

CUET-UG English Sample Paper-24

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 2025 Global Education Census reveals a seismic shift in the "Skill-to-Degree" ratio. Data indicates that while university enrollment has plateaued in developed nations, the uptake of micro-credentialing—short, industry-specific courses—has increased by 42% since 2021. In South Asia, the report highlights that 68% of engineering graduates are seeking additional certifications in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Sustainable Design to remain competitive.

Financially, the burden of traditional four-year degrees has led to a 15% rise in vocational apprenticeships. Governments are responding by allocating \$4.2 billion toward digital infrastructure in rural sectors. However, the "Digital Divide" remains a persistent shadow; while urban connectivity is at 88%, rural access languishes at 34%. This disparity suggests that without aggressive intervention, the economic benefits of the digital revolution will be concentrated in the hands of a few, rather than the many.

Q1. According to the passage, what is the primary reason for the 15% rise in vocational apprenticeships?

(A) The lack of interest in AI.



- (B) The financial burden of traditional degrees.
- (C) The government's lack of digital infrastructure.
- (D) The plateauing of university enrollment.

Q2. The term "seismic shift" in the first paragraph implies:

- (A) A natural disaster in the education sector.
- (B) A minor, unnoticeable change.
- (C) A sudden and significant transformation.
- (D) A slow and steady decline.

Q3. Based on the data, what is the current "Digital Divide" (the gap in percentage) between urban and rural connectivity?

- (A) 88%
- (B) 34%
- (C) 54%
- (D) 68%

Q4. What does the passage suggest will happen if "aggressive intervention" does not occur?

- (A) Vocational training will replace all degrees.
- (B) Economic benefits will be distributed unevenly.
- (C) The Digital Divide will close naturally.
- (D) Engineering graduates will stop learning AI.

Q5. Identify the synonym for "languishes" as used in the second paragraph.

- (A) Flourishes
- (B) Weakens or stays stagnant



- (C) Accelerates
- (D) Distributes

Q6. The author's attitude towards the "Digital Divide" is one of:

- (A) Optimism
- (B) Indifference
- (C) Concern
- (D) Sarcasm

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.

The bazaar at dusk was a kaleidoscope of smells—roasted cumin, diesel fumes, and the sweet, heavy scent of jasmine garlands. Sameer wove through the crowd, his fingers brushing the rough surfaces of burlap sacks filled with turmeric. He was looking for the shop with the blue door, the one his grandfather had described in letters written decades ago. "Find the blue door," the letters said, "and you find the map to who we were."

The city had grown around the shop like a thicket of thorns. Glass towers now peered down at the crumbling brick alleys. When he finally found it, the blue paint was peeling, revealing layers of pale green and honest wood beneath. He pushed it open. A bell chimed—a thin, silver sound that seemed to slice through forty years of silence. Inside, the air was still, thick with the dust of forgotten stories. Sameer realized then that the map wasn't an object he could hold; it was the act of returning itself.

Q7. The phrase "kaleidoscope of smells" is an example of:

- (A) Simile



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

Q8. What does the "thicket of thorns" symbolize in the narrative?

- (A) The natural beauty surrounding the shop.
- (B) The physical pain Sameer felt while walking.
- (C) The dense, overwhelming growth of the modern city.
- (D) The security fence around the grandfather's property.

Q9. Which sense is primarily engaged by the phrase "thin, silver sound"?

- (A) Olfactory
- (B) Tactile
- (C) Auditory
- (D) Visual

Q10. What is the central realization Sameer has at the end of the passage?

- (A) He had lost the map his grandfather gave him.
- (B) The shop was empty and worthless.
- (C) The journey and the return were more important than a physical map.
- (D) He had found the wrong shop.

Q11. Choose the word that best describes the shop's condition.

- (A) Pristine
- (B) Dilapidated
- (C) Contemporary
- (D) Opulent



- Q12.** The "peeling blue paint" revealing "honest wood" suggests a theme of:
- (A) Deception and lies.
 - (B) Authenticity and the passage of time.
 - (C) Poverty and neglect.
 - (D) Industrial progress.

Passage III

Read the Poem 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.

The caged bird sings with a fearful trill,
of things unknown but longed for still,
and his tune is heard on the distant hill,
for the caged bird sings of freedom.

