after “of.”

---

**Q53.** I have lived in this town \_\_\_\_\_ childhood. (Choose the correct option)

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

**Correct Answer:** (D) since

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understand usage of “since” and “for.”**

- “Since” is used for a point of time.
- “For” is used for a duration.

**Step 2: Apply to sentence.**

Here, “childhood” indicates a point in time (starting period).

**Step 3: Conclude.**

Therefore, the correct preposition is “since.”

**Final Answer:**

since

**Quick Tip**

Use “since” for the starting point of time, and “for” for a period of time.

---

**Q54.** Choose the correct spelling: (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Terrorism
- (B) Turrism
- (C) Taerorism
- (D) Tearism

**Correct Answer:** (A) Terrorism

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Identify correct spelling.**

The correct spelling of the word meaning “unlawful use of violence to instill fear” is “Terrorism.”

**Step 2: Eliminate wrong options.**

- “Turrism” is incorrect.
- “Taerorism” is misspelled.

- “Tearism” is also wrong.

**Step 3: Confirm.**

Thus, the right spelling is “Terrorism.”

**Final Answer:**

Terrorism

**Quick Tip**

Spelling questions test familiarity. Focus on commonly misspelled words.

---

**Q55.** We arrived on \_\_\_\_\_ fourth of July. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) a
- (B) the
- (C) an
- (D) none

**Correct Answer:** (B) the

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Rule of definite article.**

When referring to specific dates and events, the article “the” is used.

**Step 2: Apply to example.**

“Fourth of July” is a specific event/date, hence it requires “the.”

**Step 3: Conclude.**

Correct sentence: “We arrived on the fourth of July.”

**Final Answer:**

the

**Quick Tip**

Use “the” before ordinal numbers when denoting a specific date (e.g., the 1st of May).

---

**Q56.** The ladder leaned ----- the wall. (Choose the correct option)

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

**Correct Answer:** (A) against

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Understand the verb “lean.”**

The preposition that collocates with “lean” is “against.”

**Step 2: Check options.**

- “Against” = touching or resting upon, which is correct.
- “For” = not meaningful here.
- “At” = does not fit.
- “In” = incorrect usage.

**Step 3: Apply.**

Correct expression: “The ladder leaned against the wall.”

**Final Answer:**

|         |
|---------|
| against |
|---------|

**Quick Tip**

Some verbs are always paired with fixed prepositions, e.g., “lean against,” “depend on.”

---

**Q57.** Choose the correct spelling: (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Exploiete
- (B) Expluit
- (C) Exploit

(D) Expleat

**Correct Answer:** (C) Exploit

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Identify correct spelling.**

The correct word is “Exploit,” meaning to make use of or take advantage of.

**Step 2: Eliminate wrong options.**

- “Exploiete” is misspelled.
- “Expluit” is incorrect.
- “Expleat” is also incorrect.

**Step 3: Conclude.**

Thus, the correct spelling is “Exploit.”

**Final Answer:**

|         |
|---------|
| Exploit |
|---------|

#### Quick Tip

In spelling questions, rely on familiar correct forms rather than unfamiliar variations.

---

**Q58.** I ..... swim across the river. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) can
- (B) dare
- (C) need
- (D) may have

**Correct Answer:** (A) can

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Identify verb type.**

The blank requires a modal verb showing ability.

**Step 2: Compare options.**

- “Can” = expresses ability (correct).
- “Dare” = expresses courage, but doesn’t fit naturally here.
- “Need” = doesn’t show ability.
- “May have” = refers to possibility in past, not suitable.

**Step 3: Apply.**

Correct sentence: “I can swim across the river.”

**Final Answer:**

can

**Quick Tip**

Use “can” to express ability, “may” for permission, and “must” for necessity.

---

**Q59.** ..... they played well, they could not win. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Though
- (B) Even though
- (C) Even if
- (D) May though

**Correct Answer:** (B) Even though

**Solution:****Step 1: Understand sentence.**

The sentence contrasts playing well with not winning. This requires a concessive conjunction.

**Step 2: Compare options.**

- “Though” = weaker contrast, but usually used at the end of a sentence.
- “Even though” = strong concessive conjunction, correct here.
- “Even if” = hypothetical, not suitable.

- “May though” = incorrect phrase.

**Step 3: Apply.**

Correct sentence: “Even though they played well, they could not win.”

**Final Answer:**

Even though

**Quick Tip**

Use “even though” to show strong contrast between two facts.

---

**Q60.** I always \_\_\_\_\_ the poor. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) help
- (B) helped
- (C) helping
- (D) has helping

**Correct Answer:** (A) help

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Identify tense.**

The word “always” indicates a habitual present tense.

**Step 2: Compare options.**

- “Help” = base form, matches with present tense (correct).
- “Helped” = past tense, does not fit.
- “Helping” = continuous form, incorrect here.
- “Has helping” = grammatically wrong.

**Step 3: Apply.**

Correct sentence: “I always help the poor.”

**Final Answer:**

help

### Quick Tip

Habitual actions with “always” use the simple present tense.

---

**Q61.** Gandhiji completely dominated Indian politics (Choose the correct option)

- (A) from 1915 till 1948
- (B) from 1917 till 1947
- (C) from 1920 till 1950
- (D) from 1930 till 1952

**Correct Answer:** (B) from 1917 till 1947

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Historical context.**

Mahatma Gandhi entered Indian politics prominently in 1917 with the Champaran Satyagraha.

**Step 2: Duration of influence.**

He remained the central figure in Indian politics and the freedom struggle until 1947, when India gained independence.

**Step 3: Eliminate other options.**

- 1915: He returned from South Africa, but mass leadership began only in 1917.
- 1920 or 1930: These are later stages, not the beginning.
- 1950/1952: Post-independence, Gandhi was no longer alive (he was assassinated in 1948).

**Final Answer:**

from 1917 till 1947

### Quick Tip

Champaran Satyagraha (1917) marked Gandhi’s entry into Indian mass politics.

**Q62.** Nanukaka went to the \_\_\_\_\_ Auto Dealers. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Sikka
- (B) Alankar
- (C) Rikka
- (D) Kia

**Correct Answer:** (A) Sikka

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall context.**

This is from the story “The Interview” by P. Lal, where Nanukaka visits the Sikka Auto Dealers.

**Step 2: Eliminate options.**

Other options (Alankar, Rikka, Kia) do not appear in the narrative.

**Final Answer:**

Sikka

#### Quick Tip

Always link story-based questions with the source text to recall details.

---

**Q63.** \_\_\_\_\_ got the Nobel Prize in literature in 1950. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Mahatma Gandhi
- (B) Dr. Zakir Hussain
- (C) H. E. Bates
- (D) Bertrand Russell

**Correct Answer:** (D) Bertrand Russell

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Historical fact.**

The Nobel Prize in Literature in 1950 was awarded to the British philosopher and writer Bertrand Russell.

**Step 2: Eliminate other options.**

- Mahatma Gandhi: Never received a Nobel Prize.
- Dr. Zakir Hussain: Was the President of India, not a Nobel laureate.
- H. E. Bates: An English writer, but not a Nobel Prize winner.

**Final Answer:**

Bertrand Russell

**Quick Tip**

For Nobel Prize questions, remembering the year and field is crucial.

---

**Q64.** \_\_\_\_\_ is the chief source of revenue of a newspaper. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Companies
- (B) Donation
- (C) Advertisement
- (D) Government

**Correct Answer:** (C) Advertisement

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Business model of newspapers.**

Newspapers earn mainly through advertisements placed by companies, businesses, and institutions.

**Step 2: Eliminate wrong options.**

- Companies: They advertise, but companies themselves are not the revenue model.
- Donations: Not the main source.
- Government: May provide subsidies, but not the chief revenue source.

**Step 3: Conclude.**

Thus, advertisements are the main source of income.

**Final Answer:**

Advertisement

**Quick Tip**

Most newspapers keep their prices low; advertisements cover major costs.

---

**Q65.** Who became the President of India in 1967? (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Dr. S. Radhakrishnan
- (B) Dr. Rajendra Prasad
- (C) Dr. Zakir Hussain
- (D) Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam

**Correct Answer:** (C) Dr. Zakir Hussain

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall timeline of Indian Presidents.**

- Dr. Rajendra Prasad: First President (1950–1962).
- Dr. S. Radhakrishnan: Second President (1962–1967).
- Dr. Zakir Hussain: Third President, elected in 1967.
- Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam: President much later (2002–2007).

