

# CUET-UG English Sample Paper-16

Duration: 1 Hour

Maximum Marks: 250

## Instructions

- This paper contains a total of 50 Multiple Choice Questions.
- Each correct answer carries **+5 marks**.
- Each incorrect answer carries **-1 mark**.
- No negative marking for unattempted questions.

## Passage I

**Read the passage below carefully. The questions that follow (Questions 1 to 6) are based on the information provided in this text. Choose the one best answer for each question.**

The impact of digital technology on the global economy has been nothing short of revolutionary. In the last decade alone, e-commerce has experienced an unprecedented surge, growing by nearly 300%. This shift has fundamentally altered the traditional brick-and-mortar retail model, forcing brands to rethink how they interact with their consumer base. Today, digital presence is no longer an option but a necessity. Data suggests that approximately 70% of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) now rely heavily on social media platforms not just for marketing, but for direct sales and customer service. This democratization of the marketplace has allowed local artisans to reach global audiences, bypassing traditional middlemen.

However, this rapid digitalization is a double-edged sword. As our lives move online, the trail of data we leave behind has become a valuable, yet vulnerable, commodity. The rise of "Big Data" allows companies to personalize experiences, but it also opens the door to significant privacy breaches. According to a comprehensive 2023 report on global risk, cybercrimes—ranging from identity theft to corporate espionage—have increased by an alarming 40% annually. The financial toll of these crimes is estimated in the trillions of dollars, affecting both multinational corporations and individual



consumers.

Furthermore, the transition to a digital economy has highlighted a growing "digital divide." While urban centers often enjoy high-speed fiber-optic connectivity, rural and underdeveloped regions struggle with basic internet access, potentially widening the gap between the wealthy and the poor. Experts suggest that while digitalization promotes operational efficiency and innovation, it must be balanced with robust cybersecurity measures and inclusive policy-making. To protect consumer interests, governments worldwide are now scrambling to implement stricter data protection laws, similar to the GDPR in Europe, to ensure that the digital future remains safe, equitable, and sustainable for all.

**Q1.** What is the primary focus of the passage?

- (A) The history of the internet
- (B) The impact of digital technology on the economy
- (C) How to start a small business
- (D) The disadvantages of social media

**Q2.** By what percentage has e-commerce grown in the last decade?

- (A) 70%
- (B) 40%
- (C) 300%
- (D) 100%

**Q3.** What percentage of small businesses use social media for marketing?

- (A) 30%
- (B) 40%
- (C) 70%
- (D) 80%



- Q4.** What is the major concern raised regarding the digital shift?
- (A) Low internet speed
  - (B) High cost of gadgets
  - (C) Data privacy
  - (D) Lack of advertising space
- Q5.** According to the report, how much have cybercrimes increased annually?
- (A) 10%
  - (B) 300%
  - (C) 70%
  - (D) 40%
- Q6.** What is recommended by experts to protect consumers?
- (A) Stopping the use of social media
  - (B) Robust cybersecurity measures
  - (C) Increasing the price of digital goods
  - (D) Reducing e-commerce activities

### Passage II

**Read the passage below carefully. The questions that follow (Questions 7 to 12) are based on the information provided in this text. Choose the one best answer for each question.**

Rohan had always been the "cautious" one in his friend group. While his peers spent their weekends trekking or rock climbing, Rohan preferred the safety of a book or a quiet cinema hall. He suffered from acrophobia—a paralyzing fear of heights that made even standing on a balcony feel like a life-threatening ordeal. However, during a group trip to Bir Billing, the paragliding capital of India, the pressure to participate became unavoidable. His friends were buzzing with



excitement, and not wanting to be the sole "spectator" yet again, he found himself signed up for a tandem flight.

The morning of the flight was crisp and cold. As they climbed to the take-off site, Rohan's heart hammered against his ribs like a trapped bird. The view from the cliff's edge was breathtaking, but for Rohan, it was terrifying. He watched as his friends vanished into the sky, one by one, suspended by nothing but a sheet of nylon and some strings. When his turn came, his legs felt like lead. The instructor, a weathered man with calm eyes, checked the harness one last time. Sensing Rohan's panic, he leaned in and whispered a simple piece of advice: "The fear is in your feet because they want the ground. Don't look at your feet; don't look down. Look only at the horizon."

With a sudden, forceful gust of wind and a few frantic running steps, they were suddenly airborne. Rohan braced for the expected surge of vertigo, but it never came. Instead, a strange thing happened: as the ground receded, so did his anxiety. The silence was absolute, broken only by the whistling of the wind. From five thousand feet up, the sprawling tea gardens and winding roads of Himachal looked like a delicate miniature painting. He felt a sense of lightness he had never known. In that moment of suspension between heaven and earth, Rohan realized that fear was not an external force, but a wall he had spent years building around himself. The horizon hadn't changed, but his perspective finally had.

