

# RIE CEE Language Proficiency

## Sample Paper – 2

Duration: 30 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 40

### Instructions

- This paper contains **20** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct Answer), modelled on the **Language Proficiency in English** section of the **RIE CEE** (NCERT Regional Institutes of Education Common Entrance Exam).
- Each correct answer carries **+2 marks**. There is a penalty of **–0.5 mark** for every incorrect answer. Unattempted questions carry **0 marks**.
- Only **one** option is correct. Choose carefully before marking, since wrong answers are penalised.
- The actual exam is a **Computer Based Test (CBT)**; attempt this paper in one timed sitting of 30 minutes.
- Use of mobile phones, calculators, or electronic gadgets is not permitted.

**Q1. Directions (Q.1–Q.4):** Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

*The internet was once celebrated as a great leveller; a space where a student in a small town could reach the same library that a scholar in a famous city used. In many ways that promise has held. Yet the experience of being online has quietly changed. Today a handful of platforms decide what most of us see, and their recommendation systems are tuned not to inform us but to hold our attention for as long as possible. The result is a curious paradox: we have never had access to more information, and we have rarely felt more distracted. Learning to use the internet wisely, therefore, is no longer an optional skill but a basic part of modern literacy.*

Which of the following best expresses the central idea of the passage?



- (A) The internet has completely failed to deliver on its early promise.
- (B) The internet remains powerful, but using it wisely is now an essential skill.
- (C) Recommendation systems are the only reason people feel distracted.
- (D) Students in small towns no longer benefit from being online.

**Q2.** According to the passage, the recommendation systems of major platforms are designed mainly to:

- (A) give every user an identical set of results.
- (B) replace public libraries with private ones.
- (C) hold the user's attention for as long as possible.
- (D) teach modern literacy to small-town students.

**Q3.** In the passage, the phrase “a great leveller” most nearly means something that:

- (A) reduces differences and gives people equal opportunity.
- (B) makes the ground physically flat and even.
- (C) lowers the quality of available information.
- (D) removes all rules from public life.

**Q4.** The tone of the writer towards the internet can best be described as:

- (A) openly hostile and dismissive.
- (B) carelessly enthusiastic.
- (C) indifferent and detached.
- (D) balanced and thoughtfully cautious.

**Q5.** Choose the option that correctly completes the sentence:

By the time the software update finished downloading, the children \_\_\_\_\_ asleep on the sofa.



- (A) have fallen
- (B) are falling
- (C) had fallen
- (D) will fall

**Q6.** Choose the option that correctly fills both blanks:

She bought \_\_\_\_\_ new laptop yesterday, but \_\_\_\_\_ laptop already shows signs of overheating.

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

**Q7.** Choose the correct preposition to complete the sentence:

The technician finally connected the printer \_\_\_\_\_ the office network.

- (A) with
- (B) to
- (C) into
- (D) against

**Q8.** Choose the correct verb form:

Neither the keyboard nor the speakers \_\_\_\_\_ working after the power surge.

- (A) is
- (B) has been
- (C) was
- (D) are



**Q9.** Choose the option that correctly completes the sentence:

Every member of the coding club must bring \_\_\_\_\_ own charger to the workshop.

- (A) their
- (B) his or her
- (C) its
- (D) them

**Q10.** Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error:

(A) The developers have been working / (B) on the new application / (C) since the last three months / (D) without taking a single break.

- (A) Part (A)
- (B) Part (B)
- (C) Part (C)
- (D) Part (D)

**Q11.** Choose the best replacement for the underlined part:

If the server would crash again, the entire payment system will stop responding.

- (A) crashes
- (B) would have crashed
- (C) will crash
- (D) is crashing

**Q12.** Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error:

(A) Hardly had she opened the laptop / (B) when the screen / (C) flickered and / (D) than went completely blank.

