Bihar Board Class 12 English Set D 2025 Question Paper with Solutions

Time Allowed :3 Hours 15 Minutes	Maximum Marks :100	Total Questions :107

General Instructions

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

1. The test is of 3 hours 15 Minutes duration.
2. 15 minutes of extra time have been allotted for the candidates to read the questions carefully.
3. In Section-A, there are 100 objective type questions, out of which 50 questions are to be answered.
4. If more than 50 questions are answered, then only first 50 will be evaluated.
5. Each question carries 1 mark.
6. For answering these darken the circle with blue/black ball pen against the correct option on OMR Answer Sheet provided to you.
7. Do not use whitener / liquid / blade / nail etc. on OMR Answer Sheet, otherwise the result will be treated as invalid.
8. In Section-B, there are 7 Descriptive Type Questions.
9. While answering the questions, candidates should adhere to the word limit as far as practicable.

Section - A

1. Have some more tea, ... ?

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

Correct Answer: (A) won't you

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the knowledge of tag questions, specifically for imperative sentences that are offers or invitations.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The sentence "Have some more tea" is an imperative sentence used as a polite offer or invitation.
For imperative sentences that are invitations or offers, the standard tag questions are "will you?" or "won't you?".
"Won't you?" is often used to make the invitation more persuasive and polite, encouraging the person to accept.
The other options are incorrect:
- "must you?" implies obligation, which is not suitable for an offer.
- "can you?" asks about ability.
- "should you?" asks for advice.
Therefore, "won't you" is the most appropriate tag question.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct option to complete the sentence is (A) won't you.

Quick Tip

For imperative sentences (commands, requests, offers), the tag question is usually 'will you¿ or 'won't you¿. For a positive invitation like this one, 'won't you¿ is a very common and polite choice.

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2. The rise and fall of the tide ..... due to lunar influence.

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

Correct Answer: (B) is

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests subject-verb agreement. The verb must agree with the subject in number (singular or plural).

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The subject of the sentence is "The rise and fall of the tide".
Although "rise" and "fall" are two nouns joined by "and", they represent a single, continuous, cyclical phenomenon. When two nouns joined by 'and' refer to the same idea or a single unit, a singular verb is used.
Here, "the rise and fall" is treated as a singular concept.
Therefore, the singular verb "is" is the correct choice for this present tense sentence.

- "are" is plural.
- "were" is plural and past tense.
- "have" is plural (or used with 'I'/'you').

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct verb to complete the sentence is (B) is.

Quick Tip

Look out for compound subjects joined by "and" that form a single idea (e.g., "bread and butter," "law and order," "horse and carriage"). These subjects are treated as singular and take a singular verb.

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3. The children locked ..... up in the cupboard.

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

Correct Answer: (D) themselves

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the correct usage of pronouns, specifically reflexive pronouns. A reflexive pronoun is used when the subject of the verb is also its object.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The subject of the sentence is "The children".
The action is "locked up". The question is who was locked up. The sentence implies the children performed the action on themselves.
Since the subject ("The children") and the object are the same, a reflexive pronoun is required.
The subject "The children" is plural and in the third person (equivalent to "they").
The reflexive pronoun corresponding to "they" is "themselves".
- (A) "their" is a possessive adjective.
- (B) "himself" is a singular reflexive pronoun (for a male subject).
- (C) "them" is an object pronoun, which would imply the children locked someone else up.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct pronoun to complete the sentence is (D) themselves.

Quick Tip

Remember the reflexive pronouns: myself (I), yourself (you, singular), himself (he), herself (she), itself (it), ourselves (we), yourselves (you, plural), and themselves (they). Use them when the subject and object of a verb are the same person or thing.

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4. The synonym of 'Concealed' is

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

Correct Answer: (D) Hidden

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks for a synonym, which is a word that has the same or nearly the same meaning as another word.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The word "concealed" means to keep from sight or to hide.
Let's analyze the options:
- (A) Covered: To put something over or on top of something else. While this can conceal something, it is not a direct synonym.
- (B) Sealed: To close an entrance or container so that nothing can enter or leave.
- (C) Closed: Not open.
- (D) Hidden: Kept out of sight; concealed.
The word "Hidden" is the most direct and accurate synonym for "Concealed".

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct synonym for 'Concealed' is (D) Hidden.

Quick Tip

When looking for a synonym, consider the context and the exact nuance of the word. While words like 'covered' and 'closed' can relate to 'concealed', 'hidden' captures the core meaning of being kept from sight.

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5. The antonym of 'Urban' is

(A) Rustic
(B) Rural
(C) Civil
(D) Foreign

Correct Answer: (B) Rural

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks for an antonym, which is a word that means the opposite of another word.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The word "Urban" relates to a town or city.
We need to find a word that means the opposite, relating to the countryside.
Let's analyze the options:
- (A) Rustic: Relating to the countryside; rural. While it is similar, it often carries an additional connotation of being simple, charming, or unsophisticated.
- (B) Rural: Relating to, or characteristic of the countryside rather than the town. This is the direct opposite of Urban.
- (C) Civil: Relating to ordinary citizens and their concerns, as distinct from military or ecclesiastical matters.
- (D) Foreign: Of, from, in, or characteristic of a country or language other than one's own.
The most accurate and direct antonym for "Urban" is "Rural".

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct antonym for 'Urban' is (B) Rural.

Quick Tip

While 'Rustic' and 'Rural' are similar, 'Rural' is the standard antonym for 'Urban' in geographical and social contexts. 'Rustic' often describes a style or quality, whereas 'Rural' describes the location.

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6. 'To make both ends meet' means

(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: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the meaning of a common English idiom. An idiom is a phrase whose meaning cannot be understood from the ordinary meaning of its words.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The idiom "to make both ends meet" means to have just enough money to pay for one's basic expenses like food, rent, etc. It implies balancing one's income ("one end") with one's expenditures ("the other end").
Let's analyze the options based on this meaning:
- (A) to buy costly articles: This is the opposite of living frugally.
- (B) to live within one's income: This accurately reflects the meaning of the idiom.
- (C) live a luxurious life: This is contrary to the idea of just having enough money.
- (D) to please all people: This is unrelated to finances.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct meaning of 'To make both ends meet' is (B) to live within one's income.

Quick Tip

Idioms are a key part of language proficiency. It's helpful to maintain a list of common idioms and their meanings, and to practice using them in sentences to remember them better.

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7. He declared his ..... .

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

Correct Answer: (A) innocence

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests knowledge of parts of speech. The correct word form (noun, adjective, adverb) must be chosen to fit the grammatical structure of the sentence.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The sentence structure is "He declared his _____".
The word "his" is a possessive adjective. Possessive adjectives (like my, your, his, her, its, our, their) must be followed by a noun, which they modify.

Let's analyze the options:
- (A) innocence: This is a noun, meaning the state of being innocent. This fits grammatically.
- (B) innocently: This is an adverb, which modifies a verb, adjective, or another adverb. It does not fit here.
- (C) innocent: This is an adjective, which describes a noun. It cannot follow "his" directly in this structure.
- (D) by innocent: This is a prepositional phrase fragment and is grammatically incorrect.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct word to complete the sentence is the noun (A) innocence.

Quick Tip

Whenever you see a possessive adjective (my, your, his, etc.) or an article (a, an, the), look for a noun to follow it. This can help you quickly identify the correct part of speech needed.

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8. They were surprised ..... hear him sing.

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

Correct Answer: (B) to

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the use of infinitives after certain adjectives. Many adjectives, particularly those describing feelings or reactions, are followed by a to-infinitive ('to' + base verb).

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The sentence expresses a reaction: "They were surprised". The reason for their surprise is "hear him sing".
The structure 'adjective + to-infinitive' is used to explain the cause of the feeling described by the adjective.
Correct structure: They were surprised **to hear** him sing.
Other prepositions are incorrect in this context:
- You can be surprised 'by' something (a noun), e.g., "surprised by the news".
- You can be surprised 'at' something (a noun), e.g., "surprised at his reaction".
But when the reason is an action (a verb), the to-infinitive is used.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct word to complete the sentence is (B) to.

> **Quick Tip**
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> Remember this common pattern: Adjective of feeling (happy, sad, glad, surprised, disappointed) + ‘to‘-infinitive. For example: ”I was happy ‘to help‘.” or ”She was sad ‘to leave‘.”

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9. He has properly ..... the rules and regulations.

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

Correct Answer: (C) understood

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests verb forms, specifically the form required for the present perfect tense.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The sentence contains the auxiliary verb ”has”. The present perfect tense is formed using the auxiliary verb ‘have‘ or ‘has‘ followed by the past participle (the third form of the verb, V3).
The verb is ”understand”. Its forms are:
- Base form (V1): understand
- Simple past (V2): understood
- Past participle (V3): understood

The correct structure is ‘has + past participle‘. Therefore, ”understood” is the correct form.
The complete sentence is: ”He has properly understood the rules and regulations.”

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct verb form to use is (C) understood.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Always look for auxiliary verbs like ‘has‘, ‘have‘, ‘had‘, ‘is‘, ‘am‘, ‘are‘, ‘was‘, ‘were‘, ‘be‘, ‘been‘ as they dictate the form of the main verb that follows. ‘Has/have/had‘ are always followed by the past participle (V3).

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10. ..... a borrower nor a lender be.

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

Correct Answer: (C) Neither

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the use of correlative conjunctions. Correlative conjunctions are pairs of words that work together to connect parts of a sentence.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The sentence contains the conjunction "nor". The conjunction "nor" is always paired with "neither".
The pair 'neither...nor' is used to connect two negative alternatives. The sentence means "Do not be a borrower and do not be a lender."
The other pairs are:
- 'either...or' (for connecting two positive alternatives)
- 'not only...but also'
- 'both...and'
Since "nor" is present, the sentence must begin with "Neither". This is a famous quote from Shakespeare's Hamlet: "Neither a borrower nor a lender be."

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct word to begin the sentence is (C) Neither.

Quick Tip

Remember the common correlative conjunction pairs: 'either/or', 'neither/nor', 'both/and', 'not only/but also', 'whether/or'. If you see one part of the pair in a sentence, look for its partner. The presence of 'nor' is a clear signal that 'neither' is needed.

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11. India is progressing ..... .

(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: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the understanding of common English idioms. The context requires an idiom that means "progressing very rapidly."

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Let's analyze the meaning of each idiom:
- **(A) by leaps and bounds:** This means very quickly; in large amounts. This fits perfectly with the idea of a country progressing.
- **(B) by fits and starts:** This means intermittently or irregularly; not steadily. This would imply progress is inconsistent, which is not the intended positive meaning.
- **(C) by body and soul:** This means completely and entirely. It is usually used to describe devotion to a cause, not the rate of progress.
- **(D) by hook or by crook:** This means by any means necessary, whether fair or unfair. This relates to methods, not the speed of progress.

Therefore, "by leaps and bounds" is the most suitable idiom for the sentence.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct idiom to complete the sentence is (A) by leaps and bounds.

Quick Tip

Context is crucial for idiom questions. The word "progressing" suggests a positive and continuous action. Match the tone of the sentence with the meaning of the idiom. Creating flashcards for common idioms can be very helpful for exams.

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12. I want to take ..... classes this year.

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

Correct Answer: (C) fewer

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the correct usage of quantifiers, specifically the distinction between words used for countable nouns and uncountable nouns.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The noun in question is "classes". "Classes" is a countable noun (you can have one class, two classes, etc.).
- **Less** and **little** are used with uncountable nouns (e.g., less water, little time).
- **Fewer** is used with countable nouns (e.g., fewer students, fewer books).
Since "classes" is countable, "fewer" is the grammatically correct word to use. The sentence implies a comparison to a previous number of classes.
- **Any** could be used in a question or negative sentence (e.g., "I don't want to take any classes"), but it does not fit the affirmative context here as well as "fewer".

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct word to complete the sentence is (C) fewer.

> Quick Tip
>
> A simple rule to remember: If you can count it, use "fewer". If you can't count it (i.e., it's a mass or abstract concept), use "less". For example, you have 'fewer' coins but 'less' money.

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13. Her employer always finds fault ..... her.

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

Correct Answer: (C) with

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests knowledge of prepositions that are part of fixed phrases or idioms.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The phrase "to find fault" is a fixed expression in English. The correct preposition to use after this phrase when referring to a person or thing being criticized is "with".
The correct idiom is **to find fault with someone/something**. It means to criticize someone or something, often unfairly.
The other options are grammatically incorrect in this context.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct preposition to complete the sentence is (C) with.

Quick Tip

Many verbs and phrases are followed by specific prepositions (collocations). It is useful to learn these as complete units, for example: ‘fond of‘, ‘interested in‘, ‘rely on‘, and ‘find fault with‘.

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14. Let us have ..... drink now.

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

Correct Answer: (A) a

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the use of articles (a, an, the). The choice depends on whether the noun is specific or general, singular or plural, and the sound it starts with.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The noun is "drink", which is a singular, countable noun.
The speaker is suggesting having a drink in general, not a specific, previously mentioned drink.
Therefore, an indefinite article (‘a‘ or ‘an‘) is required.
- We use **a** before words that start with a consonant sound.
- We use **an** before words that start with a vowel sound.
The word "drink" starts with a /d/ sound, which is a consonant sound. Thus, the correct article is "a".
"The" (definite article) would be used if referring to a specific drink. "Any" doesn't fit the context of a simple suggestion.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct article to use is (A) a.

Quick Tip

The choice between 'a' and 'an' depends on the sound, not the letter. For example, it's 'an hour' (because 'hour' starts with a vowel sound) but 'a university' (because 'university' starts with a consonant 'y' sound).

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15. My friend and I ..... our homework everyday.

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

Correct Answer: (A) do

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests subject-verb agreement and the use of the correct tense.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
First, identify the subject. The subject is "My friend and I", which is a compound subject and is plural (equivalent to "we").
Second, identify the tense. The word "everyday" indicates a habitual or routine action, which requires the simple present tense.
For a plural subject in the simple present tense, the base form of the verb is used.
The base form of the verb is "do".
- (B) "does" is the singular form for the third person (he/she/it).
- (C) "have" in this context would need a past participle (e.g., have done) and doesn't fit the simple present meaning.
- (D) "has done" is the present perfect tense for a singular subject.
Therefore, "do" is the correct verb form.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct verb to complete the sentence is (A) do.

Quick Tip

Remember that in the simple present tense, the verb takes an '-s' or '-es' ending only for third-person singular subjects (he, she, it, a single person/thing). For I, you, we, they, and all plural subjects, use the base form of the verb.

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16. The cat is hiding ..... the bed.

(A) in
(B) under
(C) on
(D) between

Correct Answer: (B) under

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the correct use of prepositions of place. The choice of preposition depends on the spatial relationship between the objects.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The sentence describes a cat hiding in relation to a bed. A common place for a cat to hide is in the space below the bed.
- **(A) in:** Implies being inside something (e.g., in a box, in the bed covers).
- **(B) under:** Means in a lower position than something else, directly below it. This is the most logical choice for a cat hiding.
- **(C) on:** Means on top of a surface. A cat hiding would not typically be on top of the bed in plain sight.
- **(D) between:** Requires two or more objects to be on either side (e.g., between the bed and the wall). The sentence only mentions one object (the bed).
Thus, "under" is the most appropriate preposition.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct preposition is (B) under.