**Q7.** Why did Rohan decide to go paragliding?

- (A) He loved heights
- (B) He was an expert paraglider
- (C) He didn't want to feel left out by his friends
- (D) He wanted to take photos

**Q8.** Where did the incident take place?



- (A) Manali
- (B) Bir Billing
- (C) Leh
- (D) Rishikesh

**Q9.** What advice did the instructor give to Rohan?

- (A) To close his eyes
- (B) To look at the horizon
- (C) To scream loudly
- (D) To look at the ground

**Q10.** How did Rohan feel once he was in the air?

- (A) More terrified than before
- (B) Nauseous and sick
- (C) Peaceful and surprised
- (D) Angry at his friends

**Q11.** The phrase "The world below looked like a miniature painting" is an example of:

- (A) Simile
- (B) Metaphor
- (C) Personification
- (D) Alliteration

**Q12.** What did Rohan realize at the end of the flight?

- (A) He should never try it again
- (B) His friends were wrong
- (C) Fear was a self-built wall
- (D) The instructor was lying



**Passage III**

**Read the passage below carefully. The questions that follow (Questions 13 to 18) are based on the information provided in this text. Choose the one best answer for each question.**

Whose woods these are I think I know.  
His house is in the village though;  
He will not see me stopping here  
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer  
To stop without a farmhouse near  
Between the woods and frozen lake  
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake  
To ask if there is some mistake.  
The only other sound's the sweep  
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep,  
But I have promises to keep,  
And miles to go before I sleep,  
And miles to go before I sleep.

**Q13.** How does the poet describe the woods?

- (A) Scary and cold
- (B) Lovely, dark, and deep
- (C) Bright and sunny
- (D) Empty and silent



- Q14.** What does the poet mean by “promises to keep”?
- (A) He has to attend a party
  - (B) He has social or personal responsibilities
  - (C) He is looking for a lost item
  - (D) He is going to buy a house
- Q15.** What does “sleep” symbolize in the final lines?
- (A) A quick nap
  - (B) The end of the day
  - (C) Death or final rest
  - (D) Winter season
- Q16.** Why are the last two lines repeated?
- (A) To fill up space
  - (B) To emphasize the long journey ahead
  - (C) Because the poet forgot the next line
  - (D) To show that the poet is tired
- Q17.** What is the tone of the extract?
- (A) Joyful and loud
  - (B) Reflective and duty-bound
  - (C) Angry and frustrated
  - (D) Humorous
- Q18.** The rhyme scheme of the given stanza is:
- (A) AABB
  - (B) ABAB
  - (C) AAAB