In this duality of existence,
the bird is not merely a biological entity,
but a vessel for the human spirit under subjugation,
"fearful trill" suggests that hope is not always a joyfulting

sometimes, it is a desperate, trembling necessity
The distant hill represents an audience—perhaps
those who are free but indifferent,
or perhaps those who are equally bound
but waiting for a signal to rise.

- Q13.** In the poem, the "caged bird" is most likely a symbol for:
- (A) A literal pet in a house.



- (B) An oppressed individual or community.
- (C) A musician who has lost his voice.
- (D) The beauty of nature.

Q14. Why is the bird's song described as a "fearful trill"?

- (A) Because the bird is afraid of heights.
- (B) To show that hope can coexist with fear in the face of struggle.
- (C) Because the bird does not know how to sing properly.
- (D) To indicate that the bird is being hunted.

Q15. The prose analysis suggests that the "distant hill" could represent:

- (A) A place for the bird to build a nest.
- (B) An indifferent or unaware audience.
- (C) The end of the world.
- (D) A literal geographical obstacle.

Q16. Identify the rhyme scheme in the provided stanza.

- (A) ABAB
- (B) AABB
- (C) AAAB
- (D) ABCA

Q17. What is the "vessel for the human spirit" according to the text?

- (A) The cage
- (B) The hill
- (C) The bird
- (D) The tune



Q18. The word "subjugation" in the text is closest in meaning to:

- (A) Liberation
- (B) Oppression
- (C) Celebration
- (D) Cooperation

SECTION 2: VERBAL ABILITY

Q19. Rearrange the following parts to form a meaningful sentence:

P: that the impact of climate change

Q: it is becoming increasingly evident

R: but also on the socioeconomic fabric of developing nations

S: is not only visible in the melting glaciers

- (A) QPSR
- (B) QSRP
- (C) PQRS
- (D) SPRQ

Q20. Rearrange the following parts to form a meaningful sentence:

P: the judge concluded the session

Q: after hearing the arguments from both the parties

R: while emphasizing the need for a fair trial

S: and reserved the final judgment for next week

- (A) PQRS
- (B) QPSR
- (C) QSPR
- (D) RPQS



Q21. Rearrange the following parts to form a meaningful sentence:

P: as a catalyst for innovation

Q: the advent of generative artificial intelligence

R: has fundamentally altered the landscape of digital creativity

S: serving not just as a tool but

(A) QSRP

(B) QRSP

(C) PSRQ

(D) QSPR

Q22. Rearrange the following parts to form a meaningful sentence:

P: to be able to appreciate the subtle nuances of classical music

Q: requires a level of patience and exposure

R: that many modern listeners

S: often find difficult to cultivate

(A) PQRS

(B) PRQS

(C) QPSR

(D) QRSP

Q23. Rearrange the following parts to form a meaningful sentence:

P: of the ancient ruins

Q: the meticulous restoration

R: provided a glimpse into the architectural grandeur

S: of a civilization long forgotten

(A) QPRS

(B) PRSQ

(C) QPSR

(D) RPQS



Q24. Rearrange the following parts to form a meaningful sentence:

P: across various disciplines

Q: the interdisciplinary approach

R: to solve complex global challenges

S: necessitates a collaborative effort

(A) QSPR

(B) SQPR

(C) PQRS

(D) QPSR

Q25. Rearrange the following parts to form a meaningful sentence:

P: that the success of the project

Q: it was universally acknowledged

R: was a testament to the team's resilience

S: despite the numerous setbacks they faced

(A) QPRS

(B) PQRS

(C) QPSR

(D) SPQR

Q26. The diplomat's _____ response to the controversial question helped de-escalate the tension during the press conference.

(A) Bellicose

(B) Equivocal

(C) Felicitous

(D) Abrasive

Q27. Despite the _____ evidence presented by the prosecution, the jury remained skeptical about the defendant's involvement.



- (A) Circumstantial
- (B) Corroborative
- (C) Frivolous
- (D) Insubstantial

Q28. The author's latest novel is a _____ satire that mocks the superficiality of modern social media culture.

- (A) Trenchant
- (B) Bland
- (C) Complacent
- (D) Pedantic

Q29. The scientist was known for his _____ research; he never accepted a theory without rigorous empirical testing.

- (A) Perfunctory
- (B) Fastidious
- (C) Erratic
- (D) Subjective

Q30. The _____ humidity in the tropical rainforest made it difficult for the hikers to breathe comfortably.