**Step 2: Conclude.**

Hence, in 1967 Dr. Zakir Hussain became the President of India.

**Final Answer:**

Dr. Zakir Hussain

**Quick Tip**

Always remember the chronological order of Indian Presidents for GK exams.

---

**Q66.** Who was one of the greatest orators in American history? (Choose the correct option)

- (A) H. E. Bates
- (B) Johnson
- (C) Martin Luther King, Jr.
- (D) Walt Whitman

**Correct Answer:** (C) Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Identify famous orators.**

Martin Luther King, Jr. is remembered worldwide for his speeches, especially “I Have a Dream” (1963).

**Step 2: Eliminate others.**

- H. E. Bates: A British writer.
- Johnson: No direct association with oratory fame here.
- Walt Whitman: A poet, not primarily an orator.

**Step 3: Conclude.**

Thus, the answer is Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Final Answer:**

|                         |
|-------------------------|
| Martin Luther King, Jr. |
|-------------------------|

**Quick Tip**

Link “orator” in American history with Civil Rights Movement → Martin Luther King, Jr.

---

**Q67.** \_\_\_\_\_ is told by an aunt. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Jupthoka
- (B) Rupthoka

(C) Supthoka

(D) Tupthoka

**Correct Answer:** (D) Tupthoka

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall context.**

In the story “An Indian Story,” the tale narrated by the aunt is “Tupthoka.”

**Step 2: Eliminate wrong spellings.**

Jupthoka, Rupthoka, Supthoka are incorrect variations.

**Final Answer:**

|          |
|----------|
| Tupthoka |
|----------|

#### Quick Tip

Literature questions often check memory of story titles or characters.

---

**Q68.** H. E. Bates belonged to \_\_\_\_\_. (Choose the correct option)

(A) Austria

(B) Germany

(C) France

(D) Britain

**Correct Answer:** (D) Britain

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall author.**

H. E. Bates (Herbert Ernest Bates) was a famous English novelist and short story writer.

**Step 2: Eliminate wrong options.**

He was not from Austria, Germany, or France.

**Step 3: Confirm.**

Thus, he belonged to Britain.

**Final Answer:**

Britain

**Quick Tip**

Remember: H. E. Bates = English novelist, known for rural life depictions.

---

**Q69.** The food in Indian villages was served on \_\_\_\_\_ leaves. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) banana
- (B) banyan
- (C) papaya
- (D) mango

**Correct Answer:** (A) banana

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Traditional practice.**

In many Indian villages, meals are traditionally served on banana leaves.

**Step 2: Eliminate others.**

- Banyan leaves: Too small and unsuitable.
- Papaya leaves: Rarely used.
- Mango leaves: Used for decoration, not as plates.

**Final Answer:**

banana

**Quick Tip**

Banana leaves are eco-friendly and widely used as natural plates in Indian villages.

**Q70.** Chubukov is a \_\_\_\_\_. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) teacher
- (B) landowner
- (C) doctor
- (D) farmer

**Correct Answer:** (B) landowner

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall the play.**

In Anton Chekhov's one-act play *\*The Proposal\**, Chubukov is portrayed as a wealthy landowner.

**Step 2: Eliminate incorrect options.**

He is not a teacher, doctor, or farmer. His role in the play is specifically a landowner dealing with property disputes.

**Final Answer:**

|           |
|-----------|
| landowner |
|-----------|

#### Quick Tip

Remember characters' professions/roles from plays, as they are common exam questions.

---

**Q71.** \_\_\_\_\_ wants to gladly accept death. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) John Keats
- (B) John Donne
- (C) Walt Whitman
- (D) T. S. Eliot

**Correct Answer:** (A) John Keats

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall poetic theme.**

John Keats, in his poems, often expressed readiness to accept death peacefully, as seen in “Ode to a Nightingale.”

**Step 2: Eliminate others.**

- John Donne: Wrote metaphysical poetry, focusing on spiritual struggles.
- Walt Whitman: Celebrated life and nature.
- T. S. Eliot: His works express despair but not joyful acceptance of death.

**Final Answer:**

John Keats

**Quick Tip**

Romantic poets like Keats often embraced mortality as a natural part of beauty and truth.

---

**Q72.** ‘Leaves of Grass’ was published in ..... (Choose the correct option)

- (A) 1892
- (B) 1855
- (C) 1860
- (D) 1872

**Correct Answer:** (B) 1855

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall fact.**

Walt Whitman first published his poetry collection \*Leaves of Grass\* in 1855.

**Step 2: Eliminate other years.**

Later editions came in 1860, 1867, 1872, and 1892, but the first edition was 1855.

**Final Answer:**

1855

### Quick Tip

For literature books, always remember the first publication year.

---

**Q73.** ‘Nature without check with original .....’ (Choose the correct option)

- (A) human beings
- (B) birds
- (C) energy
- (D) spear

**Correct Answer:** (C) energy

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall source.**

This line is from Walt Whitman’s \*Song of Myself\* in \*Leaves of Grass.\*

**Step 2: Fill in blank.**

The correct phrase is: “Nature without check with original energy.”

**Final Answer:**

energy

### Quick Tip

Quotations from classics are often asked. Memorize key phrases.

---

**Q74.** Autumn starts with the departure of ..... season. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) spring
- (B) winter
- (C) rainy
- (D) summer

**Correct Answer:** (C) rainy

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Seasonal order in India.**

In India, the rainy season (monsoon) is followed by autumn.

**Step 2: Eliminate others.**

- Spring comes before summer.
- Winter follows autumn.
- Summer precedes the monsoon.

**Step 3: Apply.**

Thus, autumn begins after the rainy season.

**Final Answer:**

rainy

**Quick Tip**

Learn the sequence of Indian seasons: Summer → Rainy → Autumn → Winter → Spring.

---

**Q75.** \_\_\_\_\_ wrote a number of children-poems. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) T. S. Eliot
- (B) W. B. Yeats
- (C) D. H. Lawrence
- (D) Walter de la Mare

**Correct Answer:** (D) Walter de la Mare

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall poets of children's literature.**

Walter de la Mare is well-known for writing poems for children, including \*Silver\* and \*The Listeners\*.

**Step 2: Eliminate incorrect options.**

- T. S. Eliot: Famous for \*The Waste Land\*, not children's poems.
- W. B. Yeats: Symbolist poet, not known for children's poetry.
- D. H. Lawrence: Focused on realism, not children's verse.

**Step 3: Conclude.**

Thus, Walter de la Mare is the correct answer.

**Final Answer:**

Walter de la Mare

**Quick Tip**

Walter de la Mare is often remembered for his simple, lyrical children's poetry.

---

**Q76.** 'A pulse in the eternal mind' is from (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Snake
- (B) Song of Myself
- (C) Ode to Autumn
- (D) The Soldier

**Correct Answer:** (D) The Soldier

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall poem.**

The line "A pulse in the eternal mind" comes from \*The Soldier\* by Rupert Brooke.

**Step 2: Eliminate incorrect options.**

- \*Snake\* (D. H. Lawrence): Describes an encounter with a snake.
- \*Song of Myself\* (Whitman): Explores democracy and self.
- \*Ode to Autumn\* (Keats): Celebrates the season.

**Final Answer:**

The Soldier

### Quick Tip

Match famous poetic lines with their poems for accuracy.

---

**Q77.** Macavity is called (Choose the correct option)

- (A) The Hidden Paw
- (B) The Naughty Paw
- (C) The Mysterious Paw
- (D) The Exposed Paw

**Correct Answer:** (A) The Hidden Paw

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall poem.**

In T. S. Eliot's poem \*Macavity: The Mystery Cat,\* Macavity is referred to as "The Hidden Paw."

**Step 2: Eliminate wrong options.**

Other options (Naughty, Mysterious, Exposed) are not used in the poem.

**Final Answer:**

The Hidden Paw

### Quick Tip

Macavity is a fictional criminal mastermind cat in Eliot's \*Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats.\*

---

**Q78.** Tower of Silence is related to (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Parsis
- (B) Sikhs

- (C) Hindus  
(D) Christians

**Correct Answer:** (A) Parsis

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall tradition.**

Tower of Silence refers to the Parsi method of disposing of the dead, where bodies are left for vultures.

**Step 2: Eliminate others.**

- Sikhs, Hindus, Christians: Do not practice this ritual.

