

RIE CEE Language Proficiency

Sample Paper – 5

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 Salt March of 1930 is remembered today as one of the boldest acts of the Indian freedom movement. The colonial government taxed every grain of salt that ordinary households needed, and forbade Indians from making it on their own shores. Mahatma Gandhi chose this humble commodity as a symbol because it touched the poorest peasant and the wealthiest landlord alike. Walking nearly three hundred and ninety kilometres to the coastal village of Dandi, he stooped and lifted a fistful of salt-laced mud, openly defying the law. The gesture seemed small, yet it ignited a wave of civil disobedience across the country, proving that quiet, disciplined resistance could shake an empire more deeply than violence ever could.



What is the central idea of the passage?

- (A) The salt tax was the only grievance Indians had against colonial rule.
- (B) A simple, symbolic act of defiance became a powerful force for the freedom struggle.
- (C) Coastal villages were the chief centres of trade in colonial India.
- (D) Gandhi preferred long walks as a method of physical exercise.

Q2. According to the passage, why did Gandhi choose salt as the symbol of his protest?

- (A) Because salt was scarce and expensive to produce.
- (B) Because the coast near Dandi was easy to reach on foot.
- (C) Because it was a basic need that affected rich and poor alike.
- (D) Because salt could be exported for a large profit.

Q3. In the passage, the word “defying” most nearly means:

- (A) openly disobeying
- (B) quietly accepting
- (C) carefully measuring
- (D) politely requesting

Q4. The tone of the passage towards the Salt March can best be described as:

- (A) admiring and respectful
- (B) neutral and statistical
- (C) sorrowful and regretful
- (D) sceptical and dismissive

Q5. Choose the option that correctly completes the sentence:

By the time the Round Table Conference began, the delegates _____ their demands for weeks.



- (A) are discussing
- (B) will discuss
- (C) discuss
- (D) had been discussing

Q6. Fill in the blank with the correct article:

The historian called the Jallianwala Bagh tragedy _____ unforgettable chapter in the nation's memory.

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

Q7. Choose the correct preposition:

The young revolutionaries were deeply committed _____ the cause of complete independence.

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

Q8. Choose the option that makes the sentence grammatically correct:

Neither the speeches nor the petition _____ able to move the stubborn administrators.

- (A) are
- (B) was
- (C) were
- (D) have been



- Q9.** Choose the most suitable conjunction to complete the sentence:
The Quit India movement spread rapidly, _____ many of its leaders had already been imprisoned.
- (A) because
(B) even though
(C) so that
(D) unless
- Q10.** Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error:
(A) The Constituent Assembly / (B) discussed each clause carefully / (C) before they was adopting it / (D) into the final draft.
- (A) before they was adopting it
(B) discussed each clause carefully
(C) The Constituent Assembly
(D) into the final draft
- Q11.** Choose the best replacement for the underlined part:
The freedom fighters were so determined that nothing could not stop them from marching ahead.
- (A) could not stopping them
(B) can not stop them
(C) could stop them
(D) could stops them
- Q12.** Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error:
(A) Many of the volunteers / (B) who joined the struggle / (C) were younger and / (D) more braver than their elders.
- (A) Many of the volunteers
(B) who joined the struggle
(C) were younger and



(D) more braver than their elders

Q13. Choose the word that is most nearly the **SYNONYM** of the word in capitals:

TENACIOUS

- (A) careless
- (B) generous
- (C) persistent
- (D) fearful

Q14. Choose the word that is most nearly the **ANTONYM** of the word in capitals:

SUBJUGATE

- (A) conquer
- (B) dominate
- (C) suppress
- (D) liberate

Q15. Choose the one word for the expression:

“A person who governs a colony or province on behalf of a ruling power.”

- (A) diplomat
- (B) monarch
- (C) viceroy
- (D) rebel

Q16. Choose the meaning of the idiom in the sentence:

When the leaders called for a boycott of foreign cloth, the merchants had to *toe the line*.

- (A) obey the rules laid down
- (B) draw a fresh line



- (C) refuse all instructions
- (D) cross a marked boundary

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

The newspaper played a vital role in _____ the spirit of nationalism among ordinary readers.