- (A) Part (A)
- (B) Part (B)
- (C) Part (C)



(D) Part (D)

**Q13.** Choose the word that is closest in meaning to the word in capitals:

**INTUITIVE**

(A) complicated

(B) instinctive

(C) expensive

(D) delayed

**Q14.** Choose the word that is most nearly OPPOSITE in meaning to the word in capitals:

**OBSOLETE**

(A) current

(B) useless

(C) ancient

(D) broken

**Q15.** Choose the single word for the expression:

“A person who is skilled in repairing and operating computer systems.”

(A) cartographer

(B) linguist

(C) technician

(D) curator

**Q16.** Choose the option that best explains the meaning of the idiom:

The new start-up’s growth went **viral** within a week.

(A) slowed down because of illness

(B) collapsed completely

(C) became dangerous to users



(D) spread very quickly and widely

**Q17.** Choose the word that fits the blank in both grammar and meaning:

The committee asked the engineers to \_\_\_\_\_ the cause of the repeated network failures.

(A) investigate

(B) invest

(C) invent

(D) invade

**Q18.** Choose the word that fits the blank in both grammar and meaning:

Despite the heavy online traffic, the website remained remarkably \_\_\_\_\_ throughout the festival sale.

(A) fragile

(B) idle

(C) stable

(D) hostile

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

(P) before sharing it with anyone else

(Q) we should always check the source of a message

(R) because a single false post

(S) can mislead thousands of readers online

(A) P Q R S

(B) Q P R S

(C) R S Q P

(D) Q R P S

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

(P) that handle most of our daily tasks



- (Q) and yet very few people  
(R) we depend heavily on the apps  
(S) understand how they actually work
- (A) R P Q S  
(B) P R S Q  
(C) Q S R P  
(D) R Q P S



**Detailed Solutions**

Q1.

**Solution**

**Concept — Main idea:** The central idea is the single claim the whole passage supports, not one supporting detail.

**Step 1 — Trace the argument:** The writer admits the internet’s promise “has held” in many ways, so it has not “completely failed”.

**Step 2 — Find the conclusion:** The final sentence says using the internet wisely “is no longer an optional skill but a basic part of modern literacy”.

**Step 3 — Match the option:** Option (B) captures both halves: the internet is still powerful, and wise use is now essential.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) overstates the case; the writer says the promise partly held.
- (C) names only one detail (recommendation systems), not the main idea.
- (D) contradicts the passage, which says the small-town promise “has held”.

**Final Answer:** The internet remains powerful, but wise use is essential ⇒ **B**

**Answer: (B)** [Go Back to Q1](#)

Q2.

**Solution**

**Concept — Locating a detail:** A detail question is answered by the exact wording of the passage.

**Step 1 — Find the sentence:** The passage says recommendation systems “are tuned not to inform us but to hold our attention for as long as possible”.

**Step 2 — Restate it:** Their main purpose is to keep the user engaged, i.e. to hold attention.

**Step 3 — Match:** Option (C) repeats this purpose directly.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) is the opposite; the passage stresses that a few platforms shape, not equalise, what we see.
- (B) is never claimed about replacing libraries.



- (D) confuses the systems' purpose with the writer's closing advice.

**Final Answer:** To hold the user's attention ⇒

**Answer: (C)** [Go Back to Q2](#)

Q3.

### Solution

**Concept — Vocabulary in context:** A figurative phrase must be read for its meaning in the sentence, not its literal sense.

**Step 1 — Read the context:** The phrase explains how a small-town student could reach the same library as a city scholar.

**Step 2 — Interpret:** “Leveller” here means something that makes unequal people equal in opportunity.

**Step 3 — Match:** Option (A), “reduces differences and gives equal opportunity”, fits this sense exactly.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (B) is the literal, physical meaning, wrong for this context.
- (C) reverses the positive sense intended.
- (D) is unrelated to fairness of opportunity.

**Final Answer:** Reduces differences and gives equal opportunity ⇒

**Answer: (A)** [Go Back to Q3](#)

Q4.