(D) ABCA

## SECTION 2: VERBAL ABILITY

**Q19.** Rearrange the parts:

P: of the book | Q: the author | R: very interesting | S: has made the plot

(A) QSPR

(B) PSQR

(C) QSRP

(D) SQPR

**Q20.** Rearrange the parts:

P: in the park | Q: children | R: are playing | S: happily

(A) PRQS

(B) QRPS

(C) RSQP

(D) QRPs

**Q21.** Rearrange the parts:

P: should be | Q: environmental | R: our top priority | S: protection

(A) QSPR

(B) QSRP

(C) SQPR

(D) PSQR

**Q22.** Rearrange the parts:

P: success | Q: and | R: hard work | S: leads to

(A) RSPQ

(B) RPQS



(C) SPRQ

(D) PRSQ

**Q23.** Rearrange the parts:

P: the principal | Q: to the students | R: a speech | S: delivered

(A) PSRQ

(B) PQRS

(C) SPQR

(D) RPQS

**Q24.** Rearrange the parts:

P: for her health | Q: she | R: yoga | S: practices daily

(A) QSRP

(B) QRSP

(C) PQRS

(D) RSQP

**Q25.** The teacher was \_\_\_\_\_ with the student's performance.

(A) satisfied

(B) satisfy

(C) satisfying

(D) satisfaction

**Q26.** Neither of the two boys \_\_\_\_\_ present in the class yesterday.

(A) were

(B) was

(C) have

(D) are

**Q27.** He is \_\_\_\_\_ honest man.



- (A) a
- (B) an
- (C) the
- (D) no article

**Q28.** The train \_\_\_\_\_ before I reached the station.

- (A) left
- (B) leaves
- (C) had left
- (D) has left

**Q29.** She is good \_\_\_\_\_ Mathematics.

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

### SECTION 3: VOCABULARY

**Q30.** Synonym of : PRAGMATIC

- (A) Idealistic
- (B) Practical
- (C) Mysterious
- (D) Arrogant

**Q31.** Synonym of : MITIGATE

- (A) Increase
- (B) Aggravate



- (C) Alleviate
- (D) Ignore

**Q32.** Synonym of : EPHEMERAL

- (A) Eternal
- (B) Short-lived
- (C) Monumental
- (D) Transparent

**Q33.** Synonym of : ALTRUISTIC

- (A) Selfish
- (B) Greedy
- (C) Philanthropic
- (D) Cruel

**Q34.** Synonym of : VENERATE

- (A) Revere
- (B) Condemn
- (C) Humiliate
- (D) Disregard

**Q35.** Synonym of : CANDID

- (A) Deceptive
- (B) Frank
- (C) Vague
- (D) Arrogant

**Q36.** Antonym of : ARCHAIC



- (A) Ancient
- (B) Modern
- (C) Obsolete
- (D) Fragile

**Q37.** Antonym of : FRUGAL

- (A) Economical
- (B) Extravagant
- (C) Miserly
- (D) Careful

**Q38.** Antonym of : OBSCURE

- (A) Famous
- (B) Hidden
- (C) Vague
- (D) Dark

**Q39.** Antonym of : ABUNDANCE

- (A) Plenty
- (B) Wealth
- (C) Scarcity
- (D) Surplus

**Q40.** Antonym of : BENEVOLENT

- (A) Kind
- (B) Malevolent
- (C) Generous
- (D) Friendly



**Q41.** Antonym of : PRECARIOUS

- (A) Dangerous
- (B) Uncertain
- (C) Safe
- (D) Perilous

**Q42.** "Bite the bullet" means:

- (A) To be very brave in a war
- (B) To accept something difficult or unpleasant
- (C) To act in a very aggressive manner
- (D) To make a loud noise

**Q43.** "Call it a day" means:

- (A) To name the day
- (B) To start a new task
- (C) To stop working on something
- (D) To invite everyone for a party

**Q44.** "A blessing in disguise" means:

- (A) A visible misfortune
- (B) An apparent misfortune that eventually has good results
- (C) A miracle that never happens
- (D) A gift from a stranger

**Q45.** "Under the weather" means:

- (A) Feeling sick
- (B) Enjoying the rain
- (C) Traveling abroad



(D) Feeling very happy

**Q46.** "Beat around the bush" means:

- (A) To cut the grass
- (B) To hide in the woods
- (C) To avoid coming to the main point
- (D) To speak very loudly

**Q47.** One word substitution for :

**A person who looks at the bright side of things.**

- (A) Pessimist
- (B) Atheist
- (C) Optimist
- (D) Theist

**Q48.** One word substitution for :

**A person who never makes a mistake.**

- (A) Infallible
- (B) Incurable
- (C) Irreparable
- (D) Inevitable

**Q49.** One word substitution for :

**Words inscribed on a tomb in memory of the person buried there.**

- (A) Epilogue
- (B) Epitaph
- (C) Epithet
- (D) Eulogy



**Q50.** One word substitution for :

**Something that is certain to happen and cannot be avoided.**

- (A) Indelible
- (B) Inevitable
- (C) Inaudible
- (D) Incurable



**Detailed Solutions**

Q1.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Identification of Main Idea and Thematic Scope.

**Solution:** The passage serves as an analytical overview of the digital revolution's influence on the modern economic landscape. It specifically examines how the integration of digital technology has redefined commercial transactions, enabled small businesses to scale through social media, and fundamentally altered the relationship between consumers and the global market, making the impact of technology on the economy its primary focus.

**Final Answer :** The impact of digital technology on the economy

**Answer: (B)**

Q2.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Quantitative Literacy and Historical Trend Analysis.

**Solution:** In evaluating the rapid expansion of digital retail over the past ten years, the report highlights an exponential surge in e-commerce activity. The data confirms that there has been a 300% increase in online commercial volume, illustrating a significant societal shift away from traditional brick-and-mortar shopping toward digital storefronts.

**Final Answer :** 300%

**Answer: (C)**



Q3.

**Solution****Concept:** Demographic Adoption of Marketing Technologies.**Solution:** The passage provides a detailed look at how smaller enterprises are surviving in the digital age, noting that a vast majority—specifically 70%—of small businesses have integrated social media into their core marketing strategies. This high adoption rate underscores the necessity of digital visibility for modern entrepreneurs who aim to reach a broader audience without the massive budget of larger corporations.**Final Answer : 70%****Answer: (C)**

Q4.

**Solution****Concept:** Critical Assessment of Digital Risks.**Solution:** While the passage acknowledges the convenience of the digital shift, it raises a critical red flag regarding data privacy. As more personal and financial information is uploaded to the cloud, the risk of data breaches and the unauthorized harvesting of user information have become the foremost concerns for both consumers and regulatory bodies, overshadowing issues like internet speed or gadget costs.**Final Answer : Data privacy****Answer: (C)**

Q5.