- (A) smothering
- (B) kindling
- (C) ignoring
- (D) delaying

Q18. Choose the word that best completes the sentence:

The reformers worked tirelessly to _____ the evil of untouchability from society.

- (A) eradicate
- (B) celebrate
- (C) postpone
- (D) exaggerate

Q19. Arrange the parts P, Q, R, S to form a meaningful sentence:

- (P) that united people across regions and languages
- (Q) the freedom movement was not a single event
- (R) but a long chain of struggles and sacrifices
- (S) into one shared dream of self-rule

- (A) P Q R S
- (B) Q P S R
- (C) R S Q P
- (D) Q R P S

Q20. Arrange the parts P, Q, R, S to form a meaningful sentence:

- (P) were quietly spinning thread on their charkhas



- (Q) in villages far from the cities
(R) countless ordinary women
(S) as their own contribution to the nation

- (A) R Q P S
(B) P S Q R
(C) Q R P S
(D) S P R Q



Detailed Solutions

Q1.

Solution

Concept — Main idea: The central idea is the single thread that holds all sentences of a passage together.

Step 1 — Scan the focus: The passage repeatedly stresses that a “humble commodity” and a “small” gesture became a force that could “shake an empire.”

Step 2 — Match an option: Option (B) captures exactly this idea: a simple, symbolic act became a powerful force for the freedom struggle.

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) The passage never claims salt was the “only” grievance.
- (C) Trade in coastal villages is not the subject at all.
- (D) The walk was a protest, not exercise; this misreads the tone.

Final Answer: A symbolic act of defiance became a powerful force ⇒ **B**

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

Q2.

Solution

Concept — Detail question: The answer must be stated, not guessed, somewhere in the text.

Step 1 — Locate the reason: The passage says salt “touched the poorest peasant and the wealthiest landlord alike.”

Step 2 — Restate it: This is a basic need affecting rich and poor alike, which is option (C).

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) Salt is called “humble,” not scarce or expensive.
- (B) Ease of reaching the coast is not given as the reason for the choice.
- (D) Export profit is never mentioned.

Final Answer: A basic need affecting all classes ⇒ **C**

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



Q3.

Solution

Concept — Vocabulary in context: Read the surrounding words to fix the meaning, not a dictionary alone.

Step 1 — Find the clue: He “openly defying the law” by lifting salt against the rules.

Step 2 — Pick the match: “Defying” here means openly disobeying, option (A).

Why other options are wrong:

- (B) “Quietly accepting” is the opposite of defiance.
- (C) “Carefully measuring” has nothing to do with breaking a law.
- (D) “Politely requesting” contradicts “openly.”

Final Answer: Defying means openly disobeying ⇒

Answer: (A) Go Back to Q3

Q4.

Solution

Concept — Tone: Tone is the writer’s attitude, shown through word choice.

Step 1 — Spot the loaded words: “Boldest acts,” “ignited a wave,” “shake an empire” all praise the march.

Step 2 — Name the attitude: Such praise reflects an admiring and respectful tone, option (A).

Why other options are wrong:

- (B) The language is clearly emotional, not neutral.
- (C) There is pride, not sorrow or regret.
- (D) Nothing is dismissed or doubted.

Final Answer: Admiring and respectful ⇒

Answer: (A) Go Back to Q4



Q5.

Solution

Concept — Past perfect continuous: For an action that continued for a period up to a point in the past, use “had been + verb-ing.”

Step 1 — Read the time marker: “By the time the conference began” fixes a point in the past.

Step 2 — Note the duration: “For weeks” shows an action going on over a stretch of time before that point.

Step 3 — Apply the rule: The continuing past action needs “had been discussing,” option (D).

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) “Are discussing” is present, clashing with the past frame.
- (B) “Will discuss” is future, which is impossible here.
- (C) “Discuss” is simple present and ignores the duration.

Final Answer: had been discussing ⇒

[Go Back to Q5](#)

Q6.

Solution

Concept — Article “a/an”: The choice depends on the sound that follows, not the spelling.

Step 1 — Find the next word: The blank is followed by “unforgettable.”