- (A) Oppressive
- (B) Invigorating
- (C) Sparse
- (D) Ephemeral



Q31. Match the Followings:

List I	Word	List II	Meaning
(a)	Altruism	(i)	To speak harmfully of someone
(b)	Vilify	(ii)	Selfless concern for others
(c)	Ephemeral	(iii)	To make something better
(d)	Ameliorate	(iv)	Lasting for a very short time

- (A) (a)-(ii), (b)-(i), (c)-(iv), (d)-(iii)
 (B) (a)-(i), (b)-(ii), (c)-(iii), (d)-(iv)
 (C) (a)-(ii), (b)-(iii), (c)-(iv), (d)-(i)
 (D) (a)-(iv), (b)-(i), (c)-(ii), (d)-(iii)

Q32. Match the Followings:

List I	Phrase	List II	Meaning
(a)	Ad hoc	(i)	A mistake in speech or writing
(b)	Lapsus linguae	(ii)	For a specific purpose
(c)	Persona non grata	(iii)	In total
(d)	In toto	(iv)	An unwelcome person

- (A) (a)-(ii), (b)-(i), (c)-(iv), (d)-(iii)
 (B) (a)-(i), (b)-(ii), (c)-(iv), (d)-(iii)
 (C) (a)-(ii), (b)-(iv), (c)-(i), (d)-(iii)
 (D) (a)-(iv), (b)-(i), (c)-(ii), (d)-(iii)



Q33. Match the Followings:

List I	Word	List II	Synonym
(a)	Pragmatic	(i)	Plentiful
(b)	Copious	(ii)	Practical
(c)	Enigmatic	(iii)	Brave
(d)	Intrepid	(iv)	Mysterious

- (A) (a)-(ii), (b)-(i), (c)-(iv), (d)-(iii)
 (B) (a)-(ii), (b)-(iv), (c)-(i), (d)-(iii)
 (C) (a)-(i), (b)-(ii), (c)-(iv), (d)-(iii)
 (D) (a)-(iii), (b)-(i), (c)-(iv), (d)-(ii)

SECTION 3: VOCABULARY

Q34. Choose the most appropriate synonym for the word: **EXACERBATE**

- (A) Alleviate
 (B) Aggravate
 (C) Ameliorate
 (D) Appreciate

Q35. Choose the most appropriate synonym for the word: **RETICENT**

- (A) Garrulous
 (B) Hesitant
 (C) Reserved
 (D) Boisterous

Q36. Choose the most appropriate synonym for the word: **PERSPICACIOUS**



- (A) Transparent
- (B) Shrewd
- (C) Obscure
- (D) Dull

Q37. Choose the most appropriate synonym for the word: **VOCIFEROUS**

- (A) Quiet
- (B) Clamorous
- (C) Dangerous
- (D) Fragile

Q38. Choose the most appropriate antonym for the word: **EPHEMERAL**

- (A) Transient
- (B) Eternal
- (C) Fleeting
- (D) Fragile

Q39. Choose the most appropriate antonym for the word: **NADIR**

- (A) Zenith
- (B) Bottom
- (C) Base
- (D) Horizon

Q40. Choose the most appropriate antonym for the word: **LACONIC**

- (A) Concise
- (B) Terse
- (C) Verbose



(D) Sullen

Q41. Choose the most appropriate antonym for the word: **ABSTAIN**

(A) Refrain

(B) Indulge

(C) Desist

(D) Avoid

Q42. Choose the most appropriate synonym for the word: **OBSEQUIOUS**

(A) Arrogant

(B) Servile

(C) Dignified

(D) Honest

Q43. Choose the most appropriate antonym for the word: **CANDID**

(A) Frank

(B) Evasive

(C) Sincere

(D) Blunt

Q44. Identify the meaning of the idiom: "**To play second fiddle**"

(A) To be a lead musician

(B) To take a subordinate role

(C) To be very happy

(D) To create trouble

Q45. Identify the meaning of the idiom: "**A wild goose chase**"



- (A) A successful search
- (B) A foolish or hopeless search
- (C) To go hunting
- (D) To run very fast

Q46. Identify the meaning of the idiom: **"To leave no stone unturned"**

- (A) To be lazy
- (B) To search everywhere or try every possible means
- (C) To cause a mess
- (D) To build a wall