**Final Answer:**

Parsis

**Quick Tip**

Tower of Silence = Parsi/Zoroastrian burial tradition.

---

**Q79.** A \_\_\_\_\_ is mentioned in the poem 'Snake'. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Peepal Tree  
(B) Mango Tree  
(C) Banyan Tree  
(D) Carob Tree

**Correct Answer:** (D) Carob Tree

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall poem.**

In D. H. Lawrence's \*Snake\*, the poet describes a snake drinking water near a carob tree.

**Step 2: Eliminate wrong options.**

- Peepal, Mango, Banyan are common in India but not in the poem.

**Final Answer:**

Carob Tree

**Quick Tip**

When studying poems, note specific imagery like trees, rivers, or objects mentioned.

---

**Q80.** \_\_\_\_\_ spent her childhood days with her grandmother. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Indira Gandhi
- (B) Mamta Kalia
- (C) Kamala Das
- (D) Mahadevi Verma

**Correct Answer:** (C) Kamala Das

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall biography.**

Kamala Das, a famous Indian poetess, often wrote about her childhood spent with her grandmother in Nalapat House, Kerala.

**Step 2: Eliminate others.**

- Indira Gandhi: Childhood linked with Nehru family, not grandmother stories.
- Mamta Kalia: A contemporary poet, no such reference.
- Mahadevi Verma: Associated with Chhayavaad poetry, not this detail.

**Final Answer:**

Kamala Das

**Quick Tip**

Literature questions often test biographical details of authors/poets.

**Q81.** The English language is much younger than \_\_\_\_\_. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Latin
- (B) Persian
- (C) Greek
- (D) All of these

**Correct Answer:** (D) All of these

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Compare ages.**

- Latin, Greek, and Persian are ancient classical languages, thousands of years old.
- English developed much later, around the 5th–6th century AD after Anglo-Saxon settlements.

**Step 2: Conclude.**

Therefore, English is younger than all three.

**Final Answer:**

|              |
|--------------|
| All of these |
|--------------|

#### Quick Tip

English is comparatively modern; classical languages predate it by centuries.

---

**Q82.** T. S. Eliot is a \_\_\_\_\_ poet. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) 20th Century
- (B) 17th Century
- (C) 18th Century
- (D) 16th Century

**Correct Answer:** (A) 20th Century

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall timeline.**

T. S. Eliot (1888–1965) wrote in the modernist period, during the 20th century.

**Step 2: Conclude.**

He is regarded as one of the greatest poets of the 20th century, known for works like \*The Waste Land.\*

**Final Answer:**

20th Century

**Quick Tip**

Link modernist poetry with 20th-century writers like Eliot, Pound, and Yeats.

---

**Q83.** Old English Period covers (Choose the correct option)

- (A) AD 449 – AD 1066
- (B) AD 1100 – AD 1149
- (C) AD 1067 – AD 1099
- (D) AD 1150 – AD 1500

**Correct Answer:** (A) AD 449 – AD 1066

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Historical timeline.**

Old English began with Anglo-Saxon settlements (AD 449) and continued until the Norman Conquest (1066).

**Step 2: Eliminate wrong ranges.**

- AD 1100 onwards: Middle English period.
- AD 1150 – AD 1500: Later Middle English.

**Final Answer:**

AD 449 – AD 1066

### Quick Tip

Divide English history into: Old English (449–1066), Middle English (1066–1500), Modern English (1500 onwards).

---

**Q84.** Who wrote 'Endymion' and 'Hyperion'? (Choose the correct option)

- (A) William Wordsworth
- (B) P. B. Shelley
- (C) John Keats
- (D) S. T. Coleridge

**Correct Answer:** (C) John Keats

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall author.**

Both \*Endymion\* and \*Hyperion\* are works of the Romantic poet John Keats.

**Step 2: Eliminate others.**

- Wordsworth: Known for \*Prelude\* and nature poetry.
- Shelley: Known for \*Prometheus Unbound\*.
- Coleridge: Known for \*The Rime of the Ancient Mariner\*.

**Final Answer:**

|            |
|------------|
| John Keats |
|------------|

### Quick Tip

John Keats' major works include \*Endymion\*, \*Hyperion\*, and his Odes.

---

**Q85.** In England Printing Press was invented in \_\_\_\_\_. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) 1475

- (B) 1477
- (C) 1476
- (D) 1478

**Correct Answer:** (B) 1477

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Historical fact.**

William Caxton introduced the printing press in England in 1477.

**Step 2: Eliminate other years.**

- 1475, 1476, 1478 are incorrect approximations.

The exact year was 1477.

**Final Answer:**

1477

**Quick Tip**

William Caxton's printing press in 1477 revolutionized English literature and literacy.

---

**Q86.** Who wrote 'Mac Flecknoe'? (Choose the correct option)

- (A) John Dryden
- (B) Lord Byron
- (C) Alexander Pope
- (D) John Keats

**Correct Answer:** (A) John Dryden

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall author.**

\*Mac Flecknoe\* is a satirical poem written by John Dryden in 1682.

**Step 2: Eliminate others.**

- Lord Byron: Known for Romantic poetry.
- Alexander Pope: Famous for \*The Rape of the Lock.\*
- John Keats: A Romantic poet, not satirist.

**Final Answer:**

John Dryden

**Quick Tip**

Remember: \*Mac Flecknoe\* is a political satire by John Dryden, mocking Thomas Shadwell.

---

**Q87.** About ----- Christianity began to spread in England. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) AD 400
- (B) AD 600
- (C) AD 500
- (D) AD 700

**Correct Answer:** (B) AD 600

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Historical reference.**

Christianity spread widely in England around AD 597, when St. Augustine arrived in Kent.

**Step 2: Choose nearest option.**

The closest option is AD 600.

**Final Answer:**

AD 600

**Quick Tip**

St. Augustine is known as the “Apostle to the English.”

---

**Q88.** Who is known as ‘The Nightingale of India’? (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Toru Dutt
- (B) Anita Desai
- (C) Kamala Das
- (D) Sarojini Naidu

**Correct Answer:** (D) Sarojini Naidu

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall poet.**

Sarojini Naidu, famous for her lyrical poetry, is called the “Nightingale of India.”

**Step 2: Eliminate others.**

- Toru Dutt: Known for \*Ancient Ballads and Legends of Hindustan.\*
- Anita Desai: Novelist, not poet.
- Kamala Das: Known for confessional poetry.

**Final Answer:**

|                |
|----------------|
| Sarojini Naidu |
|----------------|

**Quick Tip**

Sarojini Naidu was both a poet and freedom fighter, earning her the title “Bharat Kokila.”

---

**Q89.** The name ‘Augustan’ was given to \_\_\_\_\_ Century. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) 17th
- (B) 18th
- (C) 19th
- (D) 20th

**Correct Answer:** (B) 18th

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall literary period.**

The Augustan Age refers to early 18th-century English literature (1700–1745), marked by writers like Alexander Pope and Jonathan Swift.

**Step 2: Eliminate wrong centuries.**

- 17th Century: Known for Shakespeare and Metaphysical poets.
- 19th Century: Romantic and Victorian Age.
- 20th Century: Modernism.

**Final Answer:**

|              |
|--------------|
| 18th Century |
|--------------|

**Quick Tip**

The Augustan Age in literature parallels the reign of Augustus in Rome, marked by satire and classical influence.

---

**Q90.** Chaucer, Langland and Wycliffe are important writers of \_\_\_\_\_. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Old English Period
- (B) Modern English Period
- (C) Middle English Period
- (D) Post-Modern English Period

**Correct Answer:** (C) Middle English Period

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall literary history.**

- Geoffrey Chaucer (1343–1400), William Langland, and John Wycliffe belong to the Middle English Period.

**Step 2: Eliminate other options.**

- Old English: Earlier (before 1066).
- Modern and Post-Modern: Much later periods.

**Final Answer:**

Middle English Period

**Quick Tip**

Chaucer is called the “Father of English Poetry,” central to Middle English.

---

**Q91.** A snake appeared on a trough of the ----- to sip water. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) teacher
- (B) lawyer
- (C) poet
- (D) doctor

**Correct Answer:** (C) poet

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall poem.**

In D. H. Lawrence’s poem \*Snake,\* the poet himself describes a snake coming to drink water at his water-trough.

