

## NIMCET English Sample Paper-9

Duration: 5 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 40

### Instructions

- This paper contains **10** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct).
- Each correct answer carries **+4 marks**.
- Each incorrect answer carries: **-1** marks.
- Unattempted questions carry **0** marks.
- Only one option is correct for each question.
- Use of mobile phones, smartwatches, calculators, or any electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited.

**Q1.** Identify the correct sentence among the options provided below.

- (A) Neither the administrator nor the technical assistants was present at the laboratory during the server crash.
- (B) Neither the administrator nor the technical assistants were present at the laboratory during the server crash.
- (C) Neither the administrator or the technical assistants were present at the laboratory during the server crash.
- (D) Neither the administrator nor the technical assistants has been present at the laboratory during the server crash.

**Q2.** Choose the option that best expresses the meaning of the word '**Punctilious**'.

- (A) Showing great attention to detail or correct behavior
- (B) Arriving exactly at the designated or scheduled time
- (C) Easily irritated by insignificant or minor matters
- (D) Expressing a opinions in a dogmatic or forceful manner

**Q3.** Fill in the blank with the most appropriate preposition:



The committee decided to defer the final decision \_\_\_\_\_ deference to the wishes of the senior faculty members.

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

**Q4.** Read the following passage carefully and answer Q4, Q5, and Q6 based on it.

The digital transformation of banking has accelerated exponentially over the past decade, driven by breakthroughs in cryptography and distributed ledger technology. While traditional institutions view these advancements as a disruptive threat to their centralized legacy systems, decentralized finance (DeFi) proponents argue that eliminating intermediaries democratizes capital access. However, this financial democratization introduces systemic risks. Without centralized protocols, algorithmic governance models often fail during high-volatility market events, leading to severe liquidity cascades. Furthermore, the absence of standardized regulatory frameworks leaves retail participants vulnerable to smart-contract vulnerabilities. The true challenge lies not in choosing between absolute centralization and total autonomy, but in engineering a hybrid framework that synthesizes regulatory oversight with cryptographic transparency.

According to the passage, what is the primary risk associated with absolute reliance on algorithmic governance models in decentralized finance?

- (A) The complete elimination of cryptographic transparency during transactions.
- (B) The inability to handle high-volatility market events, leading to liquidity cascades.
- (C) A total surrender of system control to traditional legacy banking systems.
- (D) The immediate escalation of administrative transaction costs for retail users.

**Q5.** What solution does the author suggest to address the vulnerabilities inherent in current financial structures?



- (A) Returning entirely to traditional, centralized banking protocols to ensure retail security.
- (B) Abolishing smart contracts until comprehensive global regulatory frameworks are enacted.
- (C) Developing a hybrid model combining regulatory oversight with cryptographic transparency.
- (D) Accelerating the complete elimination of financial intermediaries across all economic sectors.

**Q6.** Which of the following words from the passage is closest in meaning to the word 'synthesizes' as used in the text?

- (A) Dissects
- (B) Substitutes
- (C) Integrates
- (D) Isolates

**Q7.** Select the antonym of the underlined word in the given sentence:

The professor's explanation of the quantum mechanics paradox was remarkably lucid, allowing even the freshmen to grasp the core concept.

- (A) Obscure
- (B) Transparent
- (C) Eloquent
- (D) Cogent

**Q8.** Select the idiom that best fits the blank space in the following sentence:

After months of working secretly on the proprietary search algorithm, the startup finally \_\_\_\_ by launching their beta platform yesterday.

- (A) burned the midnight oil



- (B) let the cat out of the bag
- (C) hit the nail on the head
- (D) turned over a new leaf

**Q9.** Choose the option that rectifies the grammatical error in the following sentence:

Hardly had the system administrator updated the security patch when the network was hit by a massive DDoS attack.

- (A) Hardly had the system administrator updated the security patch than the network was hit by a massive DDoS attack.
- (B) Hardly the system administrator had updated the security patch when the network was hit by a massive DDoS attack.
- (C) No sooner had the system administrator updated the security patch when the network was hit by a massive DDoS attack.
- (D) No correction required; the sentence is grammatically correct.