Q47. Identify the meaning of the idiom: **"Back to the drawing board"**

- (A) To finish a masterpiece
- (B) To start over because a previous attempt failed
- (C) To decorate a room
- (D) To retreat from a battle

Q48. Identify the meaning of the idiom: **"The elephant in the room"**

- (A) A very large pet
- (B) An obvious problem that people are avoiding discussing
- (C) A grand celebration
- (D) A symbol of wisdom

Q49. Choose the word that can substitute: **"A person who is indifferent to pleasure or pain."**

- (A) Stoic
- (B) Sadist



- (C) Epicurean
- (D) Masochist

Q50. Choose the word that can substitute: "A speech made without previous preparation."

- (A) Soliloquy
- (B) Extempore
- (C) Rhetoric
- (D) Prologue



Detailed Solutions**Q1.****Solution**

Concept: To identify a "primary reason," look for cause-and-effect language in the text, such as "led to" or "because of."

Solution: The second paragraph explicitly states: "the burden of traditional four-year degrees has led to a 15% rise in vocational apprenticeships." This indicates that the high cost (financial burden) of university education is the driving force behind the shift toward apprenticeships.

Final Answer: The financial burden of traditional degrees.

Answer: (B)

Q2.**Solution**

Concept: Contextual vocabulary involves interpreting metaphorical language. "Seismic" refers to an earthquake, suggesting something that shakes the foundation of a system.

Solution: In the context of the "Skill-to-Degree" ratio, a "seismic shift" implies a massive, foundational change in how education and skills are valued. It represents a sudden and significant transformation rather than a minor or slow change.

Final Answer: A sudden and significant transformation.

Answer: (C)



Q3.

Solution

Concept: Data interpretation requires identifying specific statistics and performing the necessary calculation (subtraction) to find a "gap."

Solution: The passage provides the following percentages:

- Urban connectivity: 88%
- Rural access: 34%

To find the divide (gap), subtract the rural percentage from the urban percentage: $88 - 34 = 54$.

Final Answer: 54%

Answer: (C)

Q4.

Solution

Concept: Inference requires looking at the concluding predictions made by the author based on the conditions presented.

Solution: The final sentence warns that without intervention, the "economic benefits of the digital revolution will be concentrated in the hands of a few." This implies that the benefits will not be shared equally across the population, leading to uneven distribution.

Final Answer: Economic benefits will be distributed unevenly.

Answer: (B)



Q5.

Solution

Concept: Synonym identification requires matching the emotional or functional tone of a word within its sentence.

Solution: The text contrasts urban connectivity (flourishing at 88%) with rural access, which "languishes at 34%." In this context, "languishes" means to exist in a state of weakness, stagnation, or failure to make progress.

Final Answer: Weakens or stays stagnant

Answer: (B)

Q6.

Solution

Concept: Tone and attitude are identified by looking at the author's choice of descriptors and the urgency of their conclusions.

Solution: The author describes the divide as a "persistent shadow" and calls for "aggressive intervention." These words indicate that the author views the situation as a serious problem that needs to be fixed, reflecting an attitude of concern.

Final Answer: Concern

Answer: (C)



Q7.

Solution

Concept: A figure of speech that compares two unrelated things by stating one **is** the other (without using "like" or "as") to create a vivid image.

Solution: A "kaleidoscope" is literally an optical instrument with mirrors and colored glass, but the author uses it to describe a complex mixture of "smells." By directly calling the smells a kaleidoscope, the author uses a ****metaphor**** to convey how varied and colorful the sensory experience felt.

Final Answer: Metaphor

Answer: (B)

Q8.

Solution

Concept: Symbolism uses an object or phrase to represent a broader idea. The context of "glass towers" and "crumbling alleys" provides the clue.

Solution: The text states the "city had grown around the shop like a thicket of thorns." This symbolizes the dense, complicated, and perhaps hostile or restrictive way modern urban development has crowded out the historical parts of the city.

Final Answer: The dense, overwhelming growth of the modern city.

Answer: (C)



Q9.

Solution

Concept: Imagery types correspond to the five human senses: Olfactory (smell), Tactile (touch), Auditory (hearing), Visual (sight), and Gustatory (taste).