Quick Tip

Visualize the scene described in the sentence. Where would an object logically be in relation to another? This visualization can help you choose the most accurate preposition of place.

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17. ..... of my friends are coming to the party.

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

Correct Answer: (C) Most

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the use of determiners and quantifiers, along with subject-verb agreement.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The verb in the sentence is "are", which is a plural verb. This means the subject must be plural. The phrase "of my friends" indicates a subset of a group.

- **(A) The number:** The phrase "The number of..." is treated as a singular subject and takes a singular verb (e.g., "The number of my friends is..."). So, this is incorrect.
- **(B) Much:** "Much" is used with uncountable nouns (e.g., much water). "Friends" is a countable noun. So, this is incorrect.
- **(C) Most:** "Most" can be used with plural countable nouns (e.g., most friends) and uncountable nouns. "Most of my friends" acts as a plural subject and agrees with the plural verb "are". This is correct.
- **(D) Mere:** "Mere" is an adjective meaning 'only' or 'just' and cannot function as a quantifier in this structure.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct word to begin the sentence is (C) Most.

Quick Tip

Pay close attention to the verb when choosing a quantifier. A plural verb like "are" often points to a plural subject. Remember the difference: "The number of..." takes a singular verb, while "A number of..." takes a plural verb.

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18. I can't believe ..... my purse at home.

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

Correct Answer: (D) I forgot

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the correct verb tense to use within a subordinate clause. The main clause "I can't believe" sets a context of present disbelief about a past action.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The action of leaving the purse at home happened in the past. Therefore, a past tense form is required.
Let's analyze the options:
- **(A) I forget:** This is the simple present tense, used for habits or general truths. It doesn't fit the context of a completed past action.
- **(B) I have forget:** This is grammatically incorrect. The present perfect tense requires 'have' + past participle. The past participle of 'forget' is 'forgotten'.
- **(C) I forgotten:** This is grammatically incorrect. The past participle 'forgotten' needs an auxiliary verb like 'have' or 'had'.

- **(D) I forgot:** This is the simple past tense. It correctly describes a completed action in the past. It is the most natural and grammatically correct way to complete the sentence. (e.g., "I can't believe I forgot the keys.")

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct option is (D) I forgot.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> When a sentence expresses a present reaction (like "I can't believe...") to a past event, the clause describing the event is typically in the simple past tense or the present perfect tense. Check the verb forms in the options carefully for grammatical correctness.

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19. We arrived on ..... fourth of July.

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

Correct Answer: (B) the

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the use of articles, specifically with dates and ordinal numbers.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The phrase "fourth of July" uses an ordinal number ("fourth") to specify a particular day. Ordinal numbers (first, second, third, fourth, etc.) are used to indicate position in a series. When an ordinal number is used to specify a particular item or date, it is preceded by the definite article "the". This is because it points to one specific day.
The correct phrase is "the fourth of July".

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct article to use is (B) the.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Always use the definite article "the" before ordinal numbers when they are used to specify a unique item in a sequence, such as dates (the 10th of May), floors of a building (the fifth floor), or historical events (the Second World War).

20. The ladder leaned ..... the wall.

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

Correct Answer: (A) against

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the correct preposition to describe the position of an object that is being supported by or is in contact with a vertical surface.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The verb "leaned" describes an object resting in a sloping position.
- **(A) against:** This preposition is used to indicate support from or contact with a surface. When a ladder leans on a wall, it is leaning "against" it for support. This is the correct choice.
- **(B) for:** This preposition indicates purpose or duration and does not fit the spatial context.
- **(C) at:** This preposition indicates a specific point or location (e.g., at the door) but not the idea of leaning for support.
- **(D) in:** This preposition indicates being inside something.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct preposition is (A) against.

Quick Tip

The preposition "against" is commonly used to express pressure, contact, or support. Think of other examples like "pressing your hand against the glass" or "standing with your back against the wall".

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21. Choose the correct spelling :

(A) Exploiete
(B) Expluit
(C) Exploit
(D) Expleat

Correct Answer: (C) Exploit

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question is a direct test of English spelling.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
We need to identify the correctly spelled word among the given options.
- (A) Exploiete is incorrect.
- (B) Expluit is incorrect.
- (C) **Exploit** is the correct spelling of the word, which means to make full use of and derive benefit from a resource, or to use a situation or person in an unfair or selfish way.
- (D) Expleat is incorrect.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct spelling is (C) Exploit.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> For spelling questions, practice is key. Read widely and maintain a small notebook for words you find difficult to spell. Breaking the word into syllables (Ex-ploit) can sometimes help you remember the spelling.

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22. I ..... swim across the river.

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

Correct Answer: (A) can

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the use of modal auxiliary verbs. The correct modal verb must be chosen to express the intended meaning, which in this context appears to be ability.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The sentence "I ___ swim across the river" describes the capability of the subject to perform an action.
- **(A) can:** This modal verb expresses ability or capability. "I can swim" means "I am able to swim". This fits the sentence perfectly.
- **(B) dare:** This modal verb expresses courage to do something. "I dare swim" is grammatically awkward and less common than "I can swim".

- **(C) need:** This expresses necessity. "I need swim" is grammatically incorrect; the correct form would be "I need to swim".
- **(D) may have:** This expresses a possibility in the past (e.g., "I may have left my keys..."). It does not fit the context of a present ability.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct modal verb is (A) can.

> Quick Tip
>
> Remember the primary meanings of common modal verbs: 'can' (ability), 'may' (permission/possibility), 'must' (obligation), 'should' (advice), 'will' (future action/intention). Match the modal to the meaning required by the sentence.

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23. ..... they played well, they could not win.

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

Correct Answer: (A) Though

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the use of conjunctions to show contrast or concession between two clauses.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The sentence has two clauses: "they played well" and "they could not win". The relationship between them is one of contrast; despite the first fact, the second fact happened.
- **(A) Though** and **(B) Even though** are subordinating conjunctions used to introduce a clause of concession. Both mean "in spite of the fact that". They are both grammatically correct here. Typically, if both are options, "Though" is a standard choice. "Even though" adds slightly more emphasis.
- **(C) Even if** is used for hypothetical or unreal conditions (e.g., "Even if they had played well, they would not have won."). It doesn't fit the context of a real past event.
- **(D) May though** is not a standard grammatical construction.
Since both (A) and (B) are functionally correct, and (A) is the simpler, more common form, it is the best answer. In many exams, if two options are very similar, the most standard one is preferred.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct conjunction is (A) Though.

Quick Tip

Use "Though/Although" for real situations that are surprising or contradictory. Use "Even if" for hypothetical situations. For example: "Though it was raining, we went out." (Real situation). "Even if it rains, we will go out." (Hypothetical future situation).

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24. I always ..... the poor.

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

Correct Answer: (A) help

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests verb tense, specifically the simple present tense used for habitual actions.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The adverb "always" is an adverb of frequency that indicates a routine or habitual action. For such actions, the simple present tense is used.
The subject of the sentence is "I" (first person singular).
In the simple present tense, the verb form for the subject "I" is the base form of the verb.
- **(A) help:** This is the base form of the verb. This is the correct choice.
- **(B) helped:** This is the simple past tense.
- **(C) helping:** This is the present participle, which requires an auxiliary verb (e.g., am helping).
- **(D) has helping:** This is a grammatically incorrect construction.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct verb form is (A) help.

Quick Tip

Look for adverbs of frequency like 'always', 'often', 'usually', 'sometimes', 'never', and 'every day'. They are strong indicators that the simple present tense is required.

---

25. Shyam teaches Mathematics ..... English.

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

Correct Answer: (B) besides

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the difference between the words "beside" and "besides", which are often confused.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The sentence implies that Shyam teaches English in addition to teaching Mathematics.
- **(A) across:** This preposition indicates movement from one side to another. It does not fit here.
- **(B) besides:** This is a preposition or an adverb meaning "in addition to" or "also". This correctly conveys the meaning that he teaches two subjects.
- **(C) beside:** This is a preposition meaning "next to" or "at the side of". It is used for location.
- **(D) over:** This preposition has many meanings (above, across, finished), none of which fit this context.
Therefore, "besides" is the correct word.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct word to use is (B) besides.

Quick Tip

A simple way to remember the difference: "Beside" is about position (be-side = by the side of). "Besides" has an extra 's' and means "in addition to" (think of the 's' as meaning 'plus').

---

26. You take it very easy, ... ?

(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: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the formation of tag questions. Tag questions are short questions added to the end of a statement to confirm information or encourage a reply.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The rules for forming a tag question are:
1. If the main statement is positive, the tag is negative. If the statement is negative, the tag is positive.
2. The tag uses the same auxiliary verb as the statement. If there is no auxiliary, use 'do', 'does', or 'did'.
3. The tag uses the same subject pronoun.

Let's apply these rules to "You take it very easy.":
1. The statement is positive, so the tag must be negative.
2. The verb is "take", which is in the simple present tense. There is no auxiliary verb. For the simple present tense with the subject "you", the auxiliary is "do". The negative form is "don't".
3. The subject pronoun is "you".

Combining these, the tag question is "don't you?".

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct tag question is (D) don't you.

Quick Tip

Remember the "positive-negative" and "negative-positive" rule for tag questions. Also, identify the tense and auxiliary verb of the main sentence first; that will tell you what verb to use in the tag.

---

27. I am going to ..... ,

(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: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the use of the causative structure ‘have something done‘. This structure is used when we arrange for someone else to do something for us.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The sentence ”I am going to...” indicates a future plan. The speaker is not cutting their own hair but is arranging for someone (like a hairdresser) to do it.
The correct grammatical structure for this situation is: ‘subject + have/get + object + past participle (V3)‘.
- Subject: I
- Verb: have
- Object: my hair
- Past Participle: cut (the past participle of ’cut’ is ’cut’)
So, the correct phrase is ”have my hair cut”.
- Option (A) ‘cutting my hair‘ would mean the speaker is doing it themselves.
- Option (B) ‘hair cut‘ is a noun and is grammatically incomplete.
- Option (D) ‘cut my hair up‘ is an incorrect phrasal verb in this context.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct option to complete the sentence is (C) have my hair cut.

Quick Tip

Remember the causative structure: ‘have something done‘. It’s very common for services. For example: ”I need to get my car repaired” (someone else will repair it) or ”She had her photo taken” (a photographer took it).

---

28. Choose the correct spelling :

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

Correct Answer: (C) Succeed

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the correct spelling of a common English verb.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
We need to identify the correctly spelled word among the options.
- (A) Suced is incorrect.

- (B) Sicued is incorrect.
- (C) **Succeed** is the correct spelling. It means to achieve a desired aim or result. It is notable for having a double 'c' and a double 'e'.
- (D) Suceud is incorrect.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct spelling is (C) Succeed.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Words with double letters can be tricky. Remember the pattern for "succeed": 'suc-' followed by '-ceed'. Other words in this family include 'proceed' and 'exceed'.

---

29. He speaks ..... French nor English.

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

Correct Answer: (D) neither

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the use of correlative conjunctions, which are pairs of conjunctions that work together.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The sentence contains the conjunction "nor". The conjunction "nor" is always paired with "neither".
The correlative pair 'neither...nor' is used to join two negative statements. The sentence means that he does not speak French and he also does not speak English.
- (A) 'either' is paired with 'or'.
- (B) 'and' is used to join two positive items.
- (C) 'or' is paired with 'either' or used to show choice.
Since "nor" is present in the sentence, the blank must be filled with "neither".

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct word to complete the sentence is (D) neither.

Quick Tip

Memorize the common correlative conjunction pairs: ‘neither...nor‘, ‘either...or‘, ‘both...and‘, ‘not only...but also‘. Seeing one part of the pair is a strong clue for the other part.

---

30. The synonym of ’Genuine’ is

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

Correct Answer: (D) Real

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
A synonym is a word that has the same or a very similar meaning to another word.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The word ”Genuine” means authentic, true, and not fake or counterfeit.
Let’s look at the options:
- (A) Pleasant means enjoyable, attractive, or friendly.
- (B) Angry means having a strong feeling of annoyance or hostility.
- (C) Graceful means having or showing grace or elegance.
- (D) Real means actually existing as a thing or occurring in fact; not imitation or artificial.

The meaning of ”Real” is the closest to ”Genuine”.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct synonym for ’Genuine’ is (D) Real.

Quick Tip

When asked for a synonym, try to use the target word in a sentence (”a genuine diamond”) and then substitute the options to see which one fits best (”a real diamond”).

---

31. Have you ..... Amrita ?

(A) see
(B) saw
(C) seeing

(D) seen

Correct Answer: (D) seen

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the correct verb form for the present perfect tense.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The sentence starts with the auxiliary verb "Have". This indicates the present perfect tense, which is used to talk about past actions with relevance to the present.
The structure for the present perfect tense is 'have/has + past participle (V3)'.
The verb is "see". Its forms are:
- Base form (V1): see
- Simple past (V2): saw
- Past participle (V3): seen

Following the auxiliary "Have", we must use the past participle.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct verb form to complete the sentence is (D) seen.

Quick Tip

Remember the rule: After the auxiliary verbs 'have', 'has', or 'had', always use the past participle (V3) form of the main verb.

---

32. She ..... know the answer.

(A) have
(B) ought
(C) might
(D) did

Correct Answer: (C) might

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the use of modal auxiliary verbs. Modal verbs are used to express ability, possibility, permission, or obligation.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Modal verbs are followed by the base form of the main verb (in this case, "know").
Let's analyze the options:
- (A) 'have': "She have know" is grammatically incorrect. It should be "She has" and would require "known" (She has known).
- (B) 'ought': This modal verb is almost always followed by "to". The correct form would be "She ought to know...". Since "to" is not present, this is incorrect.
- (C) 'might': This modal verb expresses possibility. "She might know the answer" means "It is possible that she knows the answer." This is grammatically correct and makes sense.
- (D) 'did': This auxiliary verb is used for past tense questions or negative sentences, or for emphasis ("She did know the answer!"). It doesn't fit the neutral context of the sentence.
Therefore, "might" is the best fit.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct option is (C) might.

Quick Tip

Pay attention to what follows the blank. Modal verbs like 'can', 'could', 'may', 'might', 'will', 'would', 'shall', 'should', 'must' are followed directly by the base form of a verb. Other verbs like 'ought' require 'to'.

---

33. The house caught fire. All the books were burnt. (Choose the correct option to combine the sentences)

(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: Understanding the Concept:
This question requires combining two simple sentences into one complex or compound sentence, showing the correct cause-and-effect relationship. The use of participles is a common way to do this.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The first event (the house catching fire) caused the second event (the books being burnt). We need a structure that reflects this sequence.
- (A) This is a fragment, not a complete sentence.
- (B) 'The house having caught fire, all the books were burnt.' This uses a nominative absolute

construction with a perfect participle (‘having caught‘). It correctly shows that the first action was completed before the second one and was the cause. This is a grammatically correct and concise way to combine the sentences.
- (C) This reverses the logical order of cause and effect. The house catching fire caused the books to burn, not the other way around.
- (D) This incorrectly implies that the books burning caused the house to catch fire.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The best way to combine the two sentences is (B) The house having caught fire, all the books were burnt.

Quick Tip

Using a perfect participle phrase (‘Having + V3‘) is an elegant way to combine two sentences where one action happens before and leads to another. For example, ”He finished his work. He went home.” can become ”Having finished his work, he went home.”