**Solution****Concept:** Correlation between Technological Growth and Crime.**Solution:** The report illustrates a troubling side effect of increased internet usage: a corresponding rise in malicious online activities. It quantifies this trend by stating that cybercrimes have escalated by 300% on an annual basis. This statistic is used to emphasize that the growth of the digital economy has outpaced the implementation of adequate security measures, leaving many users vulnerable.**Final Answer : 300%****Answer: (B)**

Q6.

**Solution****Concept:** Policy and Security Recommendations.**Solution:** To address the mounting threats in the digital space, experts mentioned in the text do not suggest abandoning technology; rather, they advocate for the mandatory adoption of robust cybersecurity measures. These include multi-layered defense systems, enhanced encryption protocols, and proactive monitoring to ensure that the infrastructure of e-commerce and social media remains a safe environment for all participants.**Final Answer : Robust cybersecurity measures****Answer: (B)**

Q7.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Character Psychology and Peer Influence.

**Solution:** Rohan's motivation for paragliding was not rooted in a pre-existing passion for adventure or technical expertise; instead, it was driven by the social pressure of "Fear of Missing Out" (FOMO). He chose to participate primarily because he did not want to feel alienated or left out while his friends engaged in the activity, highlighting a common human desire for social conformity despite personal fears.

**Final Answer :** He didn't want to feel left out by his friends

**Answer:** (C)

Q8.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Geographical Context and Setting.

**Solution:** The narrative sets the scene in Bir Billing, a location famously dubbed the paragliding capital of India. By situating the story here, the author adds a layer of realism and stakes to the story, as the heights and professional nature of the site contrast sharply with Rohan's internal feelings of inadequacy and fear.

**Final Answer :** Bir Billing

**Answer:** (B)



Q9.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Coping Mechanisms for Vertigo and Anxiety.

**Solution:** The instructor's advice to "look at the horizon" is a grounded psychological and physiological technique. By focusing on the distant, stable line where the sky meets the earth, Rohan could bypass the dizzying effect of looking at the rapidly receding ground, allowing his brain to process the height in a more manageable and less terrifying way.

**Final Answer :** To look at the horizon

**Answer: (B)**

Q10.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Sensory and Emotional Shift.

**Solution:** Upon entering the air, Rohan underwent a profound emotional transformation. The anticipated chaos and nausea were replaced by a sense of profound peace. He was surprised to find that the experience was not one of falling, but of floating, which provided a serene perspective of the world that he had never previously experienced.

**Final Answer :** Peaceful and surprised

**Answer: (C)**



Q11.

**Solution****Concept:** Literary Device and Imagery Analysis.**Solution:** The author employs a simile by using the word "like" to compare the expansive landscape below to a "miniature painting." This rhetorical device serves to illustrate how the height changed Rohan's perspective, making the vast, complex world seem small, detailed, and artistically still, which helped in transitioning his mood from fear to wonder.**Final Answer : Simile****Answer: (A)**

Q12.

**Solution****Concept:** Epiphany and Metaphorical Interpretation.**Solution:** The conclusion of the story centers on Rohan's epiphany that fear was a "self-built wall." This realization suggests that his primary struggle was never with the physical act of paragliding, but with the mental barriers and limitations he had constructed for himself. By completing the flight, he effectively dismantled that wall, gaining a new sense of personal agency and courage.**Final Answer : Fear was a self-built wall****Answer: (C)**

Q13.

**Solution****Concept:** Detailed Imagery and Sensory Description in Poetry.**Solution:** The poet employs a specific triad of adjectives—"lovely, dark, and deep"—to create a multi-layered description of the woods. The word "lovely" highlights the aesthetic and hypnotic beauty of the scene, suggesting a sense of enchantment and peace. Conversely, "dark" and "deep" imply a sense of mystery, isolation, and perhaps even a subconscious pull toward the unknown or the finality of nature. This contrast establishes the central conflict of the poem: the temptation to stay in a beautiful, silent place versus the necessity of returning to the duties of the human world.**Final Answer : Lovely, dark, and deep****Answer: (B)**

Q14.

**Solution****Concept:** Thematic Conflict between Individual Desire and Social Duty.**Solution:** The phrase "promises to keep" serves as a powerful metaphor for the moral, social, and personal obligations that bind the speaker to his community and family. In the context of the poem, these "promises" represent the "debts" or duties that prevent him from surrendering to the tranquil, snowy landscape. While the woods offer a momentary escape from the complexities of life, the speaker acknowledges his commitment to the "village" and the various roles he must fulfill, indicating that human life is defined by service and responsibility rather than just personal whims.**Final Answer : He has social or personal responsibilities****Answer: (B)**

Q15.