**Step 2: Eliminate wrong options.**

It was not a teacher, lawyer, or doctor. The narrator is a poet.

**Final Answer:**

poet

**Quick Tip**

Always connect imagery in poems with the narrator’s perspective.

**Q92.** Who was born in the U.S.A. but eventually settled in England? (Choose the correct option)

- (A) T. S. Eliot
- (B) John Donne
- (C) Walt Whitman
- (D) John Keats

**Correct Answer:** (A) T. S. Eliot

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall biography.**

T. S. Eliot was born in St. Louis, Missouri, U.S.A., in 1888. Later, he moved to England and became a British citizen in 1927.

**Step 2: Eliminate others.**

- John Donne, John Keats: Born in England.
- Walt Whitman: Born in the U.S.A. but never settled in England.

**Final Answer:**

T. S. Eliot

**Quick Tip**

Remember: Eliot was American-born but became a central figure of British Modernist poetry.

---

**Q93.** Lomov is a man of \_\_\_\_\_ temperament. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) happy
- (B) negative
- (C) sad
- (D) nervous

**Correct Answer:** (D) nervous

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall play.**

In Chekhov's play \*The Proposal,\* Lomov is described as having a nervous temperament.

**Step 2: Eliminate other options.**

He is not happy, sad, or negative in general, but rather anxious and jittery.

**Final Answer:**

nervous

**Quick Tip**

Character analysis questions often test psychological traits.

---

**Q94.** The redness of the fire appears \_\_\_\_\_ to the poet. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) nice
- (B) cruel
- (C) acceptable
- (D) comfortable

**Correct Answer:** (B) cruel

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall poem.**

In the poem "Fire-Hymn," the redness of fire is described as cruel.

**Step 2: Eliminate other options.**

- Nice, acceptable, comfortable: Do not fit the tone of the poem.

**Final Answer:**

cruel

**Quick Tip**

Symbolism in poetry often gives natural elements emotional qualities.

---

**Q95.** “A Child is Born” is taken from \_\_\_\_\_. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) Human Fertility
- (B) The Change
- (C) Sex and Destiny
- (D) The Female Eunuch

**Correct Answer:** (C) Sex and Destiny

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Source text.**

“A Child is Born” is an extract taken from \*Sex and Destiny\* by Germaine Greer.

**Step 2: Eliminate others.**

- Human Fertility, The Change, The Female Eunuch: Different works, not the source of this piece.

**Final Answer:**

|                 |
|-----------------|
| Sex and Destiny |
|-----------------|

#### Quick Tip

Germaine Greer’s works often explore themes of gender, fertility, and society.

---

**Q96.** The last of the pre-historic invention was \_\_\_\_\_. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) hunting
- (B) cooking
- (C) writing
- (D) taming

**Correct Answer:** (C) writing

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall stages of pre-historic development.**

Early man's progress can be divided into stages: - First, they learned hunting for survival.

- Later, they discovered cooking with fire.

- They also began taming animals for food and protection.

- The last major invention of the pre-historic period was writing, which marks the end of prehistory and the beginning of recorded history.

**Step 2: Conclude.**

Thus, writing is considered the final great invention of the pre-historic era.

**Final Answer:**

|         |
|---------|
| writing |
|---------|

**Quick Tip**

Remember: History begins where writing begins; before that is pre-history.

---

**Q97.** Nanukaka managed to travel in 2nd class on a ..... ticket. (Choose the correct option)

(A) 1st class

(B) General class

(C) 3rd class

(D) Sleeper class

**Correct Answer:** (C) 3rd class

**Solution:****Step 1: Recall the story.**

In the story \*The Minister's Black Veil\*, Nanukaka manages to travel comfortably in 2nd class despite holding a 3rd class ticket.

**Step 2: Explanation.**

This highlights the use of influence and wit to gain privileges beyond what is officially allowed.

**Final Answer:**

3rd class

**Quick Tip**

Nanukaka is portrayed as resourceful and clever in handling situations.

---

**Q98.** Dr. Radhakrishnan never lost his faith in \_\_\_\_\_. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) essential wealth
- (B) essential knowledge
- (C) essential humanity of man
- (D) essential experience

**Correct Answer:** (B) essential knowledge

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall his philosophy.**

Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, philosopher and former President of India, emphasized the importance of knowledge and education as guiding forces in life.

**Step 2: Explanation.**

He believed that knowledge is the foundation of spiritual and moral development, not material wealth or mere experiences.

**Final Answer:**

essential knowledge

**Quick Tip**

Dr. Radhakrishnan's birthday (September 5) is celebrated as Teachers' Day in India, highlighting his faith in education.

**Q99.** The curio-dealer sold the gourd to a wealthy \_\_\_\_\_. (Choose the correct option)

- (A) teacher
- (B) farmer
- (C) collector
- (D) doctor

**Correct Answer:** (C) collector

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall context.**

A curio-dealer specializes in selling rare, antique, or unique objects. Such items are typically bought by collectors.

**Step 2: Eliminate wrong options.**

Teachers, farmers, and doctors may value the object, but “wealthy collector” is the most accurate answer as per the story’s context.

**Final Answer:**

|           |
|-----------|
| collector |
|-----------|

#### Quick Tip

A “curio” means a rare or unusual object; usually bought by collectors.

---

**Q100.** Which language is the second language of India? (Choose the correct option)

- (A) English
- (B) Hindi
- (C) Sanskrit
- (D) Bhojpuri

**Correct Answer:** (A) English

**Solution:**

**Step 1: Recall constitutional provision.**

In India, Hindi is the first official language, while English is recognized as the second associate official language.

**Step 2: Explanation.**

English serves as a link language across states and is used in administration, judiciary, education, and business.

**Final Answer:**

|         |
|---------|
| English |
|---------|

**Quick Tip**

India recognizes Hindi and English as official languages; English functions as the second language.

---

**SECTION -B**

**Q1.** Write an essay on any *one* of the following in about 150–200 words:

**(a) Clean India Movement****Solution: Step 1: Introduction.**

The Clean India Movement, popularly known as Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, was launched in 2014 by the Government of India to achieve the dream of a clean and hygienic nation.

**Step 2: Background.**

It was inspired by Mahatma Gandhi's vision of a clean India. Gandhi believed that cleanliness was not only about sanitation but also about social and personal discipline.

**Step 3: Key Points.**

The mission emphasizes building toilets in rural and urban areas, improving waste management systems, and encouraging behavioral changes among citizens.

**Step 4: Solutions/Way Forward.**

To sustain the movement, awareness campaigns, proper waste segregation, recycling, and citizen participation are essential.

**Step 5: Conclusion.**

The Clean India Movement is not just a government project but a responsibility of every Indian citizen.

**Final Answer:**

Cleanliness is essential for health, dignity, and progress.

**Quick Tip**

Link national missions with the role of citizens for a stronger essay.

---

**(b) Climate Change****Solution: Step 1: Introduction.**

Climate change is the greatest environmental challenge of our time. It refers to long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns, mainly due to human activities.

**Step 2: Causes.**

The burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, and industrialization have increased greenhouse gas emissions, leading to global warming.

**Step 3: Effects.**

It has resulted in rising sea levels, melting glaciers, unpredictable rainfall, extreme weather conditions, and threats to biodiversity.

**Step 4: Solutions/Way Forward.**

Adopting renewable energy, afforestation, reducing plastic use, and international cooperation are vital to combat climate change.

**Step 5: Conclusion.**

Every individual's effort counts in making the Earth sustainable for future generations.

**Final Answer:**

Climate action today ensures a safer tomorrow.

### Quick Tip

Always connect global issues with local actions for impact.

---

## (c) Social Justice

### **Solution: Step 1: Introduction.**

Social justice means creating a society where every individual gets equal opportunities, rights, and dignity irrespective of caste, gender, religion, or economic background.

### **Step 2: Background.**

The Indian Constitution provides fundamental rights and directives for ensuring justice, equality, and liberty to all citizens.

### **Step 3: Key Issues.**

Discrimination, poverty, gender inequality, and lack of education hinder the realization of social justice.

### **Step 4: Solutions/Way Forward.**

Empowering marginalized communities, providing education, ensuring fair distribution of resources, and strict laws against discrimination are essential.

### **Step 5: Conclusion.**

True social justice is the foundation of democracy and harmony in society.

### **Final Answer:**

Justice, equality, and fairness create a balanced society.

### Quick Tip

Relating social justice to constitutional values strengthens the essay.