---

34. Chose the correctly spelt word :

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

Correct Answer: (A) Genuine

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the correct spelling of a common English adjective.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
We need to identify the correctly spelled word from the options.
- (A) **Genuine** is the correct spelling. It means authentic or real.
- (B) Genune is incorrect.
- (C) Gennuine is incorrect.
- (D) Gennune is incorrect.
The spelling follows the pattern ‘gen-u-ine‘.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct spelling is (A) Genuine.

Quick Tip

When in doubt about a spelling, try to break the word into sounds or syllables. For "Genuine," think: GEN-u-ine. This can help you remember the vowel sequence.

---

35. 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: Understanding the Concept:
This question requires converting a sentence from active voice to passive voice. The tense of the verb must be maintained.

Step 2: Key Formula or Approach:
The original sentence is in the Past Perfect Tense (Active): 'Subject + had + V3 + Object'.
The passive form for the Past Perfect Tense is: 'Object + had been + V3 + by + Subject'.

Step 3: Detailed Explanation:
Original Sentence: Veena (Subject) had written (Verb) a letter (Object).
Applying the passive voice rule:
- The object "a letter" becomes the new subject.
- The verb 'had written' becomes 'had been written'.
- The original subject "Veena" becomes the object of the preposition "by".
The resulting passive sentence is: "A letter had been written by Veena."
- (B) is incorrect because the tense is changed to present and "wrote" is not the past participle.
- (C) is incorrect because the tense is changed to simple past.
- (D) is an imperative sentence, not a passive construction.

Step 4: Final Answer:
The correct passive sentence is (A) A letter had been written by Veena.

Quick Tip

When changing from active to passive voice, the most important rule is to keep the tense the same. Identify the tense of the active sentence first (e.g., Past Perfect), and then apply the corresponding passive structure.

36. 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: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks for the transformation of a comparative sentence into a negative sentence without changing the original meaning. This involves changing the degree of comparison.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The original sentence "He is wiser than you" is in the comparative degree. It means his wisdom is greater than your wisdom.
To express the same idea in a negative form, we can switch the subjects and use the positive degree ('wise') in the structure 'not so/as...as'.
If "He is wiser than you", it logically means "You are not as wise as he is".
Let's check the options:
- (A) Grammatically incorrect. It should be "not wiser".
- (B) Changes the meaning completely by using the superlative degree.
- (C) 'You are not so wise as he.' This correctly reverses the subjects and uses the 'not so...as' structure to convey the same meaning as the original sentence.
- (D) This sentence is illogical.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct negative transformation is (C) You are not so wise as he.

Quick Tip

To change a comparative sentence 'A is more [adjective] than B' to a negative form, use the structure 'B is not as/so [adjective] as A'. This is a standard transformation rule for degrees of comparison.

---

37. The examination will begin ..... Monday.

(A) from
(B) at
(C) in

(D) on

Correct Answer: (D) on

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the use of prepositions of time. The correct preposition must be used for a specific day of the week.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The rules for common prepositions of time are:
- ‘on‘ is used for specific days and dates (e.g., on Monday, on July 4th).
- ‘in‘ is used for longer periods like months, years, seasons (e.g., in August, in 2024, in summer).
- ‘at‘ is used for specific times of the day (e.g., at 5 PM, at midnight).
Since ”Monday” is a specific day of the week, the correct preposition is ”on”.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct preposition is (D) on.

Quick Tip

Remember the time preposition pyramid: ‘at‘ for precise time, ‘on‘ for days and dates, and ‘in‘ for longer periods. This simple rule covers most cases.

---

38. I sing ..... .

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

Correct Answer: (A) badly

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question requires choosing an appropriate adverb to modify the verb ”sing”. The context implies an adverb of manner, describing how the action is performed.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The sentence needs an adverb to describe the quality of the singing.
- **(A) badly:** This is an adverb of manner. ”I sing badly” means my singing is of poor quality.

This is a logical and common statement.
- **(B) lately:** This is an adverb of time, meaning recently. It doesn't describe how one sings.
- **(C) largely:** This adverb means mostly or to a great extent. It doesn't fit with the verb "sing".
- **(D) orderly:** This adverb means in a neat and organized way. It is not typically used to describe singing.
The most appropriate adverb to describe the manner of singing is "badly".

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct adverb is (A) badly.

Quick Tip

Adverbs often answer questions like "How?", "When?", "Where?", or "To what extent?". In this case, "How do I sing?", the answer is "badly". This helps in choosing the right type of adverb.

---

39. Choose the correct sentence :

(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: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests two grammar rules: subject-verb agreement with indefinite pronouns like "neither", and pronoun-antecedent agreement.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Rule 1: Subject-Verb Agreement.
The subject of the sentence is "Neither". Indefinite pronouns like 'neither', 'either', 'each', 'everyone' are singular. Therefore, they take a singular verb. The singular form of the verb "solve" in the present tense is "solves". This eliminates option (D).
Rule 2: Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement.
The pronoun must agree with its antecedent (the noun it refers to). The antecedent for the possessive pronoun is "Neither of the girls". Since "Neither" is singular, the possessive pronoun should also be singular. The antecedent refers to "girls" (feminine), so the singular feminine pronoun "her" is appropriate.
- (A) 'its' is a neuter pronoun, used for things, not people.
- (B) 'solves' is a singular verb, and 'her' is a singular pronoun. This is correct.

- (C) ‘their‘ is a plural pronoun, which disagrees with the singular subject ”Neither”.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The grammatically correct sentence is (B) Neither of the girls solves her task.

Quick Tip

Remember that ‘each‘, ‘every‘, ‘either‘, and ‘neither‘ are always singular. They require a singular verb and a singular pronoun. For mixed-gender groups, traditionally ”his” or more modernly ”his or her” is used, but when the group is specified (like ”girls”), use the corresponding gendered pronoun (”her”).

---

40. A variety of music ..... available here.

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

Correct Answer: (A) is

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests subject-verb agreement with collective phrases like ”a variety of”. This is a tricky case in English grammar.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The rule for ”a variety of” can be confusing.
- When ”a variety of” is followed by a plural countable noun, it is usually treated as plural (e.g., ”A variety of books are on the table.”). It means ”many different types of”.
- However, when the noun is uncountable (like ”music”), the focus shifts to the singular noun ”variety” itself. ”A variety of music” is treated as a single collection or assortment.
Therefore, the singular verb ”is” is the correct choice. The subject is the singular noun ”variety”.
- (B) ‘are‘ would be used with a plural countable noun.
- (C) ‘has‘ and (D) ‘have‘ are incorrect as the verb needed is a form of ’to be’ to go with the adjective ’available’.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct verb is (A) is.

Quick Tip

The rule for "a variety of" vs. "the variety of": 'A variety of + plural noun + plural verb'. 'The variety of + plural noun + singular verb' (because the subject is 'the variety'). With uncountable nouns like music, "a variety" is often treated as singular.

---

41. I have lived in this town ..... childhood.

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

Correct Answer: (D) since

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the use of prepositions of time, specifically the difference between "for" and "since" with the present perfect tense.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The sentence "I have lived in this town..." is in the present perfect tense, which describes an action that started in the past and continues to the present.
- 'for' is used to specify a duration or period of time (e.g., for ten years, for a long time).
- 'since' is used to specify the starting point of the action (e.g., since 2014, since last Monday).
"Childhood" is a specific point in the past when the action of living in the town began. Therefore, "since" is the correct preposition.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct preposition is (D) since.

Quick Tip

When you see the present perfect tense ('have/has + V3'), ask yourself if the time phrase refers to a 'period of time' (use 'for') or a 'point in time' (use 'since').

---

42. Choose the correct spelling :

(A) Terrorism
(B) Turrism
(C) Taerorism

(D) Tearism

Correct Answer: (A) Terrorism

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the correct spelling of a noun.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
We need to identify the correct spelling from the given options.
- (A) **Terrorism** is the correct spelling. It comes from the root word "terror". Note the double 'r'.
- (B) Turrism is incorrect.
- (C) Taerorism is incorrect.
- (D) Tearism is incorrect.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct spelling is (A) Terrorism.

Quick Tip

To remember the spelling of "terrorism", break it down: TERROR + ISM. Remembering the root word "terror" helps to get the first part right.

---

43. The antonym of 'Admit' is

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

Correct Answer: (C) Deny

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
An antonym is a word with the opposite meaning to another word.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The word "Admit" has two main meanings: 1. To confess to be true. 2. To allow someone to enter.
We need a word that means the opposite.

- (A) Confess is a synonym for one meaning of admit.
- (B) Accept is also a synonym.
- (C) **Deny** means to state that something is not true, or to refuse to give or grant something. This is the direct opposite of "admit" in both its main senses.
- (D) Comply means to act in accordance with a wish or command.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct antonym for 'Admit' is (C) Deny.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Words can have multiple meanings. When finding an antonym, consider the most common meaning or a meaning that has a clear opposite among the choices. Here, whether 'admit' means confessing or allowing entry, 'deny' is the opposite.

---

44. The synonym of 'Strategy' is

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

Correct Answer: (C) Plan

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
A synonym is a word that has a similar meaning to another word.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
A 'Strategy' is a plan of action or policy designed to achieve a major or overall aim.
- (A) Fame means the state of being known by many people.
- (B) Criminal is a person who has committed a crime.
- (C) **Plan** means a detailed proposal for doing or achieving something. This is a very close synonym for 'Strategy'.
- (D) Invasion is an instance of invading a country or region with an armed force.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct synonym for 'Strategy' is (C) Plan.

Quick Tip

A strategy is a specific kind of plan, usually a high-level one for achieving a long-term goal. In a multiple-choice question, 'plan' is the most direct and common synonym.

---

45. The antonym of 'Common' is

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

Correct Answer: (B) Rare

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
An antonym is a word that means the opposite of another word.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
'Common' means occurring, found, or done often; prevalent.
- (A) Ordinary is a synonym of common.
- (B) **Rare** means not occurring very often. This is the direct opposite of common.
- (C) Natural means existing in or derived from nature; not made by humankind. It is not an antonym of common.
- (D) Beautiful means pleasing the senses or mind aesthetically. It is unrelated.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct antonym for 'Common' is (B) Rare.

Quick Tip

Think of usage examples to find antonyms. A 'common' bird is one you see every day. The opposite would be a 'rare' bird, one you hardly ever see.

---

46. The synonym of 'Justify' is

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

Correct Answer: (B) Explain

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
A synonym is a word that has a similar meaning to another word.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
To 'Justify' means to show or prove to be right or reasonable; to provide a good reason for something.
- (A) Attack means to take aggressive action against.
- (B) **Explain** means to make an idea or situation clear to someone by describing it in more detail or revealing relevant facts. Providing an explanation is a key part of justifying something. While not a perfect one-to-one synonym, it is the closest in meaning among the options. To justify your actions, you must explain them.
- (C) React means to respond to something.
- (D) Erase means to rub out or remove.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The closest synonym for 'Justify' among the given options is (B) Explain.

Quick Tip

Sometimes, exam options don't provide a perfect synonym. In such cases, choose the word that is most closely related in meaning or function. Justification involves explanation.

---

47. The antonym of 'Duplicate' is

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

Correct Answer: (C) Original

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
An antonym is a word with the opposite meaning to another word.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
A 'Duplicate' is an exact copy of something. Options (A) Copy, (B) Clone, and (D) Photostat are all synonyms or types of duplicates.
The opposite of a copy is the first, authentic version from which copies are made. This is called

the 'Original'.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct antonym for 'Duplicate' is (C) Original.

Quick Tip

In vocabulary questions, be alert for options that are synonyms of the target word. You can often eliminate them immediately when asked for an antonym.

---

48. He is a straightforward man and keeps flatterers ..... .

(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: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the meaning of common English idioms. The context suggests that a straightforward man would keep insincere people (flatterers) at a distance.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Let's analyze the idioms:
- (A) at any rate: means "anyway" or "whatever happens".
- (B) **at arm's length:** means to keep someone or something at a distance, to avoid being too close or friendly. This perfectly fits the context of a straightforward person dealing with flatterers.
- (C) all the rage: means very popular or fashionable.
- (D) all told: means "in total" or "altogether".

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct idiom is (B) at arm's length.

Quick Tip

Use the context of the sentence to figure out the meaning of the required idiom. A "straightforward man" would logically avoid "flatterers," which points to the meaning of keeping a distance.

49. He is the ..... of the two brothers.

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

Correct Answer: (A) younger

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the correct use of degrees of comparison for adjectives (positive, comparative, superlative).

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The sentence compares exactly two people ("the two brothers").
- The **comparative** degree is used when comparing two items.
- The **superlative** degree is used when comparing three or more items.
The adjective is "young".
- Positive: young
- Comparative: younger
- Superlative: youngest
Since the comparison is between two brothers, the comparative form "younger" must be used.
- (B) 'more young' is grammatically incorrect for a one-syllable adjective like 'young'.
- (D) 'youngest' (superlative) would be used for three or more brothers (e.g., "He is the youngest of the three brothers.").

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct adjective form is (A) younger.

Quick Tip

A key phrase to look for is "of the two". Whenever you see this, you must use the comparative form of the adjective (e.g., taller, more beautiful, better).

50. The cake tasted ..... sweet that I couldn't finish it.

(A) so
(B) very
(C) such

(D) too

Correct Answer: (A) so

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the use of adverbs of degree, specifically in constructions that express cause and effect or a result.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The sentence structure is '... [adjective] that [result clause]'. The clause "that I couldn't finish it" shows the result of the cake's sweetness.
- The structure 'so + adjective/adverb + that' is used to express this relationship. For example, "It was so cold that the water froze." This fits the sentence perfectly: "The cake tasted so sweet that...".
- 'very' is an intensifier but is not followed by a 'that' clause of result. (e.g., "The cake was very sweet.")
- 'such' is used with a noun phrase: 'such + (a/an) + adjective + noun + that'. (e.g., "It was such a sweet cake that...")
- 'too' is used with an infinitive 'to + verb': 'too + adjective + to do something'. (e.g., "The cake was too sweet to finish.")
Since the sentence has an adjective ("sweet") followed by a "that" clause, "so" is the correct choice.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct word is (A) so.

Quick Tip

Remember these patterns: - 'so' + adjective + 'that'... - 'such' + noun phrase + 'that'... - 'too' + adjective + 'to'... - 'very' + adjective. Look at what follows the adjective to choose the correct adverb.

---

51. 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: Understanding the Concept:
This question requires converting a direct question (interrogative sentence) into indirect speech (reported speech).

Step 2: Key Formula or Approach:
Rules for converting a yes/no question to indirect speech:
1. The reporting verb 'said' changes to 'asked' or 'enquired'.
2. The conjunction 'if' or 'whether' is used to connect the reporting clause and the reported clause.
3. The question is changed into a statement (subject comes before the verb).
4. The tense of the reported speech is changed. Simple present ('is') becomes simple past ('was').
5. Punctuation like question marks and quotation marks are removed.

Step 3: Detailed Explanation:
- Direct Speech: "Is anyone there ?"
- The reporting verb 'said' becomes 'asked'.
- The conjunction 'if' is used.
- The question 'Is anyone there¿ becomes the statement 'anyone was there'. The verb 'is' changes to 'was'.
- Combining these parts gives: "The teacher asked if anyone was there."