Step 2 — Check the sound: “Unforgettable” begins with a vowel sound (“uh”), so “an” is required.

Step 3 — Confirm the meaning: It refers to one chapter among many, so an indefinite article fits, giving “an,” option (A).

Why other options are wrong:

- (B) “A” is wrong before a vowel sound.
- (C) “The” would point to a specific, already-known chapter.
- (D) Omitting the article leaves the singular noun bare and ungrammatical.

Final Answer: an ⇒



Answer: (A) Go Back to Q6

Q7.

Solution

Concept — Fixed preposition: The adjective “committed” is followed by the preposition “to.”

Step 1 — Identify the collocation: “Committed to (something)” is the standard pairing.

Step 2 — Place it: “Committed to the cause” reads correctly, option (C).

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) “Committed with” is not standard English.
- (B) “Committed for” is incorrect usage.
- (D) “Committed against” reverses the meaning.

Final Answer: to ⇒ **C**

Answer: (C) Go Back to Q7

Q8.

Solution

Concept — Neither...nor agreement: With “neither...nor,” the verb agrees with the subject nearer to it.

Step 1 — Find the nearer subject: The subject closer to the verb is “the petition,” which is singular.

Step 2 — Match number: A singular subject takes the singular verb “was.”

Step 3 — Select: “Was able to move” is correct, option (B).

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) “Are” is plural and present tense.
- (C) “Were” is plural and disagrees with “petition.”
- (D) “Have been” is plural.

Final Answer: was ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) Go Back to Q8



Q9.

Solution

Concept — Conjunction of contrast: A clause that opposes the main idea needs a contrast word like “even though.”

Step 1 — Read the relation: The movement “spread rapidly” despite its leaders being imprisoned, a clear contrast.

Step 2 — Test the link: “Even though many leaders had been imprisoned” fits the contrast, option (B).

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) “Because” shows cause, which is the wrong relation.
- (C) “So that” shows purpose.
- (D) “Unless” sets a condition that does not fit.

Final Answer: even though ⇒

[Go Back to Q9](#)

Q10.

Solution

Concept — Subject-verb-tense agreement: A plural pronoun cannot take “was,” and “was adopting” is the wrong structure.

Step 1 — Inspect the phrase: “Before they was adopting it” uses “was” with the plural “they.”

Step 2 — State the correction: It should read “before they adopted it,” so this is the part that holds the error; it appears as option (A).

Why other options are wrong:

- (B) “Discussed each clause carefully” is grammatical.
- (C) “The Constituent Assembly” is a correct subject.
- (D) “Into the final draft” is a correct phrase.

Final Answer: The error lies in “before they was adopting it” ⇒

[Go Back to Q10](#)



Q11.

Solution

Concept — Double negative: “Nothing” is already negative, so adding “not” creates a wrong double negative.

Step 1 — Read the clause: “Nothing could not stop them” contains two negatives that cancel the intended meaning.

Step 2 — Correct it: The clause should be “nothing could stop them,” option (C).

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) “Could not stopping” is ungrammatical.
- (B) “Can not” shifts tense and keeps a negative.
- (D) “Could stops” wrongly adds “-s” after a modal.

Final Answer: could stop them ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q11](#)

Q12.

Solution

Concept — Comparative degree: A word already in comparative form (“braver”) must not take “more.”

Step 1 — Inspect part (D): “More braver” is a double comparative.

Step 2 — State the correction: It should be simply “braver than their elders,” so part (D) holds the error.

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) “Many of the volunteers” is correct.
- (B) “Who joined the struggle” is a correct relative clause.
- (C) “Were younger and” is grammatical.

Final Answer: The error lies in part (D) ⇒

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



Q13.

Solution

Concept — Synonym: A synonym carries nearly the same meaning as the given word.

Step 1 — Define the word: “Tenacious” means holding firmly to a purpose and not giving up.

Step 2 — Match it: “Persistent” shares this sense of steady, determined effort, option (C).

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) “Careless” is the opposite of focused.
- (B) “Generous” relates to giving, not persistence.
- (D) “Fearful” has no link to determination.

Final Answer: persistent ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q13](#)

Q14.

