

# RIE CEE Language Proficiency

## Sample Paper – 8

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 bronze idols of the Chola period are admired far beyond the temples for which they were first cast. Sculptors of that age did not copy a living model; instead they followed measured proportions handed down through families of craftsmen, so that a single figure could express both stillness and movement at once. The famous dancing Shiva, with one foot lifted and a ring of flame around him, was meant to be carried in procession, glinting under oil lamps. What survives today is not merely metal but a way of seeing the divine that artisans guarded and refined over many generations.*

The passage is mainly about

(A) the chemical process of casting bronze in southern temples



- (B) the artistic tradition and enduring meaning of Chola bronze idols
- (C) why oil lamps were used during temple processions
- (D) the daily lives of craftsmen who lived near temples

**Q2.** According to the passage, the proportions used by the sculptors were

- (A) invented afresh by each new artist
- (B) copied directly from a living dancer
- (C) dictated by visiting temple priests
- (D) passed down through families of craftsmen

**Q3.** In the passage, the word *glinting* is closest in meaning to

- (A) shining with brief flashes of light
- (B) swaying slowly from side to side
- (C) making a soft ringing sound
- (D) growing steadily warmer

**Q4.** The tone of the writer towards the Chola bronzes can best be described as

- (A) indifferent and detached
- (B) doubtful and critical
- (C) appreciative and respectful
- (D) playful and mocking

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

By the time the museum reopened, the curator \_\_\_\_\_ the entire folk-art gallery for nearly a year.

- (A) is restoring
- (B) restores
- (C) had been restoring



(D) will restore

**Q6.** Choose the option with the correct articles to fill the blanks:

She bought \_\_\_\_\_ antique sitar and \_\_\_\_\_ hand-painted scroll from the village fair.

(A) an, a

(B) a, an

(C) the, a

(D) a, the

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

The young vocalist has a remarkable talent \_\_\_\_\_ improvising new ragas on stage.

(A) with

(B) on

(C) of

(D) for

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

Neither the painter nor her apprentices \_\_\_\_\_ satisfied with the faded mural.

(A) was

(B) were

(C) is

(D) has been

**Q9.** Choose the correct pronoun to complete the sentence:

The two folk singers divided the prize money equally between \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) themselves

(B) theirselves



- (C) them
- (D) itself

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

(A) The dancers practised / (B) for many hours / (C) so that they could performed / (D) flawlessly at the festival.

- (A) The dancers practised
- (B) for many hours
- (C) so that they could performed
- (D) flawlessly at the festival

**Q11.** Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error:

(A) Each of the murals / (B) were restored carefully / (C) by skilled artists / (D) over several months.

- (A) Each of the murals
- (B) were restored carefully
- (C) by skilled artists
- (D) over several months

**Q12.** Choose the best replacement for the underlined part:

The veteran potter, who hands was trembling, still shaped the clay with great skill.

- (A) was trembling
- (B) are trembling
- (C) has trembled
- (D) were trembling

**Q13.** Choose the word that is the SYNONYM of **INTRICATE**:

- (A) elaborate



- (B) plain
- (C) hollow
- (D) careless

**Q14.** Choose the word that is the ANTONYM of **ORNATE**:

- (A) decorated
- (B) lavish
- (C) austere
- (D) colourful

**Q15.** Choose the ONE word for the expression: *a person who collects and studies old objects of artistic value.*

- (A) philatelist
- (B) antiquarian
- (C) cartographer
- (D) linguist

**Q16.** Choose the correct meaning of the idiom: *to face the music.*

- (A) to enjoy a live concert
- (B) to learn a new instrument
- (C) to celebrate a success loudly
- (D) to accept the consequences of one's actions

**Q17.** Choose the word that best fills the blank:

The weavers were praised for the \_\_\_\_\_ patterns they created without any printed design.

- (A) monotonous
- (B) exquisite
- (C) shabby



(D) temporary

**Q18.** Choose the word that best fills the blank:

The folk troupe managed to \_\_\_\_\_ the old ballad that had almost been forgotten.

(A) revive

(B) abandon

(C) conceal

(D) postpone

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

P: a thin layer of gold leaf

Q: before the lamps were lit

R: the artisans carefully applied

S: over the wooden frame of the shrine

(A) Q R P S

(B) P S R Q

(C) R P S Q

(D) S P R Q

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

P: have been preserved for centuries

Q: the cave paintings at Ajanta

R: in the dim halls cut into rock

S: with their soft natural colours

(A) R S Q P

(B) Q P R S

(C) P Q S R

(D) Q S P R



**Detailed Solutions**

Q1.

**Solution**

**Concept — Main idea:** The main idea is the central point that holds the whole passage together, not a single supporting detail.

**Step 1 — Scan the focus:** Every sentence returns to the Chola bronze idols, their craftsmanship, and the meaning they carry across generations.

**Step 2 — Match an option:** “the artistic tradition and enduring meaning of Chola bronze idols” covers both the making and the lasting significance, so it states the central point.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- The chemistry of casting is never explained; it is only implied.
- Oil lamps appear in one phrase only, as a detail, not the theme.
- The daily lives of craftsmen are not described at all.

**Final Answer:** The passage centres on the tradition and meaning of the idols ⇒

[Go Back to Q1](#)

Q2.