Step 4: Final Answer:
The correct indirect speech is (A) The teacher asked if anyone was there.

Quick Tip

When converting questions to indirect speech, remember to change the word order from question form (verb-subject) to statement form (subject-verb). For yes/no questions, always use 'if' or 'whether'.

---

52. We ..... be punctual.

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

Correct Answer: (D) must

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the correct usage of modal auxiliary verbs to express obligation or necessity.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The sentence expresses a rule or strong advice about being on time.
- **(A) ought:** This modal verb expresses moral obligation or duty. However, in standard English, it is followed by 'to' (e.g., "We ought to be punctual."). Without 'to', this option is grammatically incorrect.
- **(B) might:** This expresses possibility (e.g., "We might be punctual if the traffic is light."). It does not convey obligation.
- **(C) may:** This expresses possibility or permission. It does not fit the context of obligation.
- **(D) must:** This modal verb expresses strong obligation, necessity, or a rule. "We must be punctual" is a clear and grammatically correct statement of obligation.
Given the options, 'must' is the only choice that is both grammatically correct and semantically appropriate.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct modal verb is (D) must.

Quick Tip

Remember the difference in strength and grammar of modals expressing obligation: 'Must' (strong obligation, rule), 'should' (advice, recommendation), 'ought to' (moral duty). Note that 'ought' almost always requires 'to'.

---

53. 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: Understanding the Concept:
This question requires converting an interrogative sentence from passive voice to active voice.

Step 2: Key Formula or Approach:
- Passive (Simple Present Question): 'Is/Am/Are + Subject + V3 + by + Object¿
- Active (Simple Present Question): 'Do/Does + Subject + V1 + Object¿

Step 3: Detailed Explanation:
- Passive Sentence: Is Hindi spoken by them?
- The object of the preposition ‘by them‘ becomes the new subject: ‘they‘.
- The subject of the passive sentence ‘Hindi‘ becomes the new object.
- The passive verb ‘is spoken‘ becomes the active simple present verb. For the subject ‘they‘, this is ‘speak‘ (V1).
- Since the new subject is ‘they‘, the auxiliary verb used to form the question is ‘Do‘.
- The active question is formed as: ”Do they speak Hindi?”

Step 4: Final Answer:
The correct active voice sentence is (A) Do they speak Hindi ?.

Quick Tip

To change a passive question to active, first identify the tense. Then, find the ’doer’ of the action (the object after ’by’) and make it the subject of the new sentence.

---

54. 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: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks to combine two simple sentences into a single sentence that correctly shows the relationship between them.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The two sentences, ”Smita is rich” and ”Smita is a miser,” present a contrast or contradiction. A rich person is not expected to be a miser (someone who hoards wealth and spends as little as possible). Therefore, we need a conjunction or adverb that indicates contrast, like ‘but‘, ‘yet‘, or ‘still‘.
- (A) This option negates the second sentence (”not a miser”), which changes the meaning.
- (B) This option correctly uses ‘still‘ to show the contrast between Smita being rich and also being a miser. It preserves the original meaning and tense.
- (C) This option negates the first sentence (”not rich”), which is incorrect.
- (D) This option incorrectly changes the tense of the second clause to the past (‘was‘), creating

an inconsistency.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct combination is (B) Smita is rich, still she is a miser.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> When combining sentences, first determine the logical relationship between them (e.g., cause-effect, contrast, addition). Then, choose the appropriate connecting word (‘and‘, ‘but‘, ‘so‘, ‘still‘, etc.) that reflects this relationship.

---

55. Do you think we will be unhappy ..... ?

(A) ever
(B) forever
(C) never
(D) not

Correct Answer: (A) ever

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question requires selecting the correct adverb to complete a question about a future possibility over time.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The question asks about the possibility of being unhappy at any point in the future.
- **(A) ever:** Means "at any time". "Do you think we will ever be unhappy?" is a standard and natural way to ask if this will happen at any future point.
- **(B) forever:** Means "for all time". This would create a much more specific and extreme question: "Will our unhappiness last forever?".
- **(C) never:** Means "at no time". It would be used in a statement ("We will never be unhappy") or a different question structure ("Will we never be unhappy?"). It doesn't fit in the given blank.
- **(D) not:** Is grammatically incorrect in this position.
The most fitting and common word for this question is ‘ever‘.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct word is (A) ever.

Quick Tip

The adverb 'ever' is frequently used in questions to mean 'at any time'. It's often paired with future tenses to ask about possibilities (e.g., "Will you ever visit Paris?").

---

56. I have nothing ..... to say.

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

Correct Answer: (A) further

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the difference between the commonly confused words "further" and "farther".

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The sentence requires a word that means "additional" or "more".
- **(A) further:** Is used to mean "more" or "additional" (figurative distance). The phrase "nothing further to say" is a standard idiom meaning "nothing more to say". This is the correct choice.
- **(C) farther:** Is generally used to refer to physical distance (e.g., "The library is farther down the road.").
- **(B) neither** and **(D) either** relate to choices between two options and are not appropriate here.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct word is (A) further.

Quick Tip

A simple way to remember the difference: use 'farther' for physical distance (it has the word 'far' in it). Use 'further' for metaphorical or figurative distance, meaning "more" or "additional".

---

57. London is the ..... city in England.

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

Correct Answer: (B) largest

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the correct use of the superlative degree of an adjective for comparison.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The sentence compares London to all other cities "in England," which is a group of three or more. When comparing three or more things, the superlative form of the adjective is used.
The adjective is "large".
- Comparative form (for two things): 'larger'
- Superlative form (for three or more things): 'largest'
The definite article "the" before the blank is a strong indicator that a superlative is needed.
- (C) 'more large' is incorrect; for one-syllable adjectives, we add '-est', not 'more'.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct form is (B) largest.

Quick Tip

Remember the rule: Use the comparative ('-er' or 'more') for comparing two items. Use the superlative ('-est' or 'most') for comparing three or more items. The word "the" usually precedes a superlative adjective.

---

58. I am not ill, but I am ..... tired.

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

Correct Answer: (A) a little

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests the use of quantifiers with adjectives and the distinction between countable

and uncountable concepts.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The sentence needs a phrase to modify the adjective "tired", indicating a small degree of tiredness. Tiredness is an uncountable concept.
- **(A) a little:** Is used to mean "a small amount of" with uncountable nouns or concepts. The phrase "a little tired" is common and grammatically correct.
- **(B) a few:** Is used with plural countable nouns (e.g., "a few friends"). It cannot be used with "tired".
- **(C) some:** Can be used with uncountable concepts, but "some tired" is not a standard idiomatic expression in this context. "A little" is the preferred choice.
- **(D) few:** Is used with plural countable nouns (e.g., "few people").
The best option to convey "a small degree of tiredness" is "a little".

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct option is (A) a little.

Quick Tip

Use '(a) few' for things you can count (friends, books, cars). Use '(a) little' for things you cannot count (time, money, tiredness, water). 'a little' and 'a few' have a positive meaning (a small amount), while 'little' and 'few' have a negative meaning (almost none).

---

59. 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: Understanding the Concept:
This question requires changing a negative interrogative sentence from active voice to passive voice, maintaining the tense.

Step 2: Key Formula or Approach:
- Active (Present Continuous Negative Question): 'Am/Is/Are + Subject + not + V-ing + Object¿
- Passive (Present Continuous Negative Question): 'Am/Is/Are + Object + not + being + V3

(+ by Subject)¿

Step 3: Detailed Explanation:
- Active Sentence: Are they not cheating us?
- The object ‘us‘ becomes the new subject ‘we‘.
- The verb ‘are cheating‘ changes to the passive form ‘are being cheated‘.
- The sentence remains a negative question. The standard word order is Auxiliary + Subject + ‘not‘...
- This results in: ”Are we not being cheated?”
- Option (B) has incorrect word order for ‘not‘. Option (C) uses an older, less common word order. Option (D) is a positive question, not negative.

Step 4: Final Answer:
The correct passive sentence is (A) Are we not being cheated?.

Quick Tip

In negative questions, the word ’not’ typically comes after the subject (”Are we not...?”, ”Is he not...?”). The contracted form is also common (”Aren’t we...?”, ”Isn’t he...?”).

---

60. 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: Understanding the Concept:
This requires converting a direct statement into indirect speech, applying changes for tense, pronouns, and adverbs of time/place.

Step 2: Key Formula or Approach:
Rules for converting a statement to indirect speech:
1. Reporting verb ‘said‘ remains ‘said‘.
2. Conjunction ‘that‘ is introduced.
3. Pronoun Change: ‘I‘ changes to ‘he‘ (referring to the speaker).
4. Tense Change: Present Continuous (‘am going‘) changes to Past Continuous (‘was going‘).
5. Adverb Change: ‘now‘ changes to ‘then‘.

Step 3: Detailed Explanation:
- Applying the rules to "I am going to college just now.":
- 'I' becomes 'he'.
- 'am going' becomes 'was going'.
- 'now' becomes 'then'.
- The complete indirect sentence is: "He said that he was going to college just then."
- Option (A) fails to change 'now'. Options (B) and (D) incorrectly use 'asked' as the reporting verb.

Step 4: Final Answer:
The correct indirect narration is (C) He said that he was going to college just then..

Quick Tip

Memorize the standard changes for adverbs of time and place in indirect speech: 'now' becomes 'then', 'today' becomes 'that day', 'tomorrow' becomes 'the next day', 'yesterday' becomes 'the day before', and 'here' becomes 'there'.

---

61. The name 'Augustan' was given to ..... Century.

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

Correct Answer: (B) 18th

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This is a question about literary history, specifically the naming of periods in English literature.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The Augustan Age in English literature refers to the early part of the 18th century. It is named after the Roman Emperor Augustus, whose reign was known for literary excellence. English writers of this period, such as Alexander Pope and Jonathan Swift, admired and imitated classical forms. The period is roughly dated from 1700 to 1745.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The 'Augustan' age refers to the (B) 18th Century.

Quick Tip

Associate literary periods with key authors. The Augustan Age (18th Century) is the age of Pope, Swift, and Addison. This helps to anchor the time period in your memory.

---

62. Chaucer, Langland and Wycliffe are important writers of

(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: Understanding the Concept:
This question requires identifying the literary period of three major English authors.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Geoffrey Chaucer (author of *The Canterbury Tales*), William Langland (author of *Piers Plowman*), and John Wycliffe (known for his early translation of the Bible into English) were all active during the 14th century (the 1300s). This era falls squarely within the Middle English Period, which lasted from the Norman Conquest in 1066 to the late 15th century.

Step 3: Final Answer:
These writers belong to the (C) Middle English Period.

Quick Tip

Chaucer is considered the "Father of English Literature" and is the most prominent figure of the Middle English period. Associating him with this era is key to understanding the timeline of English literature.

---

63. A snake appeared on a trough of the ..... to sip water.

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

Correct Answer: (C) poet

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question refers to a specific detail from a well-known English poem.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The line describes a scene from D. H. Lawrence's poem "Snake". In the poem, the speaker, who is a poet, goes to his water-trough on a hot day and finds a snake already there, drinking. The entire poem is a first-person account of the poet's conflicting feelings towards the snake.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The trough belonged to the (C) poet.

Quick Tip

Familiarity with the plots and key scenes of prescribed literary texts is essential for answering such specific questions in literature exams.

---

64. Who was born in the U.S.A. but eventually settled in England ?

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

Correct Answer: (A) T. S. Eliot

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question tests biographical knowledge of famous authors.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
- **(A) T. S. Eliot** was born in St. Louis, Missouri, USA, in 1888. He moved to England in 1914 at the age of 25 and became a naturalised British citizen in 1927.
- **(B) John Donne** (1572–1631) was an English poet.
- **(C) Walt Whitman** (1819–1892) was an American poet who lived his entire life in the United States.
- **(D) John Keats** (1795–1821) was an English Romantic poet.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct author is (A) T. S. Eliot.

Quick Tip

Knowing the nationalities of major authors is fundamental. T. S. Eliot and Henry James are two famous examples of American-born writers who became major figures in English literature after moving to England.

---

65. The English language is much younger than

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

Correct Answer: (D) All of these

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question relates to the history and timeline of world languages.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The English language, in its earliest form (Old English), dates back to the 5th century AD.
- **(A) Latin:** The language of the Roman Empire, it was well-established centuries before Christ.
- **(B) Persian:** Has a literary history that goes back to Old Persian in the 6th century BC.
- **(C) Greek:** Has written records dating back to the 15th century BC (Mycenaean Greek).
Since all three languages have origins and written traditions that are significantly older than English, the correct answer is that English is younger than all of them.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct option is (D) All of these.

Quick Tip

English is a Germanic language that developed relatively late compared to the classical languages of Europe and the ancient languages of the Middle East and Asia.

---

66. T. S. Eliot is a ..... poet.

(A) 20th Century
(B) 17th Century
(C) 18th Century

(D) 16th Century

Correct Answer: (A) 20th Century

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks to place a famous author in the correct historical century.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Thomas Stearns (T. S.) Eliot lived from 1888 to 1965. His major works, such as *The Waste Land* (1922) and *Four Quartets* (1943), were published in the first half of the 20th century. He was a central figure of the Modernist literary movement, which flourished in the early 20th century.

Step 3: Final Answer:
T. S. Eliot is a (A) 20th Century poet.

Quick Tip

Knowing the birth and death years of major authors helps to place them in the correct century and literary movement. T. S. Eliot is synonymous with 20th-century Modernism.

---

67. Old English Period covers

(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: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks for the standard historical dates of the Old English (or Anglo-Saxon) period.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The Old English period is conventionally considered to have begun with the settlement of Germanic tribes (Angles, Saxons, and Jutes) in Britain around the middle of the 5th century (often dated from AD 449). It ended with the Norman Conquest of England by William the Conqueror in AD 1066, which brought significant French influence to the language and culture.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The Old English Period covers (A) AD 449 – AD 1066.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> The Norman Conquest of 1066 is a crucial turning point in English history and linguistics. It marks the end of the Old English period and the beginning of the Middle English period.

---

68. Who wrote 'Endymion' and 'Hyperion'?

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

Correct Answer: (C) John Keats

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks to identify the author of two famous poems.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Endymion (1818) and *Hyperion* (a fragment, begun 1818) are two major long poems written by John Keats (1795-1821). He was a principal figure in the second generation of English Romantic poets, along with Lord Byron and Percy Bysshe Shelley. While all the authors listed are famous Romantics, these specific works are by Keats.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The author is (C) John Keats.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Associate major works with their authors. Keats is known for his Odes ("Ode to a Nightingale," "Ode on a Grecian Urn") and his long mythological poems like *Endymion* and *Hyperion*.

---

69. Who became the President of India in 1967?

(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: Understanding the Concept:
This is a general knowledge question about the political history of India.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Let's review the terms of the Presidents of India listed:
- Dr. Rajendra Prasad: 1950 - 1962
- Dr. S. Radhakrishnan: 1962 - 1967
- Dr. Zakir Hussain: 13 May 1967 - 3 May 1969
- Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam: 2002 - 2007

Dr. Zakir Hussain took office as the third President of India in May 1967.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The President who took office in 1967 was (C) Dr. Zakir Hussain.

Quick Tip

Knowing the sequence of early Prime Ministers and Presidents is important for general knowledge. The first three Presidents of India were Rajendra Prasad, S. Radhakrishnan, and Zakir Hussain.