**Solution****Concept:** Symbolism and Allegorical Interpretation of Life's End.**Solution:** In the final lines of the poem, the word "sleep" functions as an allegory for death or the final cessation of human endeavor. The "miles" mentioned earlier represent the remaining years or tasks of the speaker's life. By repeating this sentiment, the poet emphasizes that while the rest offered by the dark woods is tempting, the speaker is not yet ready—nor permitted—to reach his final resting place. He must continue the "journey of life," enduring its hardships and completing its requirements, before he can eventually earn the peace of eternal sleep.**Final Answer : Death or final rest****Answer: (C)**

Q16.

**Solution****Concept:** Rhetorical Repetition and Shift in Meaning.**Solution:** The repetition of the final two lines is a deliberate stylistic choice used to shift the narrative from a literal observation to a profound philosophical statement. The first instance of "And miles to go before I sleep" refers to the physical distance the traveler must cover on his horse to reach his destination for the night. The second instance, however, takes on a somber, heavy, and universal tone, suggesting the long, arduous path of human existence and the weight of the duties one must carry out before death. This repetition creates a rhythmic, almost hypnotic effect that underscores the speaker's resignation and perseverance.**Final Answer : To emphasize the long journey ahead****Answer: (B)**

Q17.

**Solution****Concept:** Literary Tone and Stoic Reflection.**Solution:** The tone of the extract is best described as reflective, somber, and duty-bound. The speaker is caught in a moment of quiet meditation, pausing to admire the snowfall in a state of solitude. However, this peacefulness is tempered by a sense of stoicism; he does not indulge in his desire to stay, but rather recognizes his place within the social fabric. There is a melancholy realization that beauty is often fleeting and that life requires a constant movement toward the fulfillment of obligations, creating a mood that is both peaceful and strictly disciplined.**Final Answer : Reflective and duty-bound****Answer: (B)**

Q18.

**Solution****Concept:** Structural Prosody and Rhyme Scheme Analysis.**Solution:** While the earlier stanzas of the poem follow a linked Rubaiyat rhyme scheme (AABA, BBCB, etc.), the final stanza breaks this pattern to provide a sense of closure and finality. The last four lines end with the words "deep," "keep," "sleep," and "sleep." Because "deep," "keep," and "sleep" all share the same long 'e' sound, the scheme is classified as AAAB (or potentially AAAA). This convergence of sounds mirrors the convergence of the speaker's thoughts as he turns away from the woods and focuses solely on the long journey ahead, reinforcing the repetitive and persistent nature of his duties.**Final Answer : AAAB****Answer: (C)**

Q19.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Sentence Structure and Syntax (Subject-Verb-Object-Complement).

**Solution:** To form a coherent sentence, we must identify the subject first. "The author" (Q) acts as the subject, followed by the transitive verb phrase "has made the plot" (S). This is then qualified by the prepositional phrase "of the book" (P), which specifies which plot is being discussed. Finally, the adjective phrase "very interesting" (R) acts as the object complement, describing the nature of the plot. The logical sequence is Q-S-P-R: "The author has made the plot of the book very interesting."

**Final Answer : QSPR**

**Answer: (A)**

Q20.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Adverbial Placement in S-V-C Structures.

**Solution:** The sentence begins with the subject "children" (Q), followed by the present continuous verb "are playing" (R). To describe the manner and location of the action, we add the prepositional phrase "in the park" (P) and the adverb "happily" (S). While multiple positions for adverbs exist, the most common flow in this specific set of options is Q-R-P-S: "Children are playing in the park happily." (Note: Option D contains a typo "QRPs", which represents this logical flow).

**Final Answer : RSQP**

**Answer: (D)**



Q21.

**Solution****Concept:** Noun Phrases and Modal Verbs.**Solution:** The phrase begins with the compound noun subject "Environmental protection" (Q + S). This is followed by the modal verb phrase "should be" (P), which indicates a recommendation or necessity. The sentence concludes with the noun phrase "our top priority" (R), which serves as the subject complement. Reordering them as Q-S-P-R results in: "Environmental protection should be our top priority."**Final Answer : QSPR****Answer: (A)**

Q22.

**Solution****Concept:** Logical Causality and Subject-Verb Agreement.**Solution:** In this sentence, "Hard work" (R) is the cause that leads to an effect. The verb "leads to" (S) requires a singular subject or a collective concept. When followed by the object "success" (P), it forms a classic aphorism. Though "and" (Q) is provided in the list, the most grammatically sound sequence among the choices that links cause to effect is R-S-P (with Q often being used as a connector in "Hard work and [persistence] leads to success"). Based on the options provided, B (RPQS) or A (RSPQ) are listed, but the core logic is R-S-P.**Final Answer : RPQS****Answer: (B)**

Q23.

**Solution****Concept:** Transitive Verbs and Indirect Objects.**Solution:** The sentence follows the Subject + Verb + Direct Object + Prepositional Phrase (Indirect Object) pattern. "The principal" (P) is the subject who performs the action "delivered" (S). The thing being delivered is "a speech" (R), and the recipients are "to the students" (Q). Arranging them as P-S-R-Q creates the clear narrative: "The principal delivered a speech to the students."**Final Answer : PSRQ****Answer: (A)**

Q24.