### Solution

**Concept — Tone:** Tone is the writer's attitude, judged from word choice and overall stance.

**Step 1 — Note the praise:** The writer credits the internet for keeping much of its promise.

**Step 2 — Note the worry:** The writer also points to distraction and the power of a few platforms.

**Step 3 — Combine:** Praise plus concern, ending in advice, gives a balanced, cautious tone.



**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) “hostile” ignores the genuine praise given.
- (B) “carelessly enthusiastic” ignores the clear warnings.
- (C) “indifferent” is wrong; the writer is clearly engaged with the issue.

**Final Answer:** Balanced and thoughtfully cautious ⇒

**Answer: (D)** [Go Back to Q4](#)

Q5.

**Solution**

**Concept — Past perfect tense:** When two past actions are compared, the earlier one takes the past perfect (had + past participle).

**Step 1 — Spot the time marker:** “By the time ... finished” sets one completed past action.

**Step 2 — Order the events:** The falling asleep happened before the download finished, so it is the earlier past action.

**Step 3 — Apply the rule:** The earlier action needs “had fallen”.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) “have fallen” is present perfect, wrong with a past time frame.
- (B) “are falling” is present continuous, clashing with the past sentence.
- (D) “will fall” is future, impossible here.

**Final Answer:** had fallen ⇒

**Answer: (C)** [Go Back to Q5](#)

Q6.

**Solution**

**Concept — Articles:** “A/an” introduces something for the first time; “the” points back to something already mentioned.

**Step 1 — First blank:** “laptop” is first mentioned and begins with a consonant sound, so it takes “a”.

**Step 2 — Second blank:** The same laptop is referred to again, so it takes the definite article “the”.



**Step 3 — Combine:** The correct pair is “a; the”.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (B) reverses the order of introduction and reference.
- (C) “an” is wrong before the consonant sound of “laptop”.
- (D) repeats “a”, failing to point back to the known laptop.

**Final Answer:** a; the ⇒

**Answer: (A)** [Go Back to Q6](#)

Q7.

### Solution

**Concept — Prepositions with “connect”:** The verb “connect” takes “to” when one thing is joined to another.

**Step 1 — Identify the action:** The printer is being joined to the office network.

**Step 2 — Choose the collocation:** “connect ...to” is the standard usage for linking devices to a network.

**Step 3 — Insert:** “connected the printer to the office network”.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) “with” suits “connect with a person”, not a network device.
- (C) “into” wrongly suggests physical insertion.
- (D) “against” shows opposition, which makes no sense here.

**Final Answer:** to ⇒

**Answer: (B)** [Go Back to Q7](#)

Q8.

### Solution

**Concept — “Neither ... nor” agreement:** The verb agrees with the noun nearer to it (the proximity rule).

**Step 1 — Find the nearer subject:** The noun closest to the verb is “speakers”, which is plural.

**Step 2 — Match number:** A plural subject needs a plural verb.



**Step 3 — Choose:** “are” is the plural form that fits.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) “is” is singular, clashing with plural “speakers”.
- (B) “has been” is singular and shifts the tense unnecessarily.
- (C) “was” is singular past, wrong for the plural nearer subject.

**Final Answer:** are ⇒

[Go Back to Q8](#)

Q9.

### Solution

**Concept — Pronoun with “every”:** “Every” is singular, so it needs a singular possessive pronoun in formal grammar.

**Step 1 — Spot the subject:** “Every member” is grammatically singular.

**Step 2 — Choose the form:** Since the member may be male or female, the correct singular possessive is “his or her”.

**Step 3 — Insert:** “must bring his or her own charger”.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) “their” is plural and clashes with singular “every member” in strict grammar.
- (C) “its” is for things, not a person.
- (D) “them” is an object pronoun, not a possessive.

**Final Answer:** his or her ⇒

[Go Back to Q9](#)



Q10.