Solution: The phrase describes the "bell" that "chimed." Since a chime is a noise produced by an object, it primarily engages the ****auditory**** sense (the sense of hearing).

Final Answer: Auditory

Answer: (C)

Q10.

Solution

Concept: The "epiphany" or central realization is usually found in the concluding lines of a narrative, shifting from literal objects to figurative meanings.

Solution: Sameer concludes that the "map wasn't an object he could hold; it was the act of returning itself." This means the value lay in the spiritual and physical journey of reconnecting with his roots rather than finding a physical piece of paper.

Final Answer: The journey and the return were more important than a physical map.

Answer: (C)



Q11.

Solution

Concept: Vocabulary selection based on descriptive clues in the text such as "peeling paint" and "crumbling brick."

Solution: **"Dilapidated"** means in a state of disrepair or ruin as a result of age or neglect. This fits the description of the peeling paint and crumbling alleys. "Pristine" (perfect) and "Opulent" (wealthy) are opposites, while "Contemporary" (modern) contradicts the shop's age.

Final Answer: Dilapidated

Answer: (B)

Q12.

Solution

Concept: Thematic analysis looks for the underlying message behind physical descriptions.

Solution: The "peeling" indicates the passage of time, while the "honest wood" beneath implies something real, basic, and **authentic** that has survived despite the external decay. It suggests that the essence of the place remains true even as its surface changes.

Final Answer: Authenticity and the passage of time.

Answer: (B)



Q13.

Solution

Concept: In poetry, symbolism uses a concrete object (a bird in a cage) to represent an abstract idea or a specific social condition.

Solution: The "caged bird" is a classic literary symbol for those who are restricted by social, political, or physical boundaries. In the context of the poem and the provided prose, the bird represents an ****oppressed individual or community**** whose physical freedom is limited but whose voice remains powerful.

Final Answer: An oppressed individual or community.

Answer: (B)

Q14.

Solution

Concept: Authors use contrasting adjectives (fearful) and nouns (trill/song) to show the complexity of an emotion.

Solution: The "fearful trill" indicates that the bird's song is not a happy performance. Instead, it suggests that even while the bird hopes for freedom, it is still gripped by the terror of its current state. It highlights that ****hope can coexist with fear**** during a struggle for liberation.

Final Answer: To show that hope can coexist with fear in the face of struggle.

Answer: (B)



Q15.

Solution

Concept: Interpretative analysis requires looking at the "reach" of a symbol. If the song is heard far away, what does that distance imply about the listeners?

Solution: The prose analysis suggests the "distant hill" represents an audience. Specifically, it notes they might be "free but indifferent," meaning they hear the cry for freedom but are ****unaware or unbothered**** by the bird's suffering.

Final Answer: An indifferent or unaware audience.

Answer: (B)

Q16.

Solution

Concept: Rhyme scheme is identified by looking at the end-sounds of each line and assigning them letters (A, B, C...).

Solution: Looking at the last words of each line:

- Line 1: **trill** (A)
- Line 2: **still** (A)
- Line 3: **hill** (A)
- Line 4: **freedom** (B)

Since the first three lines rhyme with each other and the fourth does not, the scheme is AAAB.

Final Answer: AAAB

Answer: (C)



Q17.

Solution

Concept: Literal comprehension involves identifying what object or subject is being described by a specific metaphor in the text.

Solution: The prose states: "the ****bird**** is not merely a biological entity but a vessel for the human spirit under subjugation." Therefore, the bird is the vessel being discussed.

Final Answer: The bird

Answer: (C)

Q18.

Solution

Concept: Contextual vocabulary requires finding a synonym that matches the theme of being "caged" or "bound."

Solution: ****"Subjugation"*** refers to the action of bringing someone or something under domination or control. ****"Oppression"*** is the closest synonym, as both involve the exercise of authority in a cruel or unjust manner. "Liberation" is an antonym.

Final Answer: Oppression

Answer: (B)



Q19.

Solution

Concept: Logic requires starting with an introductory clause (**Q**), followed by the subject (**P**), then the first part of the observation (**S**), and concluding with the "not only... but also" contrast (**R**).

Solution: 1. (**Q**) It is becoming increasingly evident... 2. (**P**) ...that the impact of climate change... 3. (**S**) ...is not only visible in the melting glaciers... 4. (**R**) ...but also on the socioeconomic fabric of developing nations.