**Q10.** Out of the four options given, choose the one which can be substituted for the following group of words:

**'A person who holds unorthodox, speculative, or independent views, especially in professional or political matters.'**

- (A) Maverick
- (B) Sycophant
- (C) Polyglot
- (D) Pedant



**Detailed Solutions****Q1.****Solution****Concept:**

The sentence tests subject-verb agreement rules involving the correlative conjunction "neither... nor". When two subjects are connected by "neither... nor", the verb must agree in person and number with the subject that is closest to it (the nearer subject rule).

**Solution:**

Step 1: Identify the two subjects connected by the conjunction "neither... nor" in the sentence. Here, the first subject is "the administrator" (singular), and the second subject is "the technical assistants" (plural).

Step 2: Determine which subject is closest to the position of the main verb. The plural noun phrase "the technical assistants" is placed right before the verb.

Step 3: Evaluate the options based on the agreement rule. Since "the technical assistants" is plural, the corresponding verb must also take a plural form.

Step 4: Analyze option (A). It uses the singular verb "was", which violates the rule.

Step 5: Analyze option (B). It correctly uses the plural verb "were" to match "the technical assistants".

Step 6: Analyze option (C). It incorrectly uses "or" instead of the standard correlative partner "nor" for "neither".

Step 7: Analyze option (D). It uses the singular verb phrase "has been", which is incorrect for a plural subject. Therefore, option (B) is the grammatically flawless sentence.

**Final Answer:**

Neither the administrator nor the technical assistants were present at the laboratory during the server crash.

**Answer: (B)**[Go Back to Question 1](#)

Q2.

**Solution****Concept:**

This vocabulary question tests the accurate definition and contextual understanding of high-level adjectives. The word "punctilious" originates from the Latin word "punctum" (point) and is used to describe an individual's meticulous demeanor regarding rules and conduct.

**Solution:**

Step 1: Define the target word precisely. "Punctilious" means showing great attention to detail, being extremely careful about correct behavior, or strictly adhering to established etiquette and formal procedures.

Step 2: Evaluate the provided options to find the closest match to this established definition.

Step 3: Examine option (A), which states "Showing great attention to detail or correct behavior". This perfectly mirrors the core definition of the target adjective.

Step 4: Examine option (B). It describes being punctual, which is a common distractor because of phonetical similarity but does not encompass the broader behavioral rigidity of being punctilious.

Step 5: Examine option (C). This describes someone who is petulant or touchy, which represents an entirely different negative personality trait.

Step 6: Examine option (D). This describes someone who is opinionated or dogmatic, failing to capture the essence of meticulousness. Thus, option (A) is the correct choice.

**Final Answer:**

**Answer:** (A)

[Go Back to Question 2](#)



Q3.

**Solution****Concept:**

The question evaluates the knowledge of fixed prepositional phrases and idioms in formal English usage. Specifically, it tests the idiomatic construction built around the noun "deference" when expressing respect or submission to someone else's judgment or desires.

**Solution:**

Step 1: Analyze the context of the sentence. The sentence states that a committee decided to postpone its final decision out of respect or regard for the wishes of senior faculty members.

Step 2: Identify the standard idiomatic expression used with "deference". In standard English, the established phrase is "in deference to", which functions collectively as a complex preposition meaning "out of respect for".

Step 3: Test alternative prepositions to verify their invalidity. Phrases like "with deference to", "for deference to", or "at deference to" are unidiomatic and grammatically incorrect in this syntactic environment.

Step 4: Confirm the fit of the correct phrase. Inserting "in" into the blank perfectly completes the structural pattern "in deference to the wishes". Consequently, option (B) represents the correct and standard usage.

**Final Answer:**

**Answer: (B)**

[Go Back to Question 3](#)



Q4.

**Solution****Concept:**

This reading comprehension question requires direct retrieval and literal comprehension of specific factual details explicitly stated by the author within the provided analytical text on decentralized finance.