**Solution**

**Concept — “Since” vs “for”:** “Since” marks a point of time; a duration of time needs “for”.

**Step 1 — Read part (C):** It says “since the last three months”, which states a length of time, not a starting point.

**Step 2 — Apply the rule:** A length such as “three months” must follow “for”, giving “for the last three months”.

**Step 3 — Locate the error:** The mistake lies in part (C).

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) “have been working” is correct present perfect continuous.
- (B) “on the new application” is a correct phrase.
- (D) “without taking a single break” is grammatically sound.

**Final Answer:** The error is in Part (C) ⇒

**Answer: (C)** [Go Back to Q10](#)

Q11.

**Solution**

**Concept — First conditional:** A likely future condition uses the present simple in the “if” clause and a future verb in the main clause.

**Step 1 — Read the main clause:** It uses “will stop”, showing a real future result.

**Step 2 — Fix the “if” clause:** The “if” clause must use the present simple, so “would crash” becomes “crashes”.

**Step 3 — Check the pattern:** “If the server crashes . . . the system will stop” is the standard first conditional.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (B) “would have crashed” is third conditional, for past unreal events.
- (C) “will crash” wrongly puts a future form in the “if” clause.
- (D) “is crashing” suggests an action happening now, not a condition.

**Final Answer:** crashes ⇒

**Answer: (A)** [Go Back to Q11](#)



Q12.

**Solution**

**Concept — “Hardly ... when”:** The correlative “hardly” is always paired with “when”, never with “than”.

**Step 1 — Spot the structure:** The sentence begins “Hardly had she opened ...”, so it must continue with “when”.

**Step 2 — Check part (D):** It reads “than went completely blank”, using the wrong connector.

**Step 3 — Correct it:** It should read “then went completely blank” to follow the “flickered and ...” clause cleanly; “than” is the error.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) “Hardly had she opened the laptop” is correctly inverted.
- (B) “when the screen” correctly answers “hardly”.
- (C) “flickered and” is grammatically fine.

**Final Answer:** The error is in Part (D) ⇒ **D**

**Answer: (D)** [Go Back to Q12](#)

Q13.

**Solution**

**Concept — Synonym:** A synonym shares the core meaning of the target word.

**Step 1 — Define the word:** “Intuitive” means understood naturally, without conscious reasoning.

**Step 2 — Scan the options:** “Instinctive” also means done from natural feeling rather than thought.

**Step 3 — Match:** “Instinctive” is the closest in meaning.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) “complicated” is nearly the opposite of intuitive.
- (C) “expensive” refers to cost, not understanding.
- (D) “delayed” refers to timing, not natural sense.

**Final Answer:** instinctive ⇒ **B**

**Answer: (B)** [Go Back to Q13](#)



Q14.

**Solution**

**Concept — Antonym:** An antonym carries the opposite meaning of the target word.

**Step 1 — Define the word:** “Obsolete” means out of date or no longer in use.

**Step 2 — Find the opposite:** The opposite of out of date is up to date, that is “current”.

**Step 3 — Match:** “Current” best reverses the meaning of obsolete.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (B) “useless” is close in sense to obsolete, not its opposite.
- (C) “ancient” reinforces the idea of old, so it is a near synonym.
- (D) “broken” describes damage, not being out of date.

**Final Answer:** current ⇒

**Answer: (A)** [Go Back to Q14](#)

Q15.

**Solution**

**Concept — One-word substitution:** A single precise word can replace a whole descriptive phrase.

**Step 1 — Read the definition:** “A person skilled in repairing and operating computer systems.”

**Step 2 — Match the role:** A “technician” is exactly such a skilled person.

**Step 3 — Confirm:** The word fits the definition fully.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) a “cartographer” makes maps.
- (B) a “linguist” studies languages.
- (D) a “curator” looks after a museum or collection.

**Final Answer:** technician ⇒

**Answer: (C)** [Go Back to Q15](#)



Q16.