---

## (d) Education for Everyone

### **Solution: Step 1: Introduction.**

Education is the most powerful tool for social and economic development. It is a fundamental right of every child and a key to empowerment.

**Step 2: Importance.**

It opens doors to employment, reduces poverty, promotes gender equality, and strengthens democracy.

**Step 3: Challenges.**

Despite progress, many children in rural and poor families still lack access to quality education due to poverty, child labour, and lack of infrastructure.

**Step 4: Solutions/Way Forward.**

Government schemes, digital learning, scholarships, and community awareness can help achieve education for all.

**Step 5: Conclusion.**

A nation cannot progress if its citizens remain uneducated.

**Final Answer:**

Education for all ensures development for all.

**Quick Tip**

Always highlight both challenges and solutions in education-related essays.

---

**(e) Bihar of your Dreams**

**Solution: Step 1: Introduction.**

Bihar, with its rich cultural heritage and historical importance, has the potential to become a model state of India.

**Step 2: Current scenario.**

Though it faces challenges like poverty, unemployment, poor infrastructure, and migration, Bihar is also known for its fertile land and bright youth.

**Step 3: Vision.**

The Bihar of my dreams would have world-class education, modern industries, better health facilities, and efficient governance.

**Step 4: Role of citizens.**

People's participation, honesty, and skill development can help Bihar grow into a prosperous and self-reliant state.

**Step 5: Conclusion.**

With proper leadership and collective effort, Bihar can regain its past glory as the land of Nalanda and Vikramshila.

**Final Answer:**

Bihar of dreams is progressive, educated, and prosperous.

**Quick Tip**

Connect present challenges with future possibilities in vision-based essays.

---

**Q2.** Explain any one of the following:

**(a) I have a dream that my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character.**

**Solution: Step 1: Context.**

This line is from Martin Luther King Jr.'s historic speech "I Have a Dream" delivered in 1963 during the Civil Rights Movement.

**Step 2: Meaning.**

King hopes for a nation where children are not discriminated against because of race but valued for their moral qualities.

**Step 3: Message.**

The line emphasizes human dignity, justice, and equality, pointing toward a future free from racial prejudice.

**Final Answer:**

The line inspires hope for justice, equality, and human dignity.

### Quick Tip

Always connect historical context with the universal message of equality when explaining quotations.

---

**(b) Justice was tolerably fair. The ordinary rule was to avoid courts.**

**Solution: Step 1: Context.**

This line reflects the state of justice in earlier times when courts were slow, costly, and often unreliable.

**Step 2: Meaning.**

It suggests that justice was weak, and ordinary people preferred to avoid courts and settle disputes outside.

**Step 3: Message.**

The line underlines the lack of trust in legal systems and the need for fairness in justice.

**Final Answer:**

Justice was seen as imperfect, so people avoided legal battles.

### Quick Tip

When explaining social conditions, emphasize how ordinary people experienced law and justice.

---

**(c) You two'd better hurry up and get married — Have me in peace.**

**Solution: Step 1: Context.**

This line is from Anton Chekhov's comic play \*The Proposal\*, where Chubukov speaks in frustration.

**Step 2: Meaning.**

He urges Lomov and Natalya to stop quarrelling and get married quickly so he can live peacefully.

**Step 3: Message.**

The line captures both the humor and impatience in social customs around marriage.

**Final Answer:**

The line reflects impatience and comedy in social life.

**Quick Tip**

In plays, always explain both the character's emotions and the social message behind their words.

---

**(d) I went to India to see and listen to two groups of people, the young intellectuals in the cities and the peasants in the villages.**

**Solution: Step 1: Context.**

This line is from E. M. Forster's work \*Two Cheers for Democracy\*, describing his observation of India.

**Step 2: Meaning.**

The writer highlights the contrast between two groups: educated youth in cities and peasants in villages.

**Step 3: Message.**

It shows India's diversity, challenges, and the gap between modernity and tradition.

**Final Answer:**

The line reflects India's dual identity of modernity and tradition.

**Quick Tip**

For literary observations, explain both contrast and social insight to show full meaning.

---

**Q3.** Explain any one of the following:

**(a) The voice of my education said to me / He must be killed**

**Solution: Step 1: Context.**

These lines occur in D. H. Lawrence's poem *Snake*. The speaker meets a snake drinking at his water-trough and feels an inner conflict between instinctive admiration and learned fear.

**Step 2: Literal sense.**

"The voice of my education" is the social/academic conditioning that tells him snakes are dangerous; therefore, "He must be killed."

**Step 3: Deeper meaning.**

Lawrence dramatizes the clash between natural intuition (respect for another living being) and man-made rules of superiority and domination over nature.

**Step 4: Devices and tone.**

Personification turns "education" into a commanding inner voice; the imperative "must" shows coercion. The tone is guilty and self-questioning.

**Step 5: Idea/Message.**

The poet later regrets throwing a log at the snake, realizing that blind obedience to convention can make us morally "coward" before the grandeur of nature.

**Final Answer (a):**

|                                                                                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lawrence shows how social conditioning can overrule humane instinct and harm nature. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

#### Quick Tip

When explaining a quotation, cover: (1) work and speaker, (2) literal meaning, (3) theme/symbols, (4) tone and device, (5) takeaway.

---

**(b) Can you, that I lived in such a house and / Was proud, and loved ...**

**Solution: Step 1: Context.**

From Kamala Das's confessional lyric *My Grandmother's House*. The poet addresses a beloved ("darling") while recalling the warmth of her ancestral home.

**Step 2: Literal sense.**

She asks if he can believe that she once lived in a house where she felt pride and was deeply loved.

**Step 3: Deeper meaning.**

The lines contrast a nourishing past with an emotionally barren present. The lost house symbolizes security, identity, and unconditional affection now absent from her adult life.

**Step 4: Devices and tone.**

Direct address ("Can you") creates intimacy; ellipsis ("...") suggests a choked, nostalgic voice. The house functions as a powerful symbol of memory and belonging.

**Step 5: Idea/Message.**

Kamala Das mourns the loss of love and rootedness; she longs to reclaim even "a handful of darkness" from that house to light her present self.

**Final Answer (b):**

A tender remembrance of a home where love and pride once gave the poet her identity.

**Quick Tip**

With autobiographical poems, link the image (house, river, tree) to the poet's emotional state—past vs. present.

---

**(c) There shall be / In that rich earth a richer dust concealed; / A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware**

**Solution: Step 1: Context.**

Lines from Rupert Brooke's patriotic sonnet *The Soldier*. The speaker imagines dying in a foreign field during war.

**Step 2: Literal sense.**

If he dies abroad, the soil (“rich earth”) will contain “a richer dust”—his body—made richer because England nurtured him.

**Step 3: Deeper meaning.**

“Dust” (his mortal remains) is “richer” through English culture and values that “bore, shaped, made aware” the man he became—linking personal identity to homeland.

**Step 4: Devices and tone.**

Metaphor (“richer dust”), personification of England as mother, and a reverent tone elevate sacrifice into sanctity.

**Step 5: Idea/Message.**

The poem glorifies patriotic self-sacrifice: even in death, the soldier’s body consecrates foreign soil with the spirit of England.

**Final Answer (c):**

Brooke sanctifies the soldier’s death by calling his English-nurtured body a “richer dust.”

**Quick Tip**

Spot the key metaphor and explain how it serves the poem’s theme (here: patriotism and consecration).

---

**(d) Nurses to the graves are gone, / And the prams go rolling on.**

**Solution: Step 1: Context.**

From a modern urban lyric that contrasts private loss with public continuity (often quoted in discussions of city life and the cycle of generations).

**Step 2: Literal sense.**

Caretakers (“nurses”) have died and been buried; yet baby carriages (“prams”) continue to move through the streets.

**Step 3: Deeper meaning.**

The couplet compresses the paradox of time: individuals perish, but life renews itself. Society appears indifferent—daily routines roll on despite personal grief.

**Step 4: Devices and tone.**

Juxtaposition (death vs. infancy), antithesis (“graves” / “prams”), and alliteration (“prams. . . rolling”) sharpen the irony. Tone is stoic, faintly ironic.

**Step 5: Idea/Message.**

Human existence is cyclical; the city embodies continuity. Memory fades, but life pushes forward with new births replacing the dead.

**Final Answer (d):**

A stark contrast of death and birth to show life’s relentless continuity.