Solution

Concept — Antonym: An antonym is a word opposite in meaning.

Step 1 — Define the word: “Subjugate” means to bring under control or domination by force.

Step 2 — Find the opposite: “Liberate,” meaning to set free, is the direct opposite, option (D).

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) “Conquer” is a close synonym, not an antonym.
- (B) “Dominate” means much the same as subjugate.
- (C) “Suppress” is also a synonym.

Final Answer: liberate ⇒

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q14](#)



Q15.

Solution

Concept — One-word substitution: Replace a whole phrase with a single precise word.

Step 1 — Read the definition: “A person who governs a colony or province on behalf of a ruling power.”

Step 2 — Choose the term: A “viceroy” rules a colony in the name of the sovereign, option (C).

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) A “diplomat” negotiates between states, not a ruler.
- (B) A “monarch” rules in his or her own right.
- (D) A “rebel” opposes authority rather than governs for it.

Final Answer: viceroy ⇒

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

Q16.

Solution

Concept — Idiom meaning: An idiom’s sense is figurative, not literal.

Step 1 — Recall the idiom: “To toe the line” means to follow rules or obey instructions.

Step 2 — Fit the context: The merchants “had to toe the line” means they had to obey the rules laid down, option (A).

Why other options are wrong:

- (B) Drawing a fresh line is not the meaning.
- (C) Refusing instructions is the opposite of the idiom.
- (D) Crossing a boundary is the literal misreading.

Final Answer: obey the rules laid down ⇒

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q16](#)



Q17.

Solution

Concept — Word in context: The blank must suit both the grammar and the positive meaning of the sentence.

Step 1 — Read the sense: The newspaper helped to build or awaken nationalism, a positive action.

Step 2 — Test the word: “Kindling the spirit” means lighting or rousing it, fitting perfectly, option (B).

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) “Smothering” means stifling, the opposite sense.
- (C) “Ignoring” contradicts “vital role.”
- (D) “Delaying” does not match building a spirit.

Final Answer: kindling ⇒

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q17](#)

Q18.

Solution

Concept — Collocation and meaning: Choose the verb that naturally pairs with “evil” and fits the reformers’ aim.

Step 1 — Read the goal: The reformers wished to remove untouchability completely.

Step 2 — Select the verb: “Eradicate,” meaning to root out entirely, fits both meaning and tone, option (A).

Why other options are wrong:

- (B) “Celebrate” wrongly praises the evil.
- (C) “Postpone” means to delay, not remove.
- (D) “Exaggerate” means to overstate.

Final Answer: eradicate ⇒

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q18](#)



Q19.

Solution

Concept — Sentence rearrangement: Build a logical, grammatical flow from the opening clause to the closing image.

Step 1 — Find the opener: (Q) “the freedom movement was not a single event” clearly begins the sentence.

Step 2 — Add the contrast: (R) “but a long chain of struggles and sacrifices” completes the “not...but” pair.

Step 3 — Continue the chain: (P) “that united people across regions and languages” describes the chain, then (S) “into one shared dream of self-rule” ends it.

Step 4 — Read the order: Q R P S forms a smooth sentence, option (D).

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) P Q R S puts the modifier before its noun.
- (B) Q P S R breaks the “not...but” pairing.
- (C) R S Q P does not begin sensibly.

Final Answer: Q R P S ⇒ D

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q19](#)

Q20.

Solution

Concept — Sentence rearrangement: Place the setting, subject, action, and purpose in natural order.

Step 1 — Find the opener: (Q) “in villages far from the cities” sets the scene.

Step 2 — Add the subject: (R) “countless ordinary women” is the doer of the action.

Step 3 — Add action and purpose: (P) “were quietly spinning thread on their charkhas” is the verb phrase, and (S) “as their own contribution to the nation” gives the purpose.

Step 4 — Read the order: Q R P S forms a clear sentence, option (C).

Why other options are wrong:



- (A) R Q P S puts the subject before the setting awkwardly.
- (B) P S Q R begins with a verb with no subject.
- (D) S P R Q starts with the purpose and reads backwards.

Final Answer: Q R P S \Rightarrow

Go Back to Q20



Answer Key

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