**Solution:**

Step 1: Scan the reading passage for the specific keywords mentioned in the stem of the question, namely "algorithmic governance models" and "primary risk".

Step 2: Locate the relevant sentence within the middle portion of the passage text. The passage states: "Without centralized protocols, algorithmic governance models often fail during high-volatility market events, leading to severe liquidity cascades."

Step 3: Analyze the options against this textual evidence to find a paraphrased or exact match.

Step 4: Compare with option (A). The text mentions cryptographic transparency as a benefit to be synthesized, not a casualty of algorithmic failure.

Step 5: Compare with option (B). This option explicitly states "The inability to handle high-volatility market events, leading to liquidity cascades", which matches the text verbatim.

Step 6: Compare options (C) and (D). Neither surrender to legacy systems nor escalation of administrative costs is cited as a consequence of algorithmic governance failure. Hence, option (B) is supported by the text.

**Final Answer:** The inability to handle high-volatility market events, leading to liquidity cascades.

**Answer: (B)**

[Go Back to Question 4](#)



Q5.

**Solution****Concept:**

This question tests the ability to synthesize the author's primary argument, conclusion, or explicit recommendation located at the culmination of the reading passage.

**Solution:**

Step 1: Identify the final sentence of the passage where the author concludes the discussion and outlines the prospective path forward or solution to the problem.

Step 2: Read the concluding sentence carefully: "The true challenge lies not in choosing between absolute centralization and total autonomy, but in engineering a hybrid framework that synthesizes regulatory oversight with cryptographic transparency."

Step 3: Evaluate each option to see which one correctly reflects the author's precise recommendation for a hybrid framework.

Step 4: Dismiss option (A) and option (D) because they advocate for extreme positions (total centralization or complete elimination of intermediaries) that the author explicitly rejects.

Step 5: Dismiss option (B) as the passage never suggests a total ban or abolition of smart contracts.

Step 6: Validate option (C). It correctly states that the solution is "Developing a hybrid model combining regulatory oversight with cryptographic transparency". This matches the author's final structural synthesis, confirming option (C) as correct.

**Final Answer:**

Developing a hybrid model combining regulatory oversight with cryptographic transparency.

**Answer: (C)**

[Go Back to Question 5](#)



Q6.

**Solution****Concept:**

This vocabulary-in-context question requires assigning the correct meaning to a word based on how it functions dynamically within the semantic framework of the surrounding passage text.

**Solution:**

Step 1: Locate the word "synthesizes" in the final sentence of the passage: "...a hybrid framework that synthesizes regulatory oversight with cryptographic transparency."

Step 2: Analyze the context. The author is describing a process where two distinct components (regulatory oversight and cryptographic transparency) are brought together to create a unified, balanced hybrid system.

Step 3: Define "synthesize" in general terms. It means to combine, merge, or integrate different components into a coherent, unified whole.

Step 4: Test option (A) "Dissects" and option (D) "Isolates". Both mean to separate, which is opposite to the context of forming a hybrid.

Step 5: Test option (B) "Substitutes". This implies replacing one component with another, rather than blending them together.

Step 6: Test option (C) "Integrates". Integration perfectly captures the action of combining distinct systems into a single functional framework. Thus, option (C) is the most appropriate contextual synonym.

**Final Answer:**

**Answer:** (C)

[Go Back to Question 6](#)



Q7.

**Solution****Concept:**

This question tests vocabulary antonym identification. It requires analyzing the contextual meaning of the underlined word in a sentence and selecting the word that carries the diametrically opposite meaning.

**Solution:**

Step 1: Determine the contextual meaning of the underlined word "lucid" from the sentence. The sentence indicates that the explanation allowed even freshmen to easily grasp a complex quantum paradox. This implies "lucid" means clear, easy to understand, transparent, or comprehensible.

Step 2: Since the question asks for an antonym, look for an option that means unclear, confusing, or difficult to understand.

Step 3: Assess option (A) "Obscure". Obscure means vague, unclear, or difficult to perceive and understand. This is the direct opposite of clear and lucid.