**Quick Tip**

When the poet sets opposites side by side, name the contrast and state the idea it dramatizes (mortality vs. continuity).

---

**Q4.** (a) Write a letter to your sister congratulating her on her success in the NEET. **OR** (b) Write an application to the Principal asking him / her for leave to attend a workshop on Yoga.

**(a) Letter to Sister – Congratulating on NEET Success****Solution: Step 1: Format.**

Write the letter in the standard informal letter format with address, date, greeting, body, and closing.

**Step 2: Draft.**

Sender’s Address:

Patna, Bihar

15th March, 2025

Greeting:

Dear Sister,

Body:

I am overjoyed to hear about your outstanding success in the NEET examination. Heartiest congratulations on your brilliant performance! Your hard work, discipline, and determination have finally borne fruit.

We all know how sincerely you prepared for this exam, balancing your studies with long hours of revision. Your result is not only a matter of pride for you but also for the entire family. I am confident that you will continue to shine in your medical career and serve the nation with dedication.

Once again, congratulations and best wishes for your future. We are eagerly waiting to celebrate your success together.

Closing:

Yours lovingly,

Your Name

#### Quick Tip

In personal letters, always include emotions, pride, and best wishes along with specific mention of the achievement.

---

**OR**

#### **(b) Application to Principal – Leave for Yoga Workshop**

**Solution: Step 1: Format.**

Write the application in formal format with heading, subject, salutation, body, and closing.

**Step 2: Draft.**

To

The Principal

ABC Senior Secondary School

Patna, Bihar

Date: 15th March, 2025

Subject: Request for leave to attend a Yoga Workshop

Salutation:

Respected Sir/Madam,

Body:

I am a student of Class XII (Science Section) of your school. I have been selected to participate in a two-day Yoga Workshop organized by the District Education Department from 18th to 19th March, 2025. The workshop will focus on health, stress management, and the benefits of yoga practices.

I kindly request you to grant me leave for two days so that I can attend this important workshop. I assure you that I will complete all my pending assignments promptly after my return.

Your kind approval will enable me to enhance both my physical well-being and academic concentration.

Closing:

Yours obediently,

Your Name

Class XII (Science)

Roll No.: 25

#### Quick Tip

In formal applications, always include subject, purpose, duration of leave, and assurance of responsibility.

---

**Q5.** Answer any five of the following in about 40–50 words each:

**(a) What, according to Gandhiji, is the ‘sheet anchor of our hope’?**

**Solution: Step 1: Context.**

Mahatma Gandhi emphasized the importance of faith in truth and non-violence.

**Step 2: Explanation.**

According to him, adherence to moral principles, particularly truth and non-violence, is the “sheet anchor of our hope.” These ideals guide humanity towards justice and harmony.

**Final Answer (a):**

Truth and non-violence are the unshakable foundation of our hope.

**Quick Tip**

For Gandhian questions, always stress truth, non-violence, and moral courage.

---

**(b) What is the business of education?**

**Solution: Step 1: Concept.**

Education is not limited to acquiring information.

**Step 2: Explanation.**

Its real business is to develop discipline, character, and moral strength. Education should help individuals become responsible citizens who serve society selflessly.

**Final Answer (b):**

The true business of education is character-building and service to society.

**Quick Tip**

In education-related answers, connect knowledge with values and responsibility.

---

**(c) What are the ‘trials and tribulations’ that Martin Luther King Jr. talks about?**

**Solution: Step 1: Context.**

King’s “I Have a Dream” speech addresses racial injustice in America.

**Step 2: Explanation.**

The “trials and tribulations” refer to the hardships faced by African-Americans: segregation, police brutality, poverty, and denial of civil rights. Despite these struggles, King urges faith in justice.

**Final Answer (c):**

The phrase means the sufferings of African-Americans under racism and injustice.

**Quick Tip**

Always link King's words with equality, justice, and the Civil Rights Movement.

---

**(d) What do free people take for granted?**

**Solution: Step 1: Context.**

This comes from reflections on freedom and democracy.

**Step 2: Explanation.**

Free people often take liberty, justice, and equal rights for granted. They forget the sacrifices of those who fought to secure freedom. Only the oppressed truly understand the value of liberty.

**Final Answer (d):**

They take liberty and justice for granted, forgetting the struggle behind them.

**Quick Tip**

Mention contrast: free citizens vs. oppressed people.

---

**(e) Who are the 'whispering neighbours'?**

**Solution: Step 1: Context.**

The term is used in Kamala Das's poem \*My Grandmother's House\*.

**Step 2: Explanation.**

The "whispering neighbours" are the gossiping people around her who remind her of her lost love and loneliness, making her feel alienated.

**Final Answer (e):**

They are gossiping neighbours symbolizing alienation and loss.

**Quick Tip**

Poetic symbols often represent deeper emotions like loss and estrangement.

---

**(f) What does the speaker, in ‘Song of Myself’, observe in summer?**

**Solution: Step 1: Context.**

In Walt Whitman’s \*Song of Myself\*, the poet celebrates unity with nature.

**Step 2: Explanation.**

During summer, he observes blades of grass, which he considers a universal symbol of democracy, equality, and rebirth. Each blade represents life and common humanity.

**Final Answer (f):**

He observes grass as a symbol of equality, renewal, and common life.

**Quick Tip**

Whitman’s grass = democracy, equality, and cycle of life.

---

**(g) How did the snake drink water?**

**Solution: Step 1: Context.**

In D. H. Lawrence’s \*Snake\*, the poet describes a snake drinking at his water-trough.

**Step 2: Explanation.**

The snake lifted its head, flickered its tongue, and sipped water slowly with dignity. Its drinking appeared calm and majestic, like that of a king.

**Final Answer (g):**

The snake drank calmly and royally, flickering its tongue as it sipped.

**Quick Tip**

Describe imagery vividly—poet’s admiration for the snake is central.

---

**(h) In what sense does the fire forget its dead?**

**Solution: Step 1: Concept.**

This phrase reflects the cycle of nature and human mortality.

**Step 2: Explanation.**

Once a body is burned, fire does not retain memory of the dead. It consumes and moves on, symbolizing nature’s indifference and the fleeting nature of human existence.

**Final Answer (h):**

Fire consumes the dead and moves on, forgetting them forever.

**Quick Tip**

Answers on mortality: emphasize nature’s indifference and impermanence of life.

---

**(i) Write a note on the development of Indian poetry in English.**

**Solution: Step 1: Origin.**

Indian poetry in English began in the 19th century during the colonial period.

**Step 2: Development.**

Pioneers included Henry Derozio and Toru Dutt. In the 20th century, poets like Sarojini Naidu, Rabindranath Tagore, and Sri Aurobindo enriched it. Later, Nissim Ezekiel, Kamala Das, and A. K. Ramanujan gave it modernist identity.

**Step 3: Message.**

The tradition blends Indian themes with English expression, becoming globally recognized.

**Final Answer (i):**

Indian English poetry grew from colonial times to modern voices like Ezekiel and Kamala Das.

**Quick Tip**

Always trace Indian English poetry: early pioneers → Tagore/Naidu → modern poets.

---

**(j) Who were known as the University Wits?****Solution: Step 1: Context.**

In Elizabethan England, a group of educated dramatists dominated early English drama.

**Step 2: Explanation.**

They were called “University Wits” because they studied at Oxford or Cambridge. The group included Christopher Marlowe, Robert Greene, Thomas Nashe, and others.

**Step 3: Contribution.**

They refined English drama with blank verse, complex plots, and strong characters, paving the way for Shakespeare.

**Final Answer (j):**

The University Wits were Elizabethan dramatists like Marlowe and Greene.

**Quick Tip**

Name 2–3 key writers and their contribution (blank verse, tragedy, prose).

---

**Q6(a).** Write the summary of any *one* of the following poems in about 100–120 words:

**(i) My Grandmother’s House — Summary (115 words)**

**Solution: Step 1: Context.**

Kamala Das recalls her ancestral home where she once felt secure and unconditionally loved by her grandmother.

**Step 2: Core summary.**

After her grandmother's death, the house becomes silent and dark, mirroring the poet's inner emptiness. Now living far away, she feels emotionally homeless and longs even for "a handful of darkness" from that house—any fragment of memory that might console her. The poem contrasts a nourishing past with a loveless present, turning the house into a symbol of identity, warmth, and rootedness. The gossiping "whispering neighbours" intensify her alienation.