Final Answer: QPSR

Answer: (A)

Q20.

Solution

Concept: The sentence should follow a chronological order: the precondition (**Q**), the main action (**P**), the secondary action (**S**), and a concluding modifier (**R**).

Solution: (**Q**) After hearing arguments... (**P**) the judge concluded the session... (**S**) and reserved final judgment... (**R**) while emphasizing the need for a fair trial.

Final Answer: QPSR

Answer: (B)



Q21.

Solution

Concept: Start with the subject (**Q**), followed by the predicate/action (**R**), and then the supplementary description of its role (**S** and **P**).

Solution: (**Q**) The advent of generative AI... (**R**) has fundamentally altered the landscape... (**S**) serving not just as a tool but... (**P**) as a catalyst for innovation.

Final Answer: QRSP

Answer: (B)

Q22.

Solution

Concept: The gerund phrase (**P**) acts as the subject, followed by the verb (**Q**), then the object modifier (**R** and **S**).

Solution: (**P**) To be able to appreciate... (**Q**) requires a level of patience... (**R**) that many modern listeners... (**S**) often find difficult to cultivate.

Final Answer: PQRS

Answer: (A)



Q23.

Solution

Concept: Follow the Subject (**Q** + **P**) → Verb (**R**) → Object/Complement (**S**) pattern.

Solution: (**Q**) The meticulous restoration... (**P**) of the ancient ruins... (**R**) provided a glimpse into... (**S**) of a civilization long forgotten.

Final Answer: QPRS

Answer: (A)

Q24.

Solution

Concept: Identify the subject (**Q**), its purpose (**R**), the verb (**S**), and the scope (**P**).

Solution: (**Q**) The interdisciplinary approach... (**R**) to solve complex global challenges... (**S**) necessitates a collaborative effort... (**P**) across various disciplines.

Final Answer: QRSP (Note: While QSPR is listed as an option, QRSP is the most logical flow. Based on the options, **QSPR** is the intended answer).

Final Answer: QSPR

Answer: (A)



Q25.

Solution

Concept: Introduction (**Q**) → Subject clause (**P**) → Predicate (**R**) → Concessive modifier (**S**).

Solution: (**Q**) It was universally acknowledged... (**P**) that the success of the project... (**R**) was a testament to the team's resilience... (**S**) despite the numerous setbacks they faced.

Final Answer: QPRS

Answer: (A)

Q26.

Solution

Context: The word must mean "appropriate" or "well-chosen" for de-escalation. **Definitions:** * **Bellicose:** Aggressive. * **Equivocal:** Ambiguous/vague. * **Felicitous:** Pleasing and fortunate; appropriate. * **Abrasive:** Harsh/showing little concern for others.

Final Answer: Felicitous

Answer: (C)

Q27.

Solution

Context: "Despite" indicates a word that means "strong" or "supportive" to contrast with the jury's skepticism. **Definitions:** * **Circumstantial:** Indirect. * **Corroborative:** Confirming or giving support to a statement/theory.

Final Answer: Corroborative

Answer: (B)



Q28.

Solution

Concept: Satire aims to critique or mock. An effective satire is usually described as being sharp, incisive, or biting.

Solution: **"Trenchant"** means vigorous or incisive in expression or style. It is the perfect adjective for a satire that successfully mocks a subject. **"Bland"** means uninteresting or lacking strong flavor. **"Complacent"** means showing uncritical satisfaction with oneself. **"Pedantic"** means overly concerned with minor details or rules (excessively academic).

Final Answer: Trenchant

Answer: (A)

Q29.

Solution

Concept: The context "never accepted a theory without rigorous empirical testing" implies the scientist is extremely careful, precise, and attentive to detail.

Solution: **"Fastidious"** describes someone who is very attentive to and concerned about accuracy and detail. This aligns with the "rigorous" nature of the scientist's work. **"Perfunctory"** means carried out with minimum effort or reflection (the opposite of rigorous). **"Erratic"** means unpredictable or lacking a regular pattern. **"Subjective"** means based on personal feelings rather than facts (the opposite of empirical).

Final Answer: Fastidious

Answer: (B)



Q30.

Solution

Concept: Humidity that makes it "difficult to breathe comfortably" is heavy, intense, and burdensome.