Step 4: Assess the remaining options. "Transparent" is a synonym. "Eloquent" means fluent and persuasive in speech, and "Cogent" means clear and convincing. Both align closely with a positive, clear explanation.

Step 5: Conclude that "Obscure" is the correct antonym, making option (A) the right choice.

**Final Answer:**

**Answer:** (A)

[Go Back to Question 7](#)



Q8.

**Solution****Concept:**

This question evaluates idiomatic competency by requiring the selection of a common English phrase that logically and structurally fits the semantic environment of a given narrative context.

**Solution:**

Step 1: Analyze the sentence context. A startup worked secretly on a proprietary algorithm for months and then took an action by launching their beta platform yesterday. This means they revealed their secret or made their hidden project public.

Step 2: Review the definitions of the provided idioms to see which one aligns with revealing a secret.

Step 3: "Burned the midnight oil" means to work late into the night, which fits the work phase but not the public launch event.

Step 4: "Let the cat out of the bag" means to reveal a secret or disclose facts that were previously hidden from public view. This matches the act of launching a secret project.

Step 5: "Hit the nail on the head" means to state something with absolute correctness. "Turned over a new leaf" means to begin anew or improve one's behavior. Neither fits the context.

Step 6: Confirm that option (B) is the most logical fit for the sentence blank.

**Final Answer:**

**Answer: (B)**

[Go Back to Question 8](#)



Q9.

**Solution****Concept:**

This grammar question tests grammatical syntax involving adverbial modifiers and correlative clauses. Specifically, it examines the inversion rule and proper clause pairing associated with negative adverbs like "hardly" and "no sooner".

**Solution:**

Step 1: Analyze the original sentence: "Hardly had the system administrator updated the security patch when the network was hit by a massive DDoS attack."

Step 2: Identify the grammatical structures in play. The sentence begins with the restrictive negative adverb "Hardly". According to standard grammar, when a sentence begins with "Hardly" or "Scarcely", subjective inversion must take place (the auxiliary verb "had" precedes the subject "the system administrator"). This condition is met.

Step 3: Check the subordinating conjunction connecting the two clauses. The adverb "Hardly" must always be paired with the conjunction "when" or "before" to introduce the subsequent event. The original sentence correctly uses "when".

Step 4: Evaluate the options to verify if any change is necessary. Option (A) incorrectly pairs "Hardly" with "than". Option (B) lacks the mandatory subject-verb inversion. Option (C) incorrectly pairs "No sooner" with "when" instead of its proper partner "than".

Step 5: Conclude that the original sentence is fully correct, meaning option (D) is the correct choice.

**Final Answer:**

**Answer: (D)**

[Go Back to Question 9](#)



## Q10.

**Solution****Concept:**

This question falls under the category of one-word substitution, which tests precise vocabulary and the ability to replace a descriptive phrase with a single, highly specialized noun.

**Solution:**

Step 1: Examine the provided phrase: "A person who holds unorthodox, speculative, or independent views, especially in professional or political matters."

Step 2: Evaluate the definitions of each option against this description to find the precise semantic equivalent.

Step 3: Analyze option (A) "Maverick". A maverick is defined specifically as an independent-minded person who refuses to follow standard customs, orthodox rules, or institutional guidelines. This fits the description perfectly.

Step 4: Analyze option (B) "Sycophant". A sycophant is a person who acts obsequiously toward someone important in order to gain an advantage; a flatterer. This does not match.

Step 5: Analyze option (C) "Polyglot". A polyglot is an individual who knows, uses, or is able to speak multiple languages fluently. This is irrelevant.

Step 6: Analyze option (D) "Pedant". A pedant is a person who is excessively concerned with minor details and rules or with displaying academic learning. This represents rigid conformity rather than independent unorthodoxy. Thus, option (A) is correct.

**Final Answer:**

**Answer:** (A)

[Go Back to Question 10](#)



**Answer Key**

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	<b>B</b>	2	<b>A</b>	3	<b>B</b>	4	<b>B</b>	5	<b>C</b>
6	<b>C</b>	7	<b>A</b>	8	<b>B</b>	9	<b>D</b>	10	<b>A</b>