**Solution****Concept:** Sentence Logic and Adverbial Phrases.**Solution:** The subject "She" (Q) is followed by the verb and its frequency, "practices daily" (S). The object of her practice is "yoga" (R). The sentence is then completed by the prepositional phrase "for her health" (P), which explains the purpose of the action. The sequence Q-S-R-P forms: "She practices daily yoga for her health," or more naturally, "She practices yoga daily for her health."**Final Answer : QSRP****Answer: (A)**

Q25.

**Solution****Concept:** Adjectival Participles and Passive State.**Solution:** In this context, we need an adjective to describe the emotional state of the teacher. "Satisfied" is the past participle of the verb "satisfy," and it functions here as an adjective following the linking verb "was." The other options are grammatically incorrect: "satisfy" is a base verb, "satisfying" would describe the performance rather than the teacher, and "satisfaction" is a noun.**Final Answer : satisfied****Answer: (A)**

Q26.

**Solution****Concept:** Subject-Verb Agreement with Distributive Pronouns.**Solution:** The pronoun "Neither" is grammatically singular because it refers to "not one and not the other" individually. Therefore, even though it is followed by the plural "of the two boys," the verb must agree with the singular head "Neither." In the past tense, the correct singular form is "was." Using "were" is a common colloquial error but is technically incorrect in formal grammar.**Final Answer : was****Answer: (B)**

Q27.

**Solution****Concept:** Indefinite Articles and Phonetics.**Solution:** The choice between "a" and "an" depends on the sound of the following word, not just the letter. In the word "honest," the 'h' is silent, meaning the word begins with a vowel sound (/I/). Consequently, the indefinite article "an" must be used. This rule ensures a smooth phonetic transition between the article and the noun phrase.**Final Answer : an****Answer: (B)**

Q28.

**Solution****Concept:** Past Perfect Tense for Sequential Actions.**Solution:** When two actions happened in the past, the action that occurred first is expressed in the Past Perfect tense (had + past participle), while the later action is in the Simple Past. Since the train's departure happened before the speaker reached the station (simple past), "had left" is the correct choice to indicate this temporal relationship.**Final Answer : had left****Answer: (C)**

Q29.

**Solution****Concept:** Prepositional Collocations.**Solution:** In English, specific adjectives are paired with specific prepositions. When expressing proficiency or skill in a particular subject or activity, the adjective "good" is idiomatically followed by the preposition "at." While "good in" is frequently used in casual speech, "good at Mathematics" is the standard and correct grammatical form for academic and formal testing.**Final Answer : at****Answer: (B)**

Q30.

**Solution****Concept:** Synonyms: Vocabulary Enrichment**Solution:** The word **Pragmatic** is an adjective used to describe a person or strategy that focuses on practical results and direct experience rather than ideological or theoretical considerations.

- **Idealistic** (Option A) is the opposite; it refers to pursuing high or noble principles often at the expense of reality.
- **Practical** (Option B) is the correct synonym as it refers to being sensible and realistic.
- **Mysterious** and **Arrogant** are unrelated to the context of logic and application.

**Final Answer : Practical****Answer: (B)**

Q31.

**Solution****Concept:** Synonyms: Vocabulary Enrichment**Solution:** To **Mitigate** means to make something (such as a problem, pain, or severity) less harsh, hostile, or severe.

- **Increase** and **Aggravate** (Options A and B) are antonyms, as they imply making a situation worse or more intense.
- **Alleviate** (Option C) specifically means to make suffering or a problem more bearable, which perfectly matches the meaning of mitigate.
- **Ignore** means to refuse to take notice of, which does not address the severity of the issue.

**Final Answer : Alleviate****Answer: (C)**

Q32.

**Solution****Concept:** Synonyms: Vocabulary Enrichment**Solution:** The word **Ephemeral** originates from the Greek word 'ephemeros', meaning 'lasting only a day'. In modern English, it is used to describe anything that is transitory or lasts for a very short duration.

- **Eternal** (Option A) is a direct antonym, meaning lasting forever.
- **Short-lived** (Option B) is the accurate synonym.
- **Monumental** refers to something of great size or importance, and **Transparent** refers to being see-through; neither relates to time duration.

**Final Answer : Short-lived****Answer: (B)**

Q33.

**Solution****Concept:** Synonyms: Vocabulary Enrichment**Solution:** An **Altruistic** person is someone who shows a selfless concern for the well-being of others. It is the opposite of being egoistic.

- **Selfish** and **Greedy** (Options A and B) are antonyms focusing on self-interest.
- **Philanthropic** (Option C) comes from 'philos' (loving) and 'anthropos' (humankind), meaning the desire to promote the welfare of others, making it the best synonym.
- **Cruel** indicates a desire to cause pain, which is unrelated to the concept of selflessness.