Solution: **"Oppressive"** humidity is uncomfortably hot and with very little movement of air, making one feel distressed. **"Invigorating"** means making one feel strong, healthy, and full of energy. **"Sparse"** means thinly dispersed or scattered. **"Ephemeral"** means lasting for a very short time.

Final Answer: Oppressive

Answer: (A)

Q31.

Solution

Concept: This question tests academic vocabulary. Matching requires identifying the core definition of each noun and verb.

Solution: **(a) Altruism:** The belief in or practice of disinterested and selfless concern for the well-being of others → **(ii)**. **(b) Vilify:** To write or speak about in an abusively disparaging manner → **(i)**. **(c) Ephemeral:** Something that is lasting for a very short time → **(iv)**. **(d) Ameliorate:** To make something (usually something bad or unsatisfactory) better → **(iii)**.

Final Answer: (a)-(ii), (b)-(i), (c)-(iv), (d)-(iii)

Answer: (A)



Q32.

Solution

Concept: This question focuses on Latin phrases commonly used in English legal, political, and academic contexts.

Solution: * **(a) Ad hoc:** Formed, arranged, or done for a particular purpose only → **(ii)**. * **(b) Lapsus linguae:** A slip of the tongue; a mistake in speech → **(i)**. * **(c) Persona non grata:** An unacceptable or unwelcome person → **(iv)**. * **(d) In toto:** As a whole; in total or completely → **(iii)**.

Final Answer: (a)-(ii), (b)-(i), (c)-(iv), (d)-(iii)

Answer: (A)

Q33.

Solution

Concept: Matching synonyms requires identifying words with nearly identical meanings or those that belong to the same semantic field.

Solution: * **(a) Pragmatic:** Dealing with things sensibly and realistically in a way that is based on practical rather than theoretical considerations → **(ii)**. * **(b) Copious:** Abundant in supply or quantity; plentiful → **(i)**. * **(c) Enigmatic:** Difficult to interpret or understand; mysterious → **(iv)**. * **(d) Intrepid:** Fearless and adventurous; brave → **(iii)**.

By aligning these pairs: (a)-(ii), (b)-(i), (c)-(iv), and (d)-(iii).

Final Answer: (a)-(ii), (b)-(i), (c)-(iv), (d)-(iii)

Answer: (A)



Q34.

Solution

Concept: Identifying a word that describes making a negative situation worse.

Solution: To **Exacerbate** is to make a problem, bad situation, or negative feeling more intense or severe. **Aggravate** is the closest synonym as it also means to intensify a problem. *Alleviate* and *Ameliorate* are antonyms (to make better). *Appreciate* means to recognize the value of something.

Final Answer: Aggravate

Answer: (B)

Q35.

Solution

Concept: Focusing on a personality trait related to speech and communication.

Solution: **Reticent** describes a person who does not reveal their thoughts or feelings readily. **Reserved** is the direct synonym. *Garrulous* is an antonym (extremely talkative). *Hesitant* implies a pause due to uncertainty, not necessarily a lack of openness. *Boisterous* means noisy, energetic, and cheerful.

Final Answer: Reserved

Answer: (C)



Q36.

Solution

Concept: Describing high levels of mental discernment and understanding.

Solution: **Perspicacious** means having a ready insight into and understanding of things. **Shrewd** is the synonym, implying sharp powers of judgment. *Transparent* means easy to see through (often confused due to the "per-" prefix). *Obscure* and *Dull* are opposites related to clarity and intellect.

Final Answer: Shrewd

Answer: (B)

Q37.

Solution

Concept: Identifying words related to loudness and insistent communication.

Solution: **Vociferous** describes a person or speech that is vehement or noisy. **Clamorous** is the synonym, meaning making a loud and confused noise. *Quiet* is the direct antonym. *Dangerous* and *Fragile* are unrelated to the volume or intensity of speech.

Final Answer: Clamorous

Answer: (B)



Q38.

Solution

Concept: Antonym identification for words describing the duration of existence.

Solution: **Ephemeral** means lasting for a very short time. **Eternal** is the correct antonym, as it means lasting forever. **Transient** and **Fleeting** are synonyms (lasting a short time). **Fragile** refers to something easily broken.

Final Answer: Eternal

Answer: (B)

Q39.

Solution

Concept: Antonym identification for words describing extremes in points or fortunes.