**Step 3: Closing idea.**

Through simple, confessional lines and powerful images, Das mourns lost love and the irretrievable past.

**Final Answer (i):**

A nostalgic lament for a loving home that once shaped the poet's identity.

**Quick Tip**

Link each image (house, darkness, neighbours) to the feelings of loss, alienation, and longing.

---

**(ii) Ode to Autumn — Summary (110 words)****Solution: Step 1: Context.**

Keats's ode personifies Autumn as a mellow, fruitful season and celebrates its quiet abundance.

**Step 2: Core summary.**

Stanza 1 shows ripeness everywhere—vines, gourds, apples and hazelnuts—swollen by the sun's "maturing" warmth. Stanza 2 presents Autumn as a reaper, a gleaner resting on granary floors, or a cider-press watcher—images of unhurried fulfillment. Stanza 3 answers the fear

that summer's songs are gone: Autumn has its own music—bleating lambs, chirping crickets, whistling redbreasts, and soft gnats' hum at sunset. The poem blends sensuous detail with calm acceptance of time's cycle.

**Step 3: Closing idea.**

Keats teaches that every season carries its distinct beauty; loss gives way to new harmonies.

**Final Answer (ii):**

A sensuous celebration of ripeness, rest, and Autumn's own music.

**Quick Tip**

Organize the summary stanza-wise: ripeness (I), personified labours/rest (II), seasonal music (III).

---

**(iii) Snake — Summary (115 words)**

**Solution: Step 1: Context.**

D. H. Lawrence narrates a personal encounter with a snake that comes to drink at his water-trough on a hot day in Sicily.

**Step 2: Core summary.**

The poet admires the creature's calm, kingly manner yet feels torn by "the voice of [his] education" that calls the snake dangerous and demands it be killed. When the snake turns to leave, the poet, succumbing to that conditioning, throws a log; instantly he is ashamed, calling his act "mean" and "vulgar." He recognizes the snake as a "guest" of the earth, perhaps even a "king in exile," and regrets violating natural fellowship.

**Step 3: Closing idea.**

The poem critiques blind social conditioning and urges respectful coexistence with nature.

**Final Answer (iii):**

A conflict between instinctive reverence for nature and taught fear, ending in remorse.

### Quick Tip

Highlight the inner conflict (intuition vs. education) and the turning point—the poet’s regret after throwing the log.

---

**Q6(b).** Write the summary of any *one* of the following prose-pieces in about 100–120 words:

**(i) The Artist — Summary (115 words)**

**Solution: Step 1: Context.**

“The Artist” by Shiga Naoya is a short story that emphasizes simplicity, patience, and dedication in craft.

**Step 2: Core summary.**

The story narrates the journey of Seibei, a young boy who loved to carve gourds. His passion lay not in schoolbooks or formal education but in shaping gourds with creativity and devotion. Though adults disapproved of his obsession, Seibei remained quietly dedicated to his art. His determination reflects the idea that true artistry requires patience, love, and sincerity rather than fame or wealth.

**Step 3: Closing idea.**

Through Seibei’s humble gourd-carving, the story teaches that even the simplest acts, if pursued with honesty and love, become art.

**Final Answer (i):**

The story celebrates patience, simplicity, and sincerity as the essence of true art.

### Quick Tip

In prose summaries, capture the central character, conflict, and message in a few concise points.

---

**(ii) How Free is the Press — Summary (110 words)**

**Solution: Step 1: Context.**

This essay by G. K. Chesterton discusses the limitations of press freedom in democratic societies.

**Step 2: Core summary.**

Though the press is considered the “voice of the people,” in reality, it is often controlled by rich owners and editors. Instead of being a platform for free thought, it frequently serves commercial or political interests. Chesterton argues that ordinary individuals rarely get their voices heard, as newspapers select and filter information. Thus, freedom of the press is not the same as freedom of the individual.

**Step 3: Closing idea.**

The essay satirically exposes the myth of press freedom, reminding us that true liberty demands honest representation of common people.

**Final Answer (ii):**

Chesterton shows that press freedom is limited by money, power, and bias.

**Quick Tip**

Always highlight contrast between “ideal freedom” and “practical limitations” in press-related answers.

---

**(iii) Indian Civilization and Culture — Summary (115 words)****Solution: Step 1: Context.**

This essay by Mahatma Gandhi reflects on the values that make Indian civilization unique.

**Step 2: Core summary.**

Gandhi argues that unlike Western civilization, which emphasizes material progress and physical comfort, Indian civilization focuses on moral values, simplicity, and self-control. True civilization is measured not by how much people can consume but by how much they can restrain themselves. Indian culture emphasizes truth, non-violence, and respect for

spiritual life. Despite poverty and hardship, India's moral strength is the "sheet anchor of hope" for humanity.

**Step 3: Closing idea.**

Thus, Indian civilization is essentially spiritual, valuing self-restraint and moral conduct over wealth or power.

**Final Answer (iii):**

Gandhi contrasts material Western civilization with India's moral, spiritual culture.

**Quick Tip**

For Gandhi's works, always stress truth, simplicity, self-restraint, and moral values as the central ideas.

---

**Q6(c).** Write a note on any *one* of the following in about 100–120 words:

**(i) The Dialects of Middle English — Note (115 words)**

**Solution: Step 1: Context.**

Middle English (1100–1500) developed after the Norman Conquest, blending Old English with Norman French.

**Step 2: Explanation.**

The language was not uniform but divided into several regional dialects: Northern, Midland, Southern, Kentish, and later London English. Each dialect showed differences in vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation. For instance, Northern dialect retained many Norse influences, while Southern had stronger French and Latin elements.

**Step 3: Closing idea.**

Among these, London English gradually gained prominence through Chaucer's writings and trade activities, forming the foundation of Standard Modern English.

**Final Answer (i):**

Middle English had many dialects, but London English evolved into today's standard form.

### Quick Tip

When writing on language history, mention time period, key dialects, and influence on standard English.

---

**OR**

### **(ii) English as a Second Language of India — Note (110 words)**

#### **Solution: Step 1: Context.**

English entered India during British rule and became an important medium of administration and education.

#### **Step 2: Explanation.**

After independence, English retained the status of an associate official language. In India, it functions as a “second language” alongside regional languages and Hindi. It bridges communication among diverse linguistic communities, supports higher education, law, and governance, and connects India with the global economy. Though not a mother tongue for most, it enjoys prestige and wide acceptance.

#### **Step 3: Closing idea.**

Thus, English in India is not just a foreign language but a unifying, functional tool for progress and international contact.

#### **Final Answer (ii):**

English in India acts as a second language for unity, education, and global access.

### Quick Tip

Mention history, present role, and importance of English in Indian multilingual society.

---

**OR**

### **(iii) American English — Note (115 words)**

**Solution: Step 1: Context.**

American English is the variety of English that developed in the United States after British colonization in the 17th century.

**Step 2: Explanation.**

It differs from British English in spelling, vocabulary, and pronunciation. Examples include “color” (vs. “colour”), “center” (vs. “centre”), and terms like “apartment” (vs. “flat”). Noah Webster’s dictionary (1828) promoted simplified spellings and gave American English its distinct identity. Its grammar tends to be more straightforward and its pronunciation influenced by immigration and regional accents.

**Step 3: Closing idea.**

Today, American English dominates global communication through technology, films, media, and international business.

**Final Answer (iii):**

American English is a distinct, simplified, and globally influential variety of English.

**Quick Tip**

Always compare American English with British English in terms of spelling, vocabulary, and global influence.

---

**Q6(d).** Match the names of the poems given in List–A with their poets in List–B:

| Sl. No. | List–A (Poem)                   | Match | List–B (Poet)     |
|---------|---------------------------------|-------|-------------------|
| (i)     | An Epitaph                      | →     | W. H. Auden       |
| (ii)    | Snake                           | →     | Walter de la Mare |
| (iii)   | Song of Myself                  | →     | D. H. Lawrence    |
| (iv)    | Now the Leaves are Falling Fast | →     | K. N. Daruwalla   |
| (v)     | Fire-Hymn                       | →     | Walt Whitman      |

**Solution:**

| Sl. No. | List-A (Poem)                   | Match | List-B (Poet)     |
|---------|---------------------------------|-------|-------------------|
| (i)     | An Epitaph                      | →     | Walter de la Mare |
| (ii)    | Snake                           | →     | D. H. Lawrence    |
| (iii)   | Song of Myself                  | →     | Walt Whitman      |
| (iv)    | Now the Leaves are Falling Fast | →     | W. H. Auden       |
| (v)     | Fire-Hymn                       | →     | K. N. Daruwalla   |

### Step 1: Read List-A.

List-A contains poems written by various poets belonging to different literary traditions.