**Final Answer : Philanthropic****Answer: (C)**

Q34.

**Solution****Concept:** Synonyms: Vocabulary Enrichment**Solution:** To **Venerate** is to regard someone or something with great respect or to carry a feeling of deep admiration and reverence, often associated with saints, elders, or historical figures.

- **Revere** (Option A) is the exact synonym, meaning to hold in high esteem.
- **Condemn**, **Humiliate**, and **Disregard** are all negative actions that involve looking down upon or punishing someone, which are the opposite of veneration.

**Final Answer : Revere****Answer: (A)**

Q35.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Synonyms: Descriptive traits.

**Solution:** The word **Candid** is an adjective used to describe someone who is truthful and straightforward. A candid person does not hide their thoughts and speaks with honesty.

- **Frank** (Option B) is the most accurate synonym, as it also means being open, honest, and direct in speech.
- **Deceptive** (Option A) is the antonym, meaning someone who misleads others.
- **Vague** (Option C) refers to something that is not clearly expressed, which is the opposite of being direct.
- **Arrogant** (Option D) refers to having an exaggerated sense of one's own importance, which is unrelated to honesty.

**Final Answer :** “Frank”

**Answer: (B)**



Q36.

**Solution****Concept:** Antonyms: Word Opposites**Solution:** The word **Archaic** refers to something that is very old or belongs to a period long ago. It is often used to describe language or technology that is no longer in common use.

- **Ancient** and **Obsolete** are synonyms.
- **Modern** (Option B) refers to the present or recent times, involving the latest techniques or equipment. This is the most appropriate antonym for archaic.

**Final Answer : Modern****Answer: (B)**

Q37.

**Solution****Concept:** Antonyms: Word Opposites**Solution:** **Frugal** describes someone who is very careful with money or resources, avoiding waste or unnecessary spending.

- **Economical**, **Miserly**, and **Careful** are all related to saving or being cautious with money (though 'miserly' has a negative connotation).
- **Extravagant** (Option B) describes spending much more than is necessary or wise. Therefore, it is the direct antonym of frugal.

**Final Answer : Extravagant****Answer: (B)**

Q38.

**Solution****Concept:** Antonyms: Word Opposites**Solution:** The word **Obscure** means not discovered or known about; it can also mean uncertain or poorly lit. In a social context, an obscure person is someone who is not well-known.

- **Hidden** and **Vague** are synonyms that describe something not clear or visible.
- **Famous** (Option A) means widely known and recognized by many people. This is the opposite of being obscure.

**Final Answer : Famous****Answer: (A)**

Q39.

**Solution****Concept:** Antonyms: Word Opposites**Solution:** **Abundance** is a noun that refers to a very large quantity or an overflowing fullness of something (e.g., "an abundance of food").

- **Plenty**, **Wealth**, and **Surplus** are synonyms indicating a high amount or more than what is needed.
- **Scarcity** (Option C) refers to a state of being in short supply or a shortage. This is the perfect antonym for abundance.

**Final Answer : Scarcity****Answer: (C)**

Q40.

**Solution****Concept:** Antonyms: Word Opposites**Solution:** The prefix 'bene-' means 'good' or 'well'. Therefore, **Benevolent** describes a person who is well-meaning, kind, and organized to do good for others.

- **Kind, Generous, and Friendly** are all synonyms.
- **Malevolent** (Option B) uses the prefix 'mal-' (meaning 'bad' or 'evil'). It describes a person who has a wish to do evil or harm to others, making it the direct antonym.

**Final Answer : Malevolent****Answer: (B)**

Q41.

**Solution****Concept:** Antonyms: Stability and Risk.**Solution:** The word **Precarious** describes a situation or position that is not securely held or likely to fall or collapse. It implies a high degree of uncertainty or danger.

- **Dangerous** and **Perilous** (Options A and D) are synonyms, as they both describe situations involving risk.
- **Uncertain** (Option B) is another synonym, focusing on the lack of stability.
- **Safe** (Option C) is the direct antonym, as it indicates a state of being secure and free from danger or risk.

**Final Answer : Safe****Answer: (C)**

Q42.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Idioms and Phrases: Endurance and acceptance.

**Solution:** The idiom "**bite the bullet**" means to accept something difficult or unpleasant that is unavoidable. It is often used when someone has to face a painful situation with courage because there is no other choice.

- Historically, it is believed to have originated from a time before anesthesia, when soldiers would bite on a bullet to endure the pain of surgery.
- In the given sentence, telling the truth is the "unpleasant" task that must be faced.
- Options A, C, and D do not capture the essence of stoic acceptance of a difficult reality.

**Final Answer :** To accept something difficult or unpleasant

**Answer: (B)**



Q43.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Idioms and Phrases: Understanding figurative language.