---

70. Who was one of the greatest orators in American history ?

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

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

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks to identify a major orator from American history. An orator is a skilled public speaker.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
- (A) H. E. Bates was an English writer, not an American orator.

- (B) Johnson is too general, but neither President Andrew Johnson nor Lyndon B. Johnson are primarily remembered as being among the "greatest orators" in the same way others are.
- (C) Martin Luther King, Jr. was a leader of the American Civil Rights Movement and is universally acclaimed as one of the most powerful and influential orators in US history. His speeches, such as "I Have a Dream," are iconic examples of great oratory.
- (D) Walt Whitman was a celebrated American poet, not primarily an orator.

Step 3: Final Answer:
One of the greatest orators in American history was (C) Martin Luther King, Jr..

Quick Tip

When thinking of great American orators, key figures like Abraham Lincoln, Franklin D. Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy, and Martin Luther King, Jr. should come to mind.

---

71. ..... is told by an aunt.

(A) Jupthoka
(B) Rupthoka
(C) Supthoka
(D) Tupthoka

Correct Answer: (B) Rupthoka

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question seems to refer to a specific story or folktale from a particular curriculum, which might not be widely known. The name itself is likely a title or a key term from that story.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
In the context of certain Indian school textbooks, "Rupthoka" refers to a type of Bengali folk tale. The question is likely asking to identify the name of the tale or genre of tale that is traditionally narrated by an aunt or other female relative. Based on common curriculum questions of this nature, "Rupthoka" is the intended answer.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct option is (B) Rupthoka.

Quick Tip

Some questions in literature sections can be highly specific to the prescribed textbook. If you encounter unfamiliar names, try to recall if they were part of a specific lesson or story you have studied.

---

72. H. E. Bates belonged to .....

(A) Austria
(B) Germany
(C) France
(D) Britain

Correct Answer: (D) Britain

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This is a factual question about the nationality of the author H. E. Bates.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Herbert Ernest Bates (1905–1974) was a renowned English novelist, short story writer, and essayist. His works, such as *The Darling Buds of May*, are closely associated with the English countryside. Therefore, he belonged to Britain.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct answer is (D) Britain.

Quick Tip

Knowing the nationalities of major authors is a key part of literary general knowledge. Associate authors with their countries and literary movements to build a strong foundation.

---

73. Nanukaka managed to travel in 2nd class on a ..... ticket.

(A) 1st class
(B) General class
(C) 3rd class
(D) Sleeper class

Correct Answer: (C) 3rd class

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question is a detail-oriented query from the short story "A Pinch of Snuff" by Manohar Malgonkar.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
In the story, the narrator goes to the railway station to receive his uncle, Nanukaka. Nanukaka cleverly manages to travel in a second-class carriage despite only having a third-class ticket, showcasing his resourceful and cunning character from the very beginning.

Step 3: Final Answer:
He traveled in 2nd class on a (C) 3rd class ticket.

Quick Tip

When reading short stories for an exam, pay close attention to the small details that reveal a character's personality. Nanukaka's ticket situation is the first clue to his clever nature.

---

74. Dr. Radhakrishnan never lost his faith in

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

Correct Answer: (C) essential humanity of man

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question pertains to the philosophical beliefs of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, former President of India and a renowned philosopher.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
A central theme in Dr. Radhakrishnan's writings and speeches is his unwavering belief in the fundamental goodness, dignity, and spiritual potential inherent in all human beings. He championed humanistic values and believed that despite failings, the "essential humanity of man" was a constant to be nurtured. This idea is a cornerstone of his philosophy.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct option is (C) essential humanity of man.

Quick Tip

When studying texts by philosophical writers like Dr. Radhakrishnan, identify the core, recurring themes. For him, these include spiritual values, universalism, and a deep faith in human nature.

---

75. The curio-dealer sold the gourd to a wealthy .....

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

Correct Answer: (C) collector

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This is a factual question from the short story "The Artist" by the Japanese writer Shiga Naoya.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
In the story, after the young boy Seibei's father smashes his prized gourd, the pieces are found by a curio-dealer. Recognizing its value after being polished by Seibei, the dealer sells it for a very high price (600 yen) to a wealthy art collector.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The gourd was sold to a wealthy (C) collector.

Quick Tip

Tracking the journey of key objects in a story is important. Following the gourd from Seibei to the curio-dealer and finally to the collector reveals the story's themes about art, value, and talent.

---

76. Which language is the second language of India ?

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

Correct Answer: (A) English

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks about the official language status in India.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
According to the Constitution of India, Hindi in the Devanagari script is the official language of the Union. English is designated as the "associate official language" for official work. While there is no constitutional definition of a "second language" for the entire country, English functions as the de facto second language for government, business, higher education, and interstate communication.

Step 3: Final Answer:
Given the options, (A) English is the most appropriate answer.

Quick Tip

Understand the distinction between "official language" (Hindi) and "associate official language" (English) in the Indian context. For practical purposes, English is the most significant pan-Indian language after Hindi.

---

77. 'Nature without check with original ..... .'

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

Correct Answer: (C) energy

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question requires identifying the missing word from a famous line of poetry.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The line is from Walt Whitman's poem "Song of Myself". The full line reads: "I permit to speak at every hazard, / Nature without check with original energy." It expresses the poet's philosophy of speaking freely and drawing power from a pure, untamed natural force.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The missing word is (C) energy.

Quick Tip

Memorizing key lines from influential poems is very helpful. Whitman's "Song of Myself" is a foundational text in American literature, and this line encapsulates one of its central themes.

---

78. Autumn starts with the departure of ..... season.

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

Correct Answer: (D) summer

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question relates to the natural cycle of the seasons, a common theme in literature, particularly in poems like John Keats' "Ode to Autumn".

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The seasons follow a standard cycle. Spring is followed by summer, summer is followed by autumn, and autumn is followed by winter. Therefore, the autumn season begins as the summer season ends or departs.

Step 3: Final Answer:
Autumn starts with the departure of the (D) summer season.

Quick Tip

This concept is not just a general knowledge fact but also a literary one. Poets often use the transition of seasons to symbolize changes in life, growth, and decay.

---

79. ..... wrote a number of children-poems.

(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: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks to identify an author known for writing children's poetry.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
While T. S. Eliot did write *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats*, Walter de la Mare (1873–1956) is more famously and primarily celebrated for his extensive work for children, including poetry collections like *Peacock Pie* and famous poems such as "The Listeners." He is considered one of the foremost children's writers of the 20th century.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct author is (D) Walter de la Mare.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> When comparing authors, consider their primary focus. While many poets have written some pieces for children, Walter de la Mare and A. A. Milne are figures for whom children's literature was a major part of their legacy.

---

80. 'A pulse in the eternal mind' is from

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

Correct Answer: (D) The Soldier

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question requires identifying the source poem of a given line.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The line "a pulse in the eternal mind" is a key phrase from Rupert Brooke's famous World War I sonnet, "The Soldier". It refers to the soldier's soul becoming a part of the immortal, collective consciousness of his homeland, England, after his death.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The line is from (D) The Soldier.

Quick Tip

War poetry often contains memorable lines about patriotism, death, and memory. Rupert Brooke's "The Soldier" is one of the most famous patriotic poems of the First World War.

---

81. Gandhiji completely dominated Indian politics

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

Correct Answer: (A) from 1915 till 1948

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks for the time period of Mahatma Gandhi's major influence on the Indian independence movement.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Mahatma Gandhi returned to India from South Africa in January 1915. He began to take a leading role in the national movement with events like the Champaran Satyagraha in 1917 and became the undisputed leader of the Indian National Congress soon after. He led the freedom struggle until his death in January 1948. This entire era is often referred to as the Gandhian era in Indian politics.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The period that best represents his dominance is (A) from 1915 till 1948.

Quick Tip

Remember key dates in historical movements. Gandhi's return to India in 1915 and his death in 1948 are the definitive start and end points of his direct involvement in Indian politics.

---

82. Nanukaka went to the ..... Auto Dealers.

(A) Sikka
(B) Alankar
(C) Rikka

(D) Kia

Correct Answer: (A) Sikka

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This is another factual recall question from Manohar Malgonkar's short story, "A Pinch of Snuff".

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
In the story, to create an impression of wealth and importance for his meeting with the minister, Nanukaka arranges for a large, impressive car. The narrator and Nanukaka go to the Sikka Auto Dealers to achieve this, where Nanukaka puts on an elaborate act to get the car.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct name of the dealership is (A) Sikka Auto Dealers.

Quick Tip

Paying attention to proper nouns—names of people, places, and businesses—is important for answering specific questions about a literary text.

---

83. ..... got the Nobel Prize in literature in 1950.

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

Correct Answer: (D) Bertrand Russell

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This is a general knowledge question about Nobel Prize laureates in Literature.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The Nobel Prize in Literature for the year 1950 was awarded to Bertrand Russell, a British philosopher, logician, mathematician, historian, writer, and social critic. The Nobel committee recognized his "varied and significant writings in which he champions humanitarian ideals and freedom of thought."

Step 3: Final Answer:
The 1950 Nobel laureate in Literature was (D) Bertrand Russell.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Knowing some of the major Nobel laureates in literature, especially those who are also philosophers or historical figures (like Russell, Churchill, or Sartre), is useful for general knowledge sections.

---

84. ..... is the chief source of revenue of a newspaper.

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

Correct Answer: (C) Advertisement

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks about the business model of newspapers.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
For most commercial newspapers, the primary source of income is not the price paid by the reader (circulation revenue) but the money paid by businesses and individuals to place advertisements in the paper. This advertising revenue allows newspapers to cover their costs and often sell the paper for less than its production cost.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The chief source of revenue is (C) Advertisement.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Understanding the basics of media economics is helpful. The business models of newspapers, television, and many websites are heavily reliant on advertising revenue.

---

85. Lomov is a man of ..... temperament.

(A) happy
(B) negative

(C) sad
(D) nervous

Correct Answer: (D) nervous

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question is about character analysis from Anton Chekhov's one-act play, "The Proposal".

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Ivan Vassilevitch Lomov is a central character in the play. He is portrayed as highly anxious, argumentative, and a hypochondriac who is constantly worried about his health, especially his heart palpitations. His nervous temperament is a major source of the play's comedy.

Step 3: Final Answer:
Lomov has a (D) nervous temperament.

Quick Tip

In literature, especially in comedies and dramas, characters often have a dominant trait or "humour". Identifying this key trait (like Lomov's nervousness or Chubukov's excitability) is crucial to understanding the play.

---

86. The redness of the fire appears ..... to the poet.

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

Correct Answer: (B) cruel

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question likely refers to the poem "Fire-Hymn" by Keki N. Daruwalla, which explores the nature of fire from a Zoroastrian perspective.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
In "Fire-Hymn," the poet observes a cremation at a burning ghat. He notes the fire's "debauchery" and its seemingly indifferent and harsh nature as it consumes the dead, leaving "half-cooked limbs." This perception leads the poet to see the fire's red-hot intensity not as

purifying or nice, but as something cruel. The poet's own Zoroastrian faith considers fire sacred and does not use it for cremation, which adds to his sense of its violation and cruelty in this context.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The redness of the fire appears (B) cruel to the poet.

Quick Tip

When analyzing poetry, pay attention to the poet's choice of words (diction). Words like "debauchery" and descriptions of "half-cooked limbs" strongly suggest a negative and harsh perception, making "cruel" the most fitting option.

---

87. "A Child is Born" is taken from

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

Correct Answer: (C) Sex and Destiny

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks for the source book of the essay "A Child is Born".

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
"A Child is Born" is an essay by the Australian feminist writer Germaine Greer. The version often found in textbooks is an extract or adaptation from her 1984 book, *Sex and Destiny: The Politics of Human Fertility*. This book explores different cultural attitudes towards pregnancy, childbirth, and family.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The essay is taken from (C) Sex and Destiny.

Quick Tip

For questions about literary extracts, it's helpful to know not just the author but also the original work it was taken from. Germaine Greer is famous for *The Female Eunuch*, but "A Child is Born" comes from her later work, *Sex and Destiny*.

88. The last of the pre-historic invention was

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

Correct Answer: (C) writing

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks to identify the last major invention of the prehistoric era. Prehistory is defined as the period of human history before the existence of written records.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The invention of writing is the milestone that marks the end of prehistory and the beginning of recorded history.
- Hunting, the use of fire for cooking, and the taming (domestication) of animals were all crucial developments that occurred much earlier, deep within the prehistoric period.
- Writing allowed societies to record their laws, history, and culture, fundamentally changing human civilization and ushering in the historical era. Therefore, it is considered the last great invention of the prehistoric age.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The last of the pre-historic inventions was (C) writing.

Quick Tip

Remember the fundamental definition of history vs. prehistory. The dividing line is the invention of writing. Therefore, writing is logically the final invention of the prehistoric period.

---

89. Macavity is called

(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: Understanding the Concept:
This is a detail-specific question from T. S. Eliot's poem "Macavity: The Mystery Cat".

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The poem describes Macavity as a master criminal who is impossible to catch. The opening lines of the second stanza are: "Macavity's a Mystery Cat: he's called the Hidden Paw— / For he's the master criminal who can defy the Law." This nickname refers to his ability to commit crimes without leaving any trace of his presence.

Step 3: Final Answer:
Macavity is called (A) The Hidden Paw.

> Quick Tip
>
> In poetry, characters are often given specific epithets or nicknames. It's important to remember these as they often summarize a key aspect of the character's nature.

---

90. Tower of Silence is related to

(A) Parsis
(B) Sikhs
(C) Hindus
(D) Christians

Correct Answer: (A) Parsis

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question connects a specific cultural/religious structure to the correct religion.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
The Tower of Silence, or Dakhma, is a structure used by followers of Zoroastrianism for funerary purposes. The bodies of the deceased are placed atop the tower to be exposed to the sun and birds of prey. In India, the followers of Zoroastrianism are known as Parsis. This practice is also relevant to the poem "Fire-Hymn" by Keki N. Daruwalla, who is a Parsi.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The Tower of Silence is related to (A) Parsis.

Quick Tip

Associating key terms, rituals, and structures with their respective religions is crucial for general knowledge and cultural literacy. Tower of Silence = Parsis/Zoroastrians.

---

91. A ..... is mentioned in the poem 'Snake'.

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

Correct Answer: (D) Carob Tree

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks for a specific detail from the setting described in D. H. Lawrence's poem "Snake".

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
In the poem, the poet describes the scene at his water-trough where he encounters the snake. He mentions a specific tree that provides shade. The line from the poem reads: "In the deep, strange-scented shade of the great dark carob-tree". The carob tree is native to the Mediterranean region, which fits the Sicilian setting of the poem.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The tree mentioned in the poem is a (D) Carob Tree.

Quick Tip

Details of the natural setting in poems are often symbolic or help to create a specific atmosphere. Remembering these details can be key to answering factual recall questions correctly.

---

92. ..... spent her childhood days with her grandmother.

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

Correct Answer: (C) Kamala Das

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks to identify an author whose work and life are closely associated with their grandmother.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Kamala Das, a celebrated Indian poet and writer, frequently drew upon her childhood experiences in her work. A central figure in her memories was her grandmother, and the ancestral home in Malabar, Kerala, where she spent much of her youth. Her famous poem "My Grandmother's House" is a direct testament to this deep connection and the nostalgia she felt for that time.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The correct author is (C) Kamala Das.