Solution: **Nadir** refers to the lowest point in the fortunes of a person or organization. **Zenith** is the correct antonym, referring to the time at which something is most powerful or successful (the highest point). **Bottom** and **Base** are synonyms for the lowest part.

Final Answer: Zenith

Answer: (A)



Q40.

Solution

Concept: Antonym identification for words describing the volume or brevity of speech.

Solution: **Laconic** means using very few words; brief. **Verbose** is the correct antonym, as it means using or expressed in more words than are needed. **Concise** and **Terse** are synonyms of laconic.

Final Answer: Verbose

Answer: (C)

Q41.

Solution

Concept: Antonym identification for words regarding self-restraint versus self-gratification.

Solution: **Abstain** means to restrain oneself from doing or enjoying something. **Indulge** is the correct antonym, meaning to allow oneself to enjoy the pleasure of something. **Refrain**, **Desist**, and **Avoid** are all synonyms (to stop oneself from doing something).

Final Answer: Indulge

Answer: (B)



Q42.

Solution

Concept: Synonym identification for words describing excessive submissiveness.

Solution: ****Obsequious**** means obedient or attentive to an excessive or servile degree. ****Servile**** is the correct synonym, meaning having or showing an excessive willingness to serve or please others. ***Arrogant*** and ***Dignified*** are antonyms in terms of social posture.

Final Answer: Servile

Answer: (B)

Q43.

Solution

Concept: Antonym identification for words regarding openness and honesty in communication.

Solution: ****Candid**** means truthful and straightforward; frank. ****Evasive**** is the correct antonym, as it means tending to avoid commitment or self-revelation, especially by responding only indirectly. ***Frank***, ***Sincere***, and ***Blunt*** are all synonyms or closely related terms to being candid.

Final Answer: Evasive

Answer: (B)



Q44.

Solution

Concept: Idiom interpretation regarding social or professional hierarchy.

Solution: ****"To play second fiddle"*** originates from orchestras where the second lead violinist is subordinate to the first. It means to take a ****subordinate or less important role**** compared to someone else.

Final Answer: To take a subordinate role

Answer: (B)

Q45.

Solution

Concept: Idiom interpretation regarding the utility of an effort or search.

Solution: ****"A wild goose chase"*** refers to a ****foolish or hopeless search**** for something that is unattainable or does not exist, leading to a waste of time and energy.

Final Answer: A foolish or hopeless search

Answer: (B)

Q46.

Solution

Concept: Idiom interpretation regarding thoroughness and persistence.

Solution: ****"To leave no stone unturned"*** means to ****search everywhere or try every possible means**** to achieve a goal or find something. It implies total thoroughness.

Final Answer: To search everywhere or try every possible means

Answer: (B)



Q47.

Solution

Concept: Idiom interpretation regarding the need to restart a process after failure.

Solution: ****"Back to the drawing board"*** is used when an initial idea or project has failed, and it is necessary to ****start over from the beginning**** to come up with a new plan.

Final Answer: To start over because a previous attempt failed

Answer: (B)

Q48.

Solution

Concept: Idiom interpretation regarding a conspicuous but ignored reality.

Solution: ****"The elephant in the room"*** is a metaphorical idiom for an ****obvious problem or difficult situation**** that people are aware of but choose to ignore or avoid discussing because it is uncomfortable or controversial.

Final Answer: An obvious problem that people are avoiding discussing

Answer: (B)



Q49.

Solution

Concept: One-word substitution for a specific philosophical or emotional disposition.

Solution: A **Stoic** is a person who can endure pain or hardship without showing their feelings or complaining, maintaining a state of indifference to both pleasure and pain. * *Sadist*: Someone who derives pleasure from inflicting pain on others. * *Epicurean*: Someone fond of luxury and sensual pleasure (especially food). * *Masochist*: Someone who derives pleasure from their own pain or humiliation.

Final Answer: Stoic

Answer: (A)

Q50.

Solution

Concept: One-word substitution for types of oratory and speech delivery.

Solution: **Extempore** refers to a speech, performance, or singing done without any previous preparation or practice (impromptu). * *Soliloquy*: An act of speaking one's thoughts aloud when alone (common in drama). * *Rhetoric*: The art of effective or persuasive speaking or writing. * *Prologue*: A separate introductory section of a literary or musical work.

Final Answer: Extempore

Answer: (B)



Answer Key

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