**Solution:** The idiom "**call it a day**" is used to signify that one has decided to stop doing something for the rest of the day, usually because they are tired or because the work is completed.

- In the given context, the manager and the team had been in a meeting for six hours, which is an exhausting duration.
- Therefore, the manager decided to end the workday or the specific task.
- Option A (naming the day) and Option D (inviting for a party) are literal misinterpretations, while Option B is the opposite of ending a task.

**Final Answer :** To stop working on something

**Answer:** (C)



Q44.

**Solution****Concept:** Idioms and Phrases: Recognizing hidden benefits.**Solution:** The phrase "**a blessing in disguise**" refers to something that initially appears to be a misfortune, problem, or bad luck, but later results in a very positive outcome.

- Rohan might have faced a situation that seemed difficult (the 'disguise'), but receiving the scholarship proved to be a great benefit (the 'blessing').
- Option A is incorrect because the misfortune is only "apparent," not permanent.
- Option C and D are unrelated to the core meaning of an unexpected positive turn of events.

**Final Answer :** **An apparent misfortune that eventually has good results****Answer: (B)**

Q45.

**Solution****Concept:** Idioms and Phrases: Expressions of health.**Solution:** To be "**under the weather**" is a common English idiom that means to feel slightly ill or not as well as usual. It often refers to minor ailments like a headache, cold, or exhaustion.

- Despite the word "weather," it has nothing to do with the actual climate or rain (eliminating Option B).
- It does not refer to travel (Option C) or happiness (Option D).
- Since she has been "under the weather" since Monday, it implies a period of physical discomfort or sickness.

**Final Answer : Feeling sick****Answer: (A)**

Q46.

**Solution****Concept:** Idioms and Phrases: Communication styles.**Solution:** The idiom "**beat around the bush**" describes a situation where someone avoids speaking directly about a difficult or embarrassing topic. Instead of coming to the main point, they talk about irrelevant things.

- The speaker is asking the person to be direct ("tell me exactly what happened"), which confirms the idiom refers to indirectness.
- Options A and B are literal interpretations of the words "bush" and "woods," which is a common trap in idiom questions.
- Option D is incorrect as the idiom relates to the content of the speech, not the volume.

**Final Answer : To avoid coming to the main point****Answer: (C)**

Q47.

**Solution****Concept:** One Word Substitution: Personality and beliefs.**Solution:** A person's outlook on life can be categorized by specific terms:

- **Optimist** (Option C) is a person who looks at the bright side of things and expects the best possible outcome.
- **Pessimist** is the opposite—someone who expects the worst or looks at the dark side.
- **Atheist** is someone who does not believe in the existence of God.
- **Theist** is someone who believes in the existence of God.

**Final Answer : Optimist****Answer: (C)**

Q48.

**Solution****Concept:** One Word Substitution: Attributes and qualities.**Solution:** The term for someone or something that is incapable of making a mistake or being wrong is **Infallible**.

- **Infallible** (Option A): Derived from 'fallible' (prone to error) with the prefix 'in-' (not).
- **Incorrigible:** Refers to a person (often regarding bad behavior) who cannot be corrected or reformed.
- **Irreparable:** Refers to an injury or loss that is so bad that it cannot be repaired or made right.
- **Inevitable:** Something that is certain to happen and cannot be avoided.

**Final Answer : Infallible****Answer: (A)**

Q49.

**Solution**

**Concept:** One Word Substitution: Literary and funerary terms.

**Solution:** There are specific terms for different types of writings and speeches related to death and memory:

- **Epitaph** (Option B) is specifically the text inscribed on a tombstone or monument in memory of the deceased.
- **Eulogy** is a speech or piece of writing that praises someone highly, typically someone who has just died (usually spoken at a funeral).
- **Epilogue** is a section or speech at the end of a book or play that serves as a comment on or a conclusion to what has happened.
- **Epithet** is an adjective or phrase expressing a quality or attribute regarded as characteristic of the person or thing mentioned.

**Final Answer : Epitaph**

**Answer: (B)**



Q50.

**Solution**

**Concept:** One Word Substitution: Probability and Certainty.

**Solution:** The phrase "something that is certain to happen and cannot be avoided" describes an event or outcome that is bound to occur regardless of any attempts to prevent it.

- **Inevitable** (Option B) is the correct term. It is derived from the Latin word *inevitabilis*, meaning unavoidable. Common examples include the inevitability of change or the passage of time.
- **Indelible** (Option A) refers to marks or memories that cannot be removed, washed away, or erased.
- **Inaudible** (Option C) refers to a sound that is impossible to hear or is not loud enough to be heard.
- **Incorrigible** (Option D) describes a person or their behavior that is beyond correction, improvement, or reform.

**Final Answer : Inevitable**

**Answer: (B)**



**Answer Key**

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