Quick Tip

Authors often have recurring themes or subjects in their work. For Kamala Das, themes of love, betrayal, and a nostalgic longing for her childhood home and grandmother are prominent.

---

93. The food in Indian villages was served on ..... leaves.

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

Correct Answer: (A) banana

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question refers to a traditional cultural practice in India, often depicted in literature about rural life.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
In many parts of India, particularly in the southern and eastern states, serving food on a banana leaf is a long-standing tradition. It is considered hygienic, eco-friendly, and practical, as the large leaves can hold a variety of dishes. This practice is a common cultural detail in stories

and descriptions of traditional Indian village life.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The food was served on (A) banana leaves.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> When questions refer to general cultural practices in a region, think of the most widespread and well-known traditions. Serving meals on banana leaves is one of the most iconic images of traditional South Indian hospitality.

---

94. Choobookov is a

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

Correct Answer: (B) landowner

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks for the profession or social status of a character from Anton Chekhov's play, "The Proposal". The name is commonly spelled Chubukov.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Stepan Stepanovitch Chubukov is the father of Natalya. He is a rural landowner, and his neighbour, Ivan Vassilevitch Lomov, is also a landowner. The entire plot, including the farcical arguments over property like the Oxen Meadows, revolves around their status as landowners.

Step 3: Final Answer:
Chubukov is a (B) landowner.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Understanding the social context and the characters' roles is key to interpreting drama. In "The Proposal," the characters' identities as landowners fuel their pride and their petty disputes.

---

95. ..... wants to gladly accept death.

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

Correct Answer: (B) John Donne

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks to identify a poet whose work expresses a willing or glad acceptance of death.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
While several poets explore death, John Donne, a Metaphysical poet, treats it uniquely in his religious poetry. In works like his Holy Sonnet "Death, be not proud," Donne personifies and belittles death, arguing it is merely a short sleep before the soul awakens to eternal life. From this Christian perspective, death is not an end to be feared but a welcome gateway to salvation and union with God. This can be interpreted as a form of glad acceptance. Walt Whitman also embraces death as a natural process, but Donne's theological view makes his acceptance particularly profound and arguably "glad".

Step 3: Final Answer:
The poet who wants to gladly accept death is (B) John Donne.

Quick Tip

The Metaphysical poets, like John Donne, often used intellectual reasoning and religious doctrine to explore profound subjects like love and death, leading to complex and sometimes surprising attitudes.

---

96. 'Leaves of Grass' was published in

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

Correct Answer: (B) 1855

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This is a factual question about a landmark publication in American literature.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Walt Whitman's influential collection of poetry, *Leaves of Grass*, was first self-published in 1855. It was a slim volume containing twelve poems, including the piece that would later become known as "Song of Myself". Whitman spent the rest of his life revising and expanding the collection, with the final "deathbed" edition appearing in 1892, but the initial publication date is 1855.

Step 3: Final Answer:
'Leaves of Grass' was published in (B) 1855.

Quick Tip

Remembering the first publication dates of foundational literary works (like *Lyrical Ballads* in 1798 or *Leaves of Grass* in 1855) is crucial for understanding the timeline of literary history.

---

97. In England Printing Press was invented in

(A) 1475
(B) 1477
(C) 1476
(D) 1478

Correct Answer: (C) 1476

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks for the date of the introduction of the printing press to England.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
While Johannes Gutenberg invented the printing press with movable type in Germany around 1440, it was William Caxton who introduced the technology to England. Caxton set up his printing press at Westminster in 1476. One of the first books he printed in England was Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales*.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The printing press was established in England in (C) 1476.

Quick Tip

Associate historical inventions with the key figures who introduced them to different regions. For the printing press in England, the key name is William Caxton and the key date is 1476.

---

98. Who wrote 'Mac Flecknoe'?

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

Correct Answer: (A) John Dryden

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks to identify the author of a famous mock-heroic satirical poem.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
'Mac Flecknoe' is a verse satire written by John Dryden (1631-1700). It is a direct attack on his contemporary, the playwright Thomas Shadwell, whom Dryden presents as the heir to a kingdom of poetic dullness. Alexander Pope later wrote a similar, more extensive satire called *The Dunciad*, but 'Mac Flecknoe' is Dryden's work and a masterpiece of the English Restoration period.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The author of 'Mac Flecknoe' is (A) John Dryden.

Quick Tip

It's easy to confuse 'Mac Flecknoe' (by Dryden) and 'The Dunciad' (by Pope) as both are major satires from the same general era. Remember Dryden came first and satirized Shadwell; Pope came later and satirized a wider range of 'Dunces'.

---

99. About ..... Christianity began to spread in England.

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

Correct Answer: (B) AD 600

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks for the approximate time when the Christianization of Anglo-Saxon England began in earnest.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
While there were Christians in Roman Britain, the major effort to convert the pagan Anglo-Saxons began at the end of the 6th century. The key event was the arrival of the Gregorian mission, led by Augustine of Canterbury, in the Kingdom of Kent in AD 597. Augustine became the first Archbishop of Canterbury and began the process of converting the Anglo-Saxon kings, which led to the gradual spread of Christianity throughout England over the next century. Therefore, the period around AD 600 is the correct starting point for this large-scale spread.

Step 3: Final Answer:
Christianity began to spread in England around (B) AD 600.

Quick Tip

Remember the mission of St. Augustine to Kent in AD 597 as the pivotal moment for the Christianization of Anglo-Saxon England. This helps anchor the date to the turn of the 7th century (i.e., around AD 600).

---

100. Who is known as 'The Nightingale of India'?

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

Correct Answer: (D) Sarojini Naidu

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks to identify the person known by a famous epithet.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Sarojini Naidu (1879–1949) was a prominent Indian independence activist and a celebrated poet. For the beautiful, lyrical, and song-like quality of her English poetry, she was given the sobriquet 'Bharat Kokila' or 'The Nightingale of India' by Mahatma Gandhi. Her poems are

known for their rich imagery and Indian themes.

Step 3: Final Answer:
The person known as 'The Nightingale of India' is (D) Sarojini Naidu.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Epithets or titles given to famous personalities are common general knowledge questions. 'The Nightingale of India' (Sarojini Naidu) and 'The Iron Man of India' (Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel) are two well-known examples.

1(a). Write an essay on the following in about 150-200 words:
Clean India Movement

Solution:
The Clean India Movement, officially known as the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, is a nationwide campaign launched by the Government of India on October 2, 2014, to commemorate the 145th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The primary objective of this transformative mission is to achieve a 'Clean India' by eliminating open defecation, improving solid waste management, and making citizens aware of the importance of sanitation and hygiene.
The movement operates on two fronts: Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) for rural areas and Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) for urban centers. Key initiatives under this campaign include the construction of millions of household and community toilets, the establishment of waste-to-energy plants, and large-scale awareness drives involving students, celebrities, and government officials.
The impact of the Clean India Movement has been significant. It has drastically improved sanitation coverage across the country, reducing the incidence of diseases caused by poor hygiene. More importantly, it has sparked a behavioral change, making cleanliness a matter of national pride and a collective responsibility. While challenges in waste management and sustainability remain, the movement has undeniably laid a strong foundation for a healthier and cleaner India.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> When writing an essay on a government initiative, structure it with an introduction (what it is and its launch date), a body (its objectives and key actions), and a conclusion (its impact and future outlook). Including specific data or components (like the rural/urban missions) makes the essay more informative.

1(b). Write an essay on the following in about 150-200 words:
Climate Change

Solution:
Climate change refers to the long-term alteration of temperature and typical weather patterns in a place. While Earth's climate has always changed, the current warming trend is proceeding at an unprecedented rate, primarily due to human activities since the mid-20th century. The main driver of this change is the emission of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide and methane, from burning fossil fuels for energy, industrial processes, and deforestation.
The consequences of climate change are severe and far-reaching. They include rising global temperatures, more frequent and intense heatwaves, melting glaciers and ice sheets, rising sea levels, and an increase in extreme weather events like hurricanes, droughts, and floods. These changes threaten ecosystems, biodiversity, food and water security, and human health.
Addressing climate change requires a concerted global effort. Key solutions involve transitioning to renewable energy sources like solar and wind, improving energy efficiency, promoting sustainable agriculture and forestry, and adopting policies that put a price on carbon. International agreements like the Paris Accord aim to unite nations in this critical mission. Individual actions, combined with strong government and corporate policies, are essential to mitigate the impacts of climate change and secure a sustainable future for our planet.

Quick Tip

For a scientific topic like climate change, a clear structure is key. Use the 'Cause-Effect-Solution' model. Start by defining the term and its primary cause (greenhouse gases). Then, list the major effects (rising temperatures, extreme weather). Conclude with potential solutions (renewable energy, international cooperation).

1(c). Write an essay on the following in about 150-200 words:
Social Justice

Solution:
Social justice is the principle that all individuals should have equal rights, opportunities, and access to resources within a society. It is founded on the ideals of fairness, equity, and human dignity. The goal of social justice is to create a society where factors such as race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, or economic status do not act as barriers to one's potential and well-being.
The concept of social justice involves addressing and dismantling systemic inequalities and historical injustices. This includes fighting against discrimination, poverty, and prejudice. It advocates for fair labor practices, equitable access to education and healthcare, and a legal system that treats everyone impartially. It also emphasizes the protection of vulnerable and marginalized groups, ensuring their voices are heard and their rights are upheld.
Achieving social justice is not just a moral imperative but also a prerequisite for a stable and prosperous society. When people feel that the system is fair and that they have a genuine opportunity to succeed, social cohesion is strengthened, and conflicts are reduced. Promoting social justice requires continuous effort from governments, institutions, and individuals through policy-making, activism, and fostering a culture of empathy and respect for all.

Quick Tip

When writing about an abstract concept like social justice, start with a clear definition. In the body, provide concrete examples of what it entails (e.g., fighting discrimination, ensuring access to education). Conclude by explaining why it is important for a society's health and stability.

1(d). Write an essay on the following in about 150-200 words:
Education for Everyone

Solution:
The principle of 'Education for Everyone', or universal education, is the belief that every individual, regardless of their social, economic, or physical circumstances, has the fundamental right to receive a quality education. It is a cornerstone of human development and a powerful tool for eradicating poverty and promoting social equality. Education empowers individuals with knowledge and skills, enabling them to improve their livelihoods, make informed decisions, and participate actively in society.
Universal education fosters economic growth by creating a skilled and productive workforce. It also promotes social progress by breaking down barriers of prejudice and discrimination, fostering tolerance, and strengthening democratic values. Educated citizens are better equipped to understand their rights and responsibilities, leading to more stable and just societies.
Despite significant progress, achieving education for all remains a global challenge. Barriers such as poverty, gender inequality, conflict, and lack of infrastructure prevent millions of children from attending school. Overcoming these obstacles requires sustained investment in educational systems, policies that support marginalized communities, and international cooperation. Ensuring that every child has the opportunity to learn is not just an investment in their future, but in the future of the entire world.

Quick Tip

For a topic like 'Education for Everyone', structure your essay around its importance and the challenges. Start by defining the concept and its significance (empowerment, development). Discuss its benefits for both individuals and society. Conclude by mentioning the barriers and the need for continued efforts.

1(e). Write an essay on the following in about 150-200 words:
Bihar of your Dreams

Solution:
The Bihar of my dreams is a land that harmoniously blends its rich historical legacy with modern progress and prosperity. It is a state where the echoes of ancient universities like Nalanda and

Vikramshila are reborn in world-class educational institutions, attracting students from across the globe and making Bihar a premier knowledge hub once again.
In this dream, agriculture, the backbone of the state, is revitalized through technology, ensuring that our farmers are prosperous and food-secure. The rivers that once brought floods are managed to become sources of clean energy and irrigation. The state's industrial landscape is vibrant, with thriving agro-based industries and IT parks providing ample employment opportunities for the youth, reversing the trend of migration.
Most importantly, the Bihar of my dreams is a beacon of social harmony and good governance. It is a place where every citizen has access to quality healthcare and education, where law and order prevail, and where the rich cultural heritage—from Madhubani art to Chhath Puja—is celebrated with pride. It is a state that has shed its past burdens and stands tall as a symbol of development, inclusivity, and resilience.

Quick Tip

When writing an essay on a visionary topic like this, use positive and aspirational language. Structure your vision around key sectors: education, economy (agriculture and industry), and society (governance, culture). Referring to the state's historical strengths (like Nalanda) adds depth to your vision.

2(a). Explain the following:
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: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks for an explanation of one of the most famous lines from modern oratory, requiring an understanding of its source, context, and meaning.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Source and Context:
This iconic line is from the "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on August 28, 1963, during the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. The speech was a defining moment of the American Civil Rights Movement, which fought to end racial segregation and discrimination against African Americans.

Meaning and Significance:
The line encapsulates the core vision of the Civil Rights Movement. Dr. King expresses a deeply personal and universal hope for the future. He dreams of a society where racial prejudice is eradicated. The phrase "not be judged by the colour of their skin" directly confronts the racism and segregation prevalent at the time, where people of color were systematically disadvantaged based on their race.

The contrasting phrase, "but by the content of their character," presents the ideal alternative. It calls for a meritocratic and just society where an individual's worth is determined by their intrinsic qualities—their integrity, compassion, intelligence, and actions—rather than superficial and arbitrary factors like skin color. This powerful antithesis highlights the moral bankruptcy of racism and presents a clear, compelling vision of a truly equal and integrated America.

Quick Tip

When explaining a famous quote, always start by identifying the speaker and the context (the event or work it's from). Then, break down the quote into its key parts and explain the meaning of each, especially if there is a contrast or comparison as seen here.

2(b). Explain the following:
Justice was tolerably fair. The ordinary rule was to avoid courts.

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks for an explanation of a line describing the justice system and social norms in a particular setting.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Source and Context:
This line is from Pearl S. Buck's essay "India Through a Traveller's Eyes," where she describes her observations of life in Indian villages before independence. She is commenting on the traditional systems of justice that existed at the grassroots level, often operating alongside the formal British colonial legal system.

Meaning and Significance:
The line conveys two main ideas. Firstly, "Justice was tolerably fair" suggests that the traditional village-level justice, likely administered by elders or a 'panchayat', was generally acceptable and reasonable, though perhaps not perfect. The word "tolerably" implies it was good enough for the people's needs, functional, but not necessarily ideal by modern standards.
Secondly, "The ordinary rule was to avoid courts" highlights a cultural preference for informal, community-based dispute resolution over the formal, complex, and often intimidating colonial court system. For the ordinary peasant, the official courts were likely expensive, time-consuming, and conducted in a foreign language (English). Therefore, the common practice or "rule" was to resolve matters within the community, relying on mutual understanding and social pressure, rather than resorting to the formal legal apparatus. The line reflects a self-sufficient and community-oriented society that preferred its own methods of maintaining order.

Quick Tip

To explain a descriptive line, analyze the specific choice of words. "Tolerably" is a key word here, indicating a qualified positive assessment. "Ordinary rule" suggests a strong social norm. Explain what each part of the sentence reveals about the society being described.

2(c). Explain the following:
You two'd better hurry up and get married — Have me in peace.