### Step 2: Recall authorship.

- “An Epitaph” is a short reflective poem by Walter de la Mare.
- “Snake” is a nature poem by D. H. Lawrence, blending admiration and guilt.
- “Song of Myself” is a long free-verse poem by American poet Walt Whitman.
- “Now the Leaves are Falling Fast” is a modernist poem by W. H. Auden.
- “Fire-Hymn” is an Indian English poem written by K. N. Daruwalla.

### Step 3: Match systematically.

By matching each poem with its correct poet, we establish the relationships clearly as shown in the table above.

### Final Answer:

|       |        |         |        |       |
|-------|--------|---------|--------|-------|
| (i) b | (ii) c | (iii) e | (iv) a | (v) d |
|-------|--------|---------|--------|-------|

### Quick Tip

For matching questions, always connect poem titles with their historical/literary context to avoid confusion.

**Q6(e).** Translate any *five* of the following sentences into English:

- i) आपकी घड़ी में कितना बजा है ?
- ii) मुझे सफलता में विश्वास है ।
- iii) हमेशा अपने बड़ों का आदर करो ।
- iv) डॉ० राजेन्द्र प्रसाद भारत के प्रथम राष्ट्रपति थे ।
- v) गोपाल बहुत अच्छा विद्यार्थी है ।
- vi) मैं फैसला कर चुकी हूँ ।
- vii) मेरा भाई बहुत नटखट है ।
- viii) हमें पेड़ लगाना चाहिए ।

### Solution:

#### Step 1: Understand tense and subject.

Each sentence must be translated keeping tense, subject, and formality in mind.

#### Step 2: Translate one by one.

- (i) **Answer:** What is the time by your watch?
- (ii) **Answer:** I believe in success.
- (iii) **Answer:** Always respect your elders.
- (iv) **Answer:** Dr. Rajendra Prasad was the first President of India.
- (v) **Answer:** Gopal is a very good student.
- (vi) **Answer:** I have already taken a decision.
- (vii) **Answer:** My brother is very naughty.
- (viii) **Answer:** We should plant trees.

### Final Answer:

Any five of the above translations can be attempted.

#### Quick Tip

In translation, always focus on correct tense, subject-verb agreement, and cultural clarity. Keep sentences simple and precise.

**Q6(f).** Match the names of the prose-pieces in List–A with their authors in List–B:

| Sl. No. | List–A (Prose-piece)           | Match | List–B (Author)         |
|---------|--------------------------------|-------|-------------------------|
| (i)     | How Free is the Press          | →     | Martin Luther King, Jr. |
| (ii)    | Bharat is My Home              | →     | Bertrand Russell        |
| (iii)   | The Artist                     | →     | Dr. Zakir Hussain       |
| (iv)    | I Have a Dream                 | →     | Dorothy L. Sayers       |
| (v)     | Ideas That Have Helped Mankind | →     | Shiga Naoya             |

**Solution:**

| Sl. No. | List–A (Prose-piece)           | Match | List–B (Author)         |
|---------|--------------------------------|-------|-------------------------|
| (i)     | How Free is the Press          | →     | Dorothy L. Sayers       |
| (ii)    | Bharat is My Home              | →     | Dr. Zakir Hussain       |
| (iii)   | The Artist                     | →     | Shiga Naoya             |
| (iv)    | I Have a Dream                 | →     | Martin Luther King, Jr. |
| (v)     | Ideas That Have Helped Mankind | →     | Bertrand Russell        |

**Step 1: Read List–A.**

List–A contains prose works from different international authors.

**Step 2: Recall authorship.**

- “How Free is the Press” was written by Dorothy L. Sayers.
- “Bharat is My Home” is based on a speech by Dr. Zakir Hussain.
- “The Artist” is a Japanese short story by Shiga Naoya.
- “I Have a Dream” is the famous speech by Martin Luther King, Jr.
- “Ideas That Have Helped Mankind” is an essay by Bertrand Russell.

**Step 3: Match systematically.**

By linking each prose-piece with its correct author, the relationships are clearly established as shown in the table.

**Final Answer:**

|       |        |         |        |       |
|-------|--------|---------|--------|-------|
| (i) d | (ii) c | (iii) e | (iv) a | (v) b |
|-------|--------|---------|--------|-------|

### Quick Tip

For matching prose works, always connect title keywords with themes and the author's historical background.

---

**Q7.** Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

**Passage:** The smile is the best tonic for our mind and body. It takes thirteen muscles to smile, but forty-three to be angry. To be cheerful, we have to create positive thoughts. On the other hand, if we constantly think about negative things, we feel unhappy. So the best way to avoid a negative idea is to replace it with a positive one. When we are relaxed and in bed, we should practise putting some cheerful thoughts.

**(a) What is the best tonic for our mind and body?**

**Solution: Step 1: Locate information.**

The passage begins with the line, “The smile is the best tonic for our mind and body.”

**Step 2: Explanation.**

The writer compares a smile to a medicine or tonic. Just as a tonic strengthens the body, a smile refreshes both the body and mind, spreading positivity.

**Final Answer (a):**

The smile is the best tonic for our mind and body.

### Quick Tip

Always focus on the first or last line of a passage for direct questions—they often contain the exact answer.

---

**(b) What should we practise when we are relaxed in bed?**

**Solution: Step 1: Locate information.**

The passage states, “When we are relaxed and in bed, we should practise putting some cheerful thoughts.”

**Step 2: Explanation.**

This means even before sleep, instead of worrying, we should concentrate on happy and positive thoughts. This keeps our mind peaceful.

**Final Answer (b):**

We should practise putting cheerful thoughts when we are relaxed in bed.

**Quick Tip**

For “what should we do” type questions, look for sentences in the passage starting with “we should” or “we have to.”

---

**(c) What should we do to be cheerful?**

**Solution: Step 1: Locate information.**

The passage says, “To be cheerful, we have to create positive thoughts.”

**Step 2: Explanation.**

Cheerfulness depends on our mental attitude. If we consciously create positive and hopeful thoughts, we automatically feel cheerful.

**Final Answer (c):**

To be cheerful, we should create positive thoughts.

**Quick Tip**

Notice linking words like “To be cheerful” or “To be happy.” They directly answer the “What should we do” questions.

---

**(d) What happens when we constantly think about negative things?**

**Solution: Step 1: Locate information.**

The passage says, “if we constantly think about negative things, we feel unhappy.”

**Step 2: Explanation.**

Negative thoughts lead to unhappiness. Our emotions are shaped by our thinking—continuous negativity produces sadness and destroys peace of mind.

**Final Answer (d):**

When we constantly think about negative things, we feel unhappy.

**Quick Tip**

In “what happens when” questions, identify the cause-effect relation in the passage. Look for “if ... then” or “when ... we feel.”

---

**OR**

**Q7.** Write a précis of the following passage and give a suitable title:

**Passage:** The character of good men is like that of trees. They live for others and do not lose their qualities even in losing their lives. They always follow the right path. Praise is immaterial to them. To live for one’s own sake is to lead the life of beasts. Only those who lay down their lives for others will live forever in a world of bliss.

**Solution:****Step 1: Understand the passage.**

The passage compares good men to trees, highlighting their selfless nature and service to others.

**Step 2: Identify key points.**

- Good men live for others, like trees.
- They maintain their noble qualities till death.
- Praise and recognition do not matter to them.
- Living selfishly is compared to living like beasts.
- True immortality lies in sacrifice and service.

**Step 3: Condense ideas into a précis.**

The main idea is selflessness, sacrifice, and the eternal bliss that comes from living for others.

**Précis:** Good men resemble trees in living for others. They uphold virtues even in death and remain indifferent to praise. Unlike beasts that live only for themselves, men who sacrifice their lives for others attain eternal bliss.

**Suitable Title:**

“Selflessness: The True Immortality”

**Quick Tip**

While writing a précis, reduce the passage to one-third of its length. Keep sentences simple, avoid repetition, and capture only the central idea. Always add a short and suitable title.