**Solution**

**Concept — Idiom meaning:** An idiom carries a fixed figurative meaning beyond its words.

**Step 1 — Read the context:** The start-up's growth "went viral within a week".

**Step 2 — Recall the idiom:** To "go viral" means to spread very quickly and widely, especially online.

**Step 3 — Match:** Option (D) states this meaning directly.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) wrongly takes "viral" as literal illness.
- (B) "collapsed" is the opposite of fast growth.
- (C) "dangerous" is not what the idiom means.

**Final Answer:** spread very quickly and widely ⇒

**Answer: (D)** [Go Back to Q16](#)

Q17.

**Solution**

**Concept — Word choice by meaning:** The right word must fit both the grammar and the sense of the sentence.

**Step 1 — Read the sense:** The engineers are asked to find out the cause of repeated failures.

**Step 2 — Match the meaning:** "Investigate" means to examine carefully to find a cause.

**Step 3 — Test the fit:** "investigate the cause" is a natural, correct collocation.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (B) "invest" means to put in money or effort, not to examine.
- (C) "invent" means to create something new.
- (D) "invade" means to enter by force.

**Final Answer:** investigate ⇒

**Answer: (A)** [Go Back to Q17](#)



Q18.

**Solution**

**Concept — Word choice by contrast:** “Despite” signals a contrast, so the missing word must oppose the difficulty named.

**Step 1 — Read the contrast:** “Despite the heavy online traffic” sets up a difficulty.

**Step 2 — Predict the sense:** The website did well in spite of it, so it stayed firm and steady.

**Step 3 — Match:** “Stable” means steady and not likely to fail, fitting the contrast.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) “fragile” means easily broken, the opposite of the intended sense.
- (B) “idle” means not working, which contradicts “heavy traffic”.
- (D) “hostile” means unfriendly, which does not fit a website’s performance.

**Final Answer:** stable  $\Rightarrow$

[Go Back to Q18](#)

Q19.

**Solution**

**Concept — Sentence rearrangement:** Find the opening idea, then follow the logical and grammatical links.

**Step 1 — Find the opener:** (Q) “we should always check the source of a message” states the main advice and begins the sentence.

**Step 2 — Add the timing:** (P) “before sharing it with anyone else” tells when to check, so it follows (Q).

**Step 3 — Give the reason:** (R) “because a single false post” introduces the cause, and (S) “can mislead thousands of readers online” completes it.

**Step 4 — Sequence:** Q  $\rightarrow$  P  $\rightarrow$  R  $\rightarrow$  S.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (A) starts with (P), which is only a time phrase and cannot open the sentence.
- (C) starts with (R) “because”, leaving the reason without its main clause.
- (D) places (R) and (P) in the wrong order, breaking the logic.



**Final Answer:** Q P R S  $\Rightarrow$

**Answer:** (B) [Go Back to Q19](#)

**Q20.**

### Solution

**Concept — Sentence rearrangement:** Identify the subject-verb opener, then attach the relative clause and the contrast.

**Step 1 — Find the opener:** (R) “we depend heavily on the apps” is the main clause and starts the sentence.

**Step 2 — Add the description:** (P) “that handle most of our daily tasks” describes the apps, so it follows (R).

**Step 3 — Add the contrast:** (Q) “and yet very few people” introduces the contrast, and (S) “understand how they actually work” completes it.

**Step 4 — Sequence:** R  $\rightarrow$  P  $\rightarrow$  Q  $\rightarrow$  S.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- (B) puts (R) then (S), separating the verb “depend” from its object detail wrongly.
- (C) starts with (Q) “and yet”, which cannot open a sentence.
- (D) places (Q) before (P), so the describing clause loses its noun “apps”.

**Final Answer:** R P Q S  $\Rightarrow$

**Answer:** (A) [Go Back to Q20](#)



**Answer Key**

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	B	2	C	3	A	4	D	5	C
6	A	7	B	8	D	9	B	10	C
11	A	12	D	13	B	14	A	15	C
16	D	17	A	18	C	19	B	20	A