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks to explain a line of dialogue from a play, focusing on its context, speaker, and meaning.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Source and Context:
This line is spoken by the character Stepan Stepanovitch Chubukov in Anton Chekhov's one-act farcical play, "The Proposal". It comes at a moment of high frustration. Lomov has come to propose to Chubukov's daughter, Natalya, but instead of a romantic proposal, they have gotten into heated and ridiculous arguments, first over a piece of land and then over whose dog is superior.

Meaning and Significance:
The line is an exasperated outburst from Chubukov, who is desperate for the marriage to happen for practical and financial reasons. "You two'd better hurry up and get married" is a blunt, impatient command, stripping away any pretense of romance. He is not blessing their union but ordering them to get it over with.
The second part, "Have me in peace," reveals his selfish motivation. He is not concerned with their happiness but with his own peace and quiet, which their constant bickering has shattered.
The line is deeply comical because it exposes the transactional and unromantic nature of the proposed marriage. It highlights the play's satirical take on the landowning class, where marriage is more of a business arrangement than a union of love, and it underscores Chubukov's role as a foolish, self-serving patriarch.

Quick Tip

When explaining dialogue from a play, identify the speaker, the person being spoken to, and the situation. Analyze the tone (here, it's exasperated and comical) and what the line reveals about the speaker's character and motivations.

2(d). Explain the following:
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: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks to explain a quote that outlines an author's purpose for visiting India and the two distinct groups she intended to study.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Source and Context:
This statement is from the essay "India Through a Traveller's Eyes" by the American author Pearl S. Buck. In this line, she clearly states the objective of her visit. She was not a tourist seeking exotic sights but a keen observer wanting to understand the real India on the cusp of its independence.

Meaning and Significance:
By identifying these "two groups of people," Buck establishes a central theme of her essay: the vast difference between the urban, educated elite and the rural, traditional masses of India.
- **"The young intellectuals in the cities":** This group represented the modern, Western-educated India. They were fluent in English, engaged in political discourse, and were the vocal leaders of the independence movement. Buck listened to them to understand the political and philosophical ideas shaping India's future.
- **"The peasants in the villages":** This group represented the vast, ancient, and enduring soul of India. They were deeply connected to their traditions, religion, and the land. By observing them, Buck sought to understand the foundational values and the silent strength of the Indian people.
The line signifies Buck's insightful approach. She understood that to comprehend a complex nation like India, one must engage with both its modern, articulate mind (the intellectuals) and its timeless, resilient heart (the peasants). Her journey was an attempt to bridge this divide and form a complete picture of the country.

Quick Tip

When explaining a quote that presents a dichotomy (a contrast between two things), structure your explanation around that contrast. Define each group mentioned and explain why the author found it important to observe both to get a holistic view.

3(a). Explain the following:
The voice of my education said to me
He must be killed

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks for an explanation of a key passage from a poem, focusing on the internal conflict experienced by the speaker.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Source and Context:
These lines are from D. H. Lawrence's poem "Snake". The poet, on a hot day in Sicily, encounters a golden-brown snake drinking at his water-trough. He is initially fascinated and honored by the presence of this magnificent creature. However, a conflict arises within him.

Meaning and Significance:
The "voice of my education" represents the rational, civilized, and socially conditioned part of the poet's mind. It is the voice of human prejudice and fear, which has taught him that snakes, especially venomous ones (like the Etna snake he believes this to be), are dangerous and must be destroyed. This voice urges him with the cold, imperative command: "He must be killed." This stands in stark contrast to the poet's instinctive, intuitive reaction, which is one of awe and respect for the snake, whom he sees as a "king in exile." The lines are crucial as they dramatize the central conflict of the poem: the battle between natural, primal instinct and the artificial, fearful conditioning of human education. The poet's subsequent action—clumsily throwing a log at the departing snake—and his immediate regret, highlight his shame at having listened to this "accursed human education."

Quick Tip

When explaining literary passages that describe an internal conflict, identify the opposing forces. Here, it is 'instinct' vs. 'education'. Explain what each "voice" represents and how their conflict drives the poem's theme and the speaker's actions.

3(b). Explain the following:
Can you, that I lived in such a house and
Was proud, and loved .....

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks for an explanation of lines from a poem that express nostalgia and a deep emotional connection to a past place and person.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Source and Context:
These lines are from the poem "My Grandmother's House" by the Indian poet Kamala Das.

The poem is a poignant recollection of the poet's childhood visits to her grandmother's ancestral home in Malabar, Kerala. The speaker is now an adult, living far away, and reflects on the love and security she felt in that house, which is now silent and deserted after her grandmother's death.

Meaning and Significance:
The lines are part of a rhetorical question addressed to her beloved, asking if he can believe the extent of the change in her. "I lived in such a house" refers to her grandmother's home, which she remembers as a place filled with unconditional love and warmth. The phrase "...and Was proud, and loved" encapsulates her feelings at that time. She felt a sense of belonging and pride in her heritage, and she was surrounded by love, specifically the profound love of her grandmother.
The incomplete line, followed by ellipses in many versions, suggests a thought trailing off into a deep well of memory and emotion. The speaker is contrasting her former self—a proud, loved, and secure child—with her present self, who feels lost and unloved, "begging at strangers' doors for love." The lines serve to highlight the painful contrast between the past's emotional abundance and the present's emotional emptiness.

Quick Tip

When explaining lines that express nostalgia, focus on the 'Then vs. Now' contrast. Identify what the past represents (here: love, security, pride) and how it differs from the speaker's present state, which is often one of loss or longing.

3(c). Explain the following:
There shall be
In that rich earth a richer dust concealed ;
A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks for an explanation of lines from a famous war poem, focusing on themes of patriotism and the relationship between a soldier and his homeland.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Source and Context:
These lines are from the sonnet "The Soldier" by Rupert Brooke, written in 1914 at the beginning of World War I. The poem is written from the perspective of an English soldier contemplating his own death in a foreign land. It is known for its idealistic and patriotic tone, which contrasts with the more realistic and grim poetry that emerged later in the war.

Meaning and Significance:
The speaker imagines his death and burial in a "foreign field." He states that the small piece

of foreign earth where he is buried will be forever enriched by his remains. The phrase "a richer dust concealed" means that his body, which he calls "dust," is more valuable than the surrounding earth because it is English.
The next line, "A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware," explains why this "dust" is so special. He personifies England as a mother figure. It was England that gave him life ("bore"), nurtured his growth and values ("shaped"), and gave him consciousness and his sense of identity ("made aware"). His body is not just flesh and bone; it is a physical embodiment of England itself. Therefore, his death is not a loss but a way of planting a piece of England abroad, sanctifying the foreign soil. The lines express an intense, romantic patriotism, viewing a soldier's sacrifice as a noble act that extends the presence of his beloved country.

Quick Tip

When explaining patriotic poetry, look for personification of the homeland (e.g., England as a mother). Analyze how the poet links the individual's identity to the national identity. Here, the soldier's body is literally a piece of England.

3(d). Explain the following:
Nurses to the graves are gone,
And the prams go rolling on.

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
This question asks for an explanation of the concluding couplet of a poem, focusing on its themes of mortality, the cycle of life, and indifference.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:
Source and Context:
These are the final two lines of the poem "Now the Leaves Are Falling Fast" by W. H. Auden. The poem uses the imagery of autumn and falling leaves to symbolize the process of aging, decay, and death. It describes a world where human life is fragile and aspirations are often unfulfilled.

Meaning and Significance:
This concluding couplet presents a stark and powerful image of the continuous cycle of life and death, and nature's (or society's) indifference to individual mortality.
- **"Nurses to the graves are gone":** This is a metaphorical line. The "nurses" can be interpreted as the people who care for us in life, or perhaps the forces of life and nature that sustain us. Their "going to the graves" signifies that life inevitably ends in death; everyone, including our caregivers, is mortal and will eventually die.
- **"And the prams go rolling on":** A "pram" is a baby carriage. This image starkly contrasts with the finality of the grave. It symbolizes the continuation of life: while the old generation

dies, a new generation is born. Life goes on, relentlessly and impersonally.
Together, the lines create a feeling of detachment. Individual lives and deaths may seem momentous to us, but from a broader perspective, they are just part of an endless, mechanical cycle. The world does not stop for our death; the prams keep rolling. The couplet offers a bleak but realistic commentary on the human condition.

Quick Tip

When analyzing a concluding couplet, consider how it summarizes or provides a final commentary on the poem's main themes. Look for contrasting images (like the grave and the pram here) as they are often used to create a powerful final statement.

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4. Write a letter to your sister congratulating her on her success in the NEET.

Solution:
12B, Patel Nagar
Patna, Bihar
800001

October 7, 2025

My dearest [Sister's Name],
I was absolutely thrilled to bursting with pride when Mom called and told me the wonderful news! Huge, huge congratulations on cracking the NEET! I know how incredibly hard you have worked for this over the last two years, and it is so amazing to see all that dedication pay off.
I still remember all those late nights you spent studying, the endless mock tests, and the sacrifices you made. You never lost focus, and your perseverance has truly been rewarded. You completely deserve this success, and I am so incredibly proud to call you my sister. You are not just brilliant, but also one of the most hardworking people I know.
This is the first major step towards your dream of becoming a doctor, and I have no doubt that you will be a fantastic one. We are all celebrating your achievement here and can't wait to see you and celebrate properly.
Wishing you all the very best for the next chapter in your journey.
With all my love and pride,
Your Name

Quick Tip

For an informal letter of congratulations:

- **Opening:** Start with an enthusiastic and happy tone.
- **Body:** Acknowledge the recipient's hard work and dedication. Mention specific efforts you remember to make it personal.
- **Praise:** State how proud you are and why they deserve the success.
- **Closing:** End with warm wishes for the future and a loving sign-off.

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4. (OR) Write an application to the Principal asking him / her for leave to attend a workshop on Yoga.

Solution:
To,
The Principal,
Your School/College Name

,
School/College Address

,
Patna, Bihar

October 7, 2025

Subject: Application for leave to attend a Yoga workshop

Respected Sir/Madam,
I am [Your Name], a student of Class [Your Class] Section [Your Section], with roll number [Your Roll Number].
I am writing to request your permission for a leave of absence from [Start Date] to [End Date]. I have been selected to participate in a certified National Level Yoga Workshop organized by the Art of Living Foundation in [City Name]. This is a wonderful opportunity for me to deepen my understanding and practice of Yoga, which I believe is beneficial for both physical and mental well-being.
I assure you that I will collect all notes and complete any pending assignments from my classmates upon my return. I have also informed my class teacher about this.
I would be very grateful if you could grant me leave for these days.
Thank you for your consideration.
Yours obediently,
Your Name

Class: [Your Class]
Roll No: [Your Roll Number]

Quick Tip

For a formal application for leave:

- **Format:** Follow the standard format (To, Date, Subject, Salutation, Body, Closing).
- **Subject Line:** Be clear and concise.
- **Body:** State your name and class. Clearly mention the reason for leave and the specific dates. Justify why the event is important.
- **Assurance:** Assure the Principal that you will catch up on your studies.
- **Closing:** End with a polite closing like "Yours obediently" or "Yours sincerely".

5(a). What, according to Gandhiji, is the 'sheet anchor of our hope'?

Solution:
According to Gandhiji in his essay "Indian Civilization and Culture," the 'sheet anchor of our hope' is the unique strength and resilience of Indian civilization. He believes that while other great civilizations of the world have declined, India's has remained steadfast. This immovability and adherence to its ancient moral and spiritual foundations is its greatest strength and the ultimate source of hope for its future.

Quick Tip

A 'sheet anchor' is a large, strong anchor that is a ship's last resort in a storm. Understanding this metaphor helps to explain that Gandhiji saw Indian civilization's core values as the final, most reliable source of security and stability for the nation.

5(b). What is the business of education?

Solution:
According to the views expressed by Dr. Zakir Hussain in his speech "Bharat is My Home," the business of education is to help in the growth of national culture and national character. It is not merely about imparting information but about nurturing individuals to become responsible citizens dedicated to the dual work of self-improvement and societal betterment, ensuring the quality of the nation's progress.

Quick Tip

When asked about a concept like "the business of education" from a specific text, focus on the author's main argument. For Dr. Zakir Hussain, education was inextricably linked to nation-building and moral development.

5(c). What are the 'trials and tribulations' that Martin Luther King Jr. talks about?

Solution:
The 'trials and tribulations' that Martin Luther King Jr. refers to in his "I Have a Dream" speech are the immense sufferings and injustices faced by the Civil Rights activists. This includes brutal police violence, unjust imprisonment, physical assaults, and the constant humiliation and hardships they endured while protesting for freedom and equality. He acknowledges that they have come to the march "fresh from narrow jail cells" and other places of persecution.

Quick Tip

To answer this question effectively, connect the phrase 'trials and tribulations' to the specific historical context of the Civil Rights Movement. Mentioning concrete examples like police brutality and wrongful imprisonment makes the answer stronger.

5(d). What do free people take for granted?

Solution:
According to Dorothy L. Sayers in her essay "How Free is the Press?", free people often take for granted the freedom of the press. They assume that what they read is true and that the press is independent, without realizing that it can be controlled by advertisers or proprietors. They also take for granted that there is no official censorship, failing to recognize the more subtle economic pressures that can restrict true press freedom.

Quick Tip

This question requires you to recall the central argument of a specific essay. Focus on the main point the author is trying to make. For Sayers, the key issue is the hidden, non-governmental threats to the freedom of the press.

5(e). Who are the 'whispering neighbours'?

Solution:
In W. H. Auden's poem "Now the Leaves Are Falling Fast," the 'whispering neighbours' are agents of death or mortality. They represent the forces that surround human beings in their final moments, plucking them away from their real joys and leading them to their end. They symbolize the constant presence of death that ultimately isolates and claims every individual.

Quick Tip

In poetry, terms like 'whispering neighbours' are often metaphorical. To interpret them, consider the overall theme of the poem. Since the poem is about decay and death, the neighbours should be interpreted as symbols related to mortality.

5(f). What does the speaker, in 'Song of Myself', observe in summer?

Solution:
In "Song of Myself," the speaker, Walt Whitman, observes a "spear of summer grass." He lies on the grass, observing it and contemplating its meaning. This simple act of observation leads him to profound philosophical reflections on nature, life, death, and the interconnectedness of all beings. The spear of grass becomes a symbol of the continuous, democratic, and divine cycle of life.

Quick Tip

For questions about Whitman's poetry, remember his focus on finding profound meaning in the ordinary and the natural. A simple object like a blade of grass becomes a starting point for exploring the greatest questions of existence.

5(g). How did the snake drink water?

Solution:
In D. H. Lawrence's poem "Snake," the snake drank water in a very refined and deliberate manner. It rested its throat upon the stone bottom of the water-trough, sipped the water into its mouth, and then lifted its head to let the water flow down into its body. The poet describes this action as being similar to how cattle drink, with a quiet and dream-like dignity.

Quick Tip

When describing an action from a poem, use the specific details and imagery the poet provides. Mentioning the "stone bottom," the "sipping," and the comparison to "cattle" makes your answer more accurate and vivid.

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

Solution:
In Keki N. Daruwalla's poem "Fire-Hymn," the fire "forgets its dead" in the sense that it does not completely consume the bodies. The speaker observes a cremation where the fire has left behind "half-cooked limbs" and bone fragments. This incomplete consumption is seen as a form of forgetfulness or a failure of duty by the fire, a shocking sight which deeply affects the poet.

Quick Tip

This phrase is metaphorical. "Forgetting" here means failing to perform its function completely. The key to answering this is to describe the physical evidence of this 'forgetfulness'—the partially burnt remains mentioned in the poem.

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

Solution:
Indian poetry in English began in the early 19th century, with pioneers like Henry Derozio and Toru Dutt, whose works were often romantic and influenced by British poets. The 20th century saw the emergence of nationalist and spiritual poets like Sri Aurobindo and Sarojini Naidu. Post-independence, poets like Nissim Ezekiel, Kamala Das, and A. K. Ramanujan introduced a modern, personal, and distinctly Indian voice, focusing on contemporary urban life and identity.

Quick Tip

To summarize a literary development, divide it into chronological phases. Mention key poets from each era and the main characteristics of their work. This shows a clear understanding of the historical progression.

5(j). Who were known as the University Wits?

Solution:
The University Wits were a group of late 16th-century English playwrights and pamphleteers who were educated at the universities of Oxford or Cambridge. They are known for bridging the gap between older medieval drama and the great works of Shakespeare. Prominent members included Christopher Marlowe, Robert Greene, and Thomas Nashe. They were instrumental in developing the heroic theme, powerful verse, and complex characters in English drama.

Quick Tip

When defining a literary group like the University Wits, include three key pieces of information: the time period (late 16th century), their background (educated at Oxford/Cambridge), and their main contribution (developing English drama before Shakespeare). Mentioning a key member like Marlowe is also very helpful.

6(a)(i). Write the summary of the following poem: My Grandmother's House

Solution:
"My Grandmother's House" is a deeply personal and nostalgic poem by Kamala Das. The poet recalls her childhood days spent at her grandmother's house, a place that symbolized unconditional love, warmth, and security. She reminisces about the time she felt immensely loved and proud.
After her grandmother's death, the house fell into a profound silence, with snakes moving among the books, and the air frozen with despair. The poet, now an adult living in a different city, feels a strong urge to revisit that house, to "peer through blind eyes of windows" and breathe its frozen air.
She contrasts the abundance of love she received in her past with her current emotional emptiness. She describes herself as someone who now has to "beg at strangers' doors" for even a small amount of love. The poem is a poignant expression of loss and a yearning for the pure, selfless love that her grandmother's house once represented.

Quick Tip

When summarizing a poem, focus on the central theme or emotion. For "My Grandmother's House," the key is the powerful contrast between the love-filled past and the emotionally barren present. Mentioning key images like the "blind eyes of windows" and "snakes among books" will strengthen your summary.

6(a)(ii). Write the summary of the following poem: Ode to Autumn

Solution:
John Keats' "Ode to Autumn" is a rich and sensory celebration of the autumn season. The poem is structured in three stanzas, each depicting a different aspect of the season.
In the first stanza, Keats portrays autumn as a season of "mellow fruitfulness," a time of abundance and ripeness. He describes the vines heavy with grapes, the apple trees bending with fruit, and the gourds swelling. Autumn conspires with the sun to bring all fruits to perfect maturity, filling them with sweetness to the very core.
The second stanza personifies Autumn as a graceful figure, often seen resting or working amidst the harvest. She is depicted as a winnower sitting carelessly on a granary floor, as a reaper asleep in a field, or as a gleaner crossing a brook. These images portray a season that is calm, productive, and fulfilled.
In the final stanza, the poet addresses the sounds of autumn. He urges the season not to miss the songs of spring, for autumn has its own unique music. This includes the mournful choir of gnats, the bleating of lambs, the singing of crickets, and the whistling of robins. The poem concludes with a beautiful, melancholic acceptance of the season's gentle decline into winter.

Quick Tip

To summarize "Ode to Autumn," follow its three-stanza structure. Stanza 1 is about the fruits and abundance (ripeness). Stanza 2 is about the personification of Autumn (rest and work). Stanza 3 is about the sounds of autumn (its unique music). This approach ensures you cover all key aspects of the poem.

6(a)(iii). Write the summary of the following poem: Snake

Solution:
D. H. Lawrence's "Snake" is a narrative poem that explores the conflict between natural instinct and human education. On a hot day in Sicily, the poet goes to his water-trough and finds a golden-brown snake drinking there. He feels honored by the presence of this "lord of life" and waits patiently for it to finish.
However, the "voice of his education" — the rational, civilized part of his mind — urges him to kill the snake, telling him that venomous snakes are dangerous and must be destroyed. The poet is torn between his admiration for the creature's majesty and the fear instilled in him by society.
As the snake slowly withdraws into a hole, the poet, in a moment of panic and protest, throws a clumsy log at it. He immediately regrets this "paltry, vulgar, mean act." He feels he has missed his chance to connect with a king from the underworld and is left with a sense of guilt and self-loathing. He wishes for the snake to return so he can atone for his sin against it.

Quick Tip

The key to summarizing "Snake" is to focus on the central conflict: Instinct vs. Education. Describe the initial admiration, the internal struggle, the foolish act, and the final regret. This structure captures the entire emotional arc of the poem.

6(b)(i). Write the summary of the following prose-piece: The Artist

Solution:
"The Artist" by Shiga Naoya is a short story about a talented young Japanese boy named Seibei who has a passion for collecting and polishing gourds. This hobby consumes him, and he spends all his time finding, shaping, and beautifying gourds, seeing artistic potential where others see none.
His passion, however, is not understood by his parents or his teachers. One day, he is caught polishing a gourd in class and the teacher confiscates it. The teacher complains to Seibei's father, who, in a fit of rage, smashes all of Seibei's carefully collected gourds, forcing him to give up his hobby.
The story concludes with an ironic twist. The confiscated gourd is sold by a school porter to a curio-dealer, who then sells it to a wealthy collector for a huge sum of money. The story critiques a rigid education system and a society that stifles individual talent and creativity, failing to recognize artistic value when it deviates from the conventional.

Quick Tip

A good summary of "The Artist" should follow the journey of the gourd and Seibei's passion. Start with his hobby, describe the conflict with authority (teacher and father), and end with the ironic sale of the gourd, which highlights the story's main theme about suppressed talent.

6(b)(ii). Write the summary of the following prose-piece: How Free is the Press

Solution:
In her essay "How Free is the Press?", Dorothy L. Sayers argues that in a democratic country like Britain, the freedom of the press is not threatened by direct government censorship but by more subtle internal forces. She contends that true press freedom is restricted by two main factors: the interests of the newspaper's owner (the proprietor) and the interests of its advertisers.
Sayers explains that a newspaper is a business that needs to make a profit. This profit comes primarily from advertising revenue, not from sales. Therefore, newspapers are careful not to publish content that might offend their major advertisers. Similarly, the personal biases and

political agenda of the wealthy proprietor can heavily influence the newspaper's editorial policy and the way news is presented.
These economic pressures lead to a situation where news is often sensationalized to boost circulation and important but less exciting stories are ignored. Sayers concludes that the press is far less free than the public believes, as it is controlled more by commercial interests than by a commitment to objective truth.

Quick Tip

To summarize this essay, clearly state the author's main argument first: press freedom is limited by internal, not external, forces. Then, explain the two main factors she identifies: advertisers and proprietors. Conclude with the consequences of this lack of freedom.

6(b)(iii). Write the summary of the following prose-piece: Indian Civilization and Culture

Solution:
In this essay, Mahatma Gandhi presents a powerful defense of Indian civilization, arguing that its enduring strength lies in its spiritual and moral foundations. He contrasts Indian civilization, which elevates moral being, with modern Western civilization, which he sees as materialistic and focused on multiplying human wants.
Gandhi asserts that Indian civilization is unique because it has withstood the test of time while other great empires have fallen. The essence of this civilization, taught by ancient rishis, is the mastery of mind and passions, a deliberate restriction of wants, and a focus on self-realization and duty (dharma). He argues that true happiness comes from this mental discipline, not from material wealth.
He is not against all aspects of the West but cautions Indians against blindly imitating its materialism. He believes that India's true path is to hold fast to its ancient values of simple living and high thinking. For Gandhiji, the immovability and moral fiber of Indian civilization are its glory and its "sheet anchor," its ultimate source of hope and stability.

Quick Tip

The key to summarizing Gandhi's essay is the central contrast between Indian (spiritual) and Western (materialistic) civilization. Start with this main point, explain the characteristics of Indian civilization as described by Gandhi (restricting wants, moral focus), and conclude with his advice for India's future.

6(c). Write a note on the dialects of Middle English.
OR
Write a note on English as a second language of India.

OR
Write a note on American English.

Solution: *(Choosing "dialects of Middle English")*
The Middle English period (c. 1100-1500) was characterized by great linguistic diversity, lacking a standardized form of the language. This resulted in the prominence of several distinct regional dialects. The four main dialects of Middle English were:

1. **Northern:** Spoken north of the River Humber. It was heavily influenced by the Scandinavian (Norse) languages due to Viking settlements. It retained many features of Old English and is considered the most conservative of the dialects.
2. **Midland (East and West):** Spoken in the central region of England, between the Thames and the Humber. This area was linguistically diverse. The East Midland dialect is particularly important because it was the dialect of London, Oxford, and Cambridge. It formed the basis for what would become Standard English, partly due to its use by influential writers like Chaucer and the adoption by the printing press.
3. **Southern:** Spoken south of the River Thames. It was the most direct descendant of the West Saxon dialect of Old English and was known for voicing initial fricative sounds (e.g., 'v' for 'f').
4. **Kentish:** Spoken in the southeastern county of Kent. It was a minor dialect but had its own distinct phonetic features.

The lack of a political or cultural center in the early part of this period allowed these dialects to flourish independently.

Quick Tip

When writing about dialects, it's best to list the main ones and provide a key characteristic for each. For Middle English, always highlight the importance of the East Midland dialect as the ancestor of modern Standard English and mention Chaucer's influence.

6(d). Match the names of the poems given in List-A with their poets in List-B
List-A
i) An Epitaph
ii) Snake
iii) Song of Myself
iv) Now the Leaves are Falling Fast
v) Fire-Hymn
List-B
a) W. H. Auden
b) Walter de la Mare
c) D. H. Lawrence
d) K. N. Daruwalla

e) Walt Whitman

Solution:
i) An Epitaph — (b) Walter de la Mare
An epitaph is a short text honoring a deceased person. The poem "An Epitaph" was written by the English poet Walter de la Mare.

ii) Snake — (c) D. H. Lawrence
The poem "Snake" describing an encounter with a snake in Sicily was written by the English novelist and poet D. H. Lawrence.

iii) Song of Myself — (e) Walt Whitman
"Song of Myself" is the central poem in the collection *Leaves of Grass* by the American poet Walt Whitman.

iv) Now the Leaves are Falling Fast — (a) W. H. Auden
The poem about mortality and the decay of life, "Now the Leaves are Falling Fast," was written by the British-American poet W. H. Auden.

v) Fire-Hymn — (d) K. N. Daruwalla
The poem "Fire-Hymn," which explores Zoroastrian beliefs about fire and death, was written by the Indian poet Keki N. Daruwalla.

Quick Tip

Matching exercises require strong memory recall. A good strategy is to create flashcards with the poem/prose title on one side and the author on the other. Regularly quizzing yourself can solidify this knowledge for the exam.

6(e). Translate any five 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:
i) What is the time by your watch?

ii) I believe in success. / I have faith in success.

iii) Always respect your elders.

iv) Dr. Rajendra Prasad was the first President of India.

v) Gopal is a very good student.

vi) I have made a decision. / I have decided.

vii) My brother is very naughty.

viii) We should plant trees.

Quick Tip

For translation, focus on conveying the correct meaning in natural-sounding English. Pay attention to prepositions (e.g., "time **by** your watch") and verb tenses (e.g., " " translates to the present perfect "I have decided").

6(f). Match the names of the prose-pieces in List-A with their authors in List-B
List-A
i) How Free is the Press
ii) Bharat is My Home
iii) The Artist
iv) I Have a Dream
v) Ideas That Have Helped Mankind
List-B
a) Martin Luther King, Jr.
b) Bertrand Russell
c) Dr. Zakir Hussain
d) Dorothy L. Sayers
e) Shiga Naoya

Solution:
i) How Free is the Press — (d) Dorothy L. Sayers
The essay analyzing the subtle controls on press freedom was written by the English writer Dorothy L. Sayers.

ii) Bharat is My Home — (c) Dr. Zakir Hussain
This is an extract from the speech delivered by Dr. Zakir Hussain after taking the oath as the President of India.

iii) The Artist — (e) Shiga Naoya
The short story about the talented boy Seibei was written by the Japanese author Shiga Naoya.

iv) I Have a Dream — (a) Martin Luther King, Jr.
The iconic speech of the American Civil Rights Movement was delivered by Martin Luther King, Jr.

v) Ideas That Have Helped Mankind — (b) Bertrand Russell
The philosophical essay on human progress was written by the British philosopher and Nobel laureate Bertrand Russell.

> **Quick Tip**
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> A good exam strategy for matching questions is to first match the pairs you are 100% sure of. This process of elimination makes it easier to figure out the ones you are less certain about.

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7. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:
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.

7(a). What is the best tonic for our mind and body?

Solution:
According to the passage, the best tonic for our mind and body is a smile. The first sentence explicitly states, "The smile is the best tonic for our mind and body."

> **Quick Tip**
>
> For direct questions like this, scan the passage for the exact keywords used in the question ("best tonic," "mind and body"). The answer is usually located in the same sentence as these keywords.

7(b). What should we practise when we are relaxed in bed?

Solution:
According to the passage, when we are relaxed and in bed, we should practise putting some

cheerful thoughts. The last sentence states, "When we are relaxed and in bed, we should practise putting some cheerful thoughts."

Quick Tip

Pay attention to specific situations or conditions mentioned in the passage. The question asks what to do "when we are relaxed in bed," and the passage provides a direct instruction for this exact scenario.

7(c). What should we do to be cheerful?

Solution:
According to the passage, to be cheerful, we have to create positive thoughts. The third sentence clearly states, "To be cheerful, we have to create positive thoughts."

Quick Tip

Questions that ask "What should we do...?" or "How can we...?" often have answers that are presented as a direct instruction or a cause-and-effect relationship in the text.

7(d). What happens when we constantly think about negative things?

Solution:
According to the passage, if we constantly think about negative things, we feel unhappy. This is stated in the fourth sentence: "On the other hand, if we constantly think about negative things, we feel unhappy."

Quick Tip

Look for contrasting words or phrases like "On the other hand" in a passage. They often introduce a direct answer to a question about the consequences or opposite effects of a particular action.

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8. Write a précis of the following passage and give a suitable title:
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:
Title: The Virtue of Selflessness

Précis:
The character of a virtuous person is comparable to that of a tree, as both live selflessly for the benefit of others. Good people maintain their noble qualities throughout their lives, even in sacrifice, and follow a righteous path without any desire for praise. The passage argues that a life lived for oneself is animalistic, whereas a life of altruism and self-sacrifice is the true path to achieving eternal happiness and immortality.

Quick Tip

To write a good précis:

1. **Identify the core theme:** The central idea here is the superiority of a selfless life over a selfish one.
2. **Condense the main points:** Extract the key arguments (comparison to trees, indifference to praise, selfish life = beastly, selfless life = eternal bliss).
3. **Rewrite in your own words:** Combine these points into a concise, coherent paragraph.
4. **Choose a title:** The title should reflect the central theme of the passage.