**Solution**

**Concept — Locating a detail:** A detail question is answered by finding the exact line in the text, not by guessing.

**Step 1 — Find the line:** The passage says the sculptors “followed measured proportions handed down through families of craftsmen.”

**Step 2 — Restate it:** “Handed down through families” directly matches “passed down through families of craftsmen.”

**Why other options are wrong:**

- The text says they did NOT invent afresh or copy a living model.
- Copying a living dancer is explicitly denied (“did not copy a living model”).
- Priests are never mentioned as a source of the proportions.

**Final Answer:** The proportions were passed down through families ⇒



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

Q3.

### Solution

**Concept — Vocabulary in context:** The meaning of a word is fixed by the sentence around it, not by a dictionary list alone.

**Step 1 — Read the clue:** The idol is “glinting under oil lamps,” so light is falling on polished metal.

**Step 2 — Choose the sense:** Metal under flickering lamps gives off short flashes of light, which is exactly “shining with brief flashes of light.”

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Swaying refers to motion, not light.
- A ringing sound describes hearing, not the visual “glint.”
- Growing warmer describes heat, not the look of the surface.

**Final Answer:** “Glinting” means shining with brief flashes ⇒ **A**

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

Q4.

### Solution

**Concept — Tone:** Tone is the writer’s attitude, judged from the adjectives and overall feeling of the passage.

**Step 1 — Note the wording:** Words like “admired,” “famous,” “guarded and refined” show warmth and high regard.

**Step 2 — Name the attitude:** Warmth plus high regard gives an “appreciative and respectful” tone.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Indifference is ruled out by the clear admiration.
- There is no doubt or criticism of the idols anywhere.
- Nothing in the passage is playful or mocking.

**Final Answer:** The tone is appreciative and respectful ⇒ **C**

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



Q5.

**Solution**

**Concept — Past perfect continuous:** An action that went on for a stretch of time up to a point in the past uses “had been + verb-ing.”

**Step 1 — Find the time marker:** “for nearly a year” shows a continuing action measured up to the moment the museum reopened.

**Step 2 — Match the form:** The duration before a past point needs the past perfect continuous, “had been restoring.”

**Why other options are wrong:**

- “Is restoring” is present, not past.
- “Restores” is simple present and ignores the duration.
- “Will restore” points to the future, which clashes with “reopened.”

**Final Answer:** The correct form is “had been restoring” ⇒

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

Q6.

**Solution**

**Concept — “a” vs “an”:** The choice depends on the sound that begins the next word, not on the spelling.

**Step 1 — First blank:** “antique” begins with a vowel sound, so it takes “an” (an antique sitar).

**Step 2 — Second blank:** “hand-painted” begins with the consonant sound /h/, so it takes “a” (a hand-painted scroll).

**Why other options are wrong:**

- “a, an” reverses the correct order of the two articles.
- “the” is definite, but both items are introduced for the first time.
- “a, the” wrongly makes the scroll specific and the sitar consonant-led.

**Final Answer:** The correct pair is “an, a” ⇒

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



Q7.

**Solution**

**Concept — Fixed preposition:** Certain nouns pair with a fixed preposition; “talent” is followed by “for.”

**Step 1 — Recall the collocation:** We say “a talent for” something (a talent for music, a talent for improvising).

**Step 2 — Apply it:** “a remarkable talent for improvising new ragas” is the standard, natural phrasing.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- “talent with” is not the accepted noun pairing here.
- “talent on” is not used in standard English.
- “talent of” is incorrect before a gerund like “improvising.”

**Final Answer:** The correct preposition is “for” ⇒

[Go Back to Q7](#)

Q8.

**Solution**

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

**Step 1 — Find the nearer subject:** The part closer to the verb is “her apprentices,” which is plural.

**Step 2 — Match the verb:** A plural nearer subject needs the plural verb “were.”

**Why other options are wrong:**

- “was” is singular and clashes with the plural “apprentices.”
- “is” is singular and present, doubly wrong.
- “has been” is singular and does not agree with “apprentices.”

**Final Answer:** The verb must be “were” ⇒

[Go Back to Q8](#)



Q9.

**Solution**

**Concept — Reflexive pronoun:** When the subject and object refer to the same people, a reflexive pronoun is used.

**Step 1 — Identify the doers:** “The two folk singers” both perform and receive the action of dividing.

**Step 2 — Choose the form:** The correct plural reflexive is “themselves.”

**Why other options are wrong:**

- “theirselves” is not a standard English word.
- “them” is a plain object pronoun and does not reflect back to the subject.
- “itself” is singular and used for things, not two people.

**Final Answer:** The correct pronoun is “themselves” ⇒

**Answer: (A)** [Go Back to Q9](#)

Q10.

**Solution**

**Concept — Modal + base verb:** A modal verb such as “could” is always followed by the base form of the main verb.

**Step 1 — Spot the modal:** Part (C) has “could performed,” placing a past form after the modal.

**Step 2 — Correct it:** It should read “could perform,” so part (C) holds the error.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- “The dancers practised” is a correct simple past clause.
- “for many hours” is a correct time phrase.
- “flawlessly at the festival” is a correct adverbial phrase.

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

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



Q11.

**Solution**

**Concept — “Each of” is singular:** The subject “each of the murals” is grammatically singular and takes a singular verb.

**Step 1 — Find the verb:** Part (B) uses “were restored,” a plural verb.

**Step 2 — Correct it:** It should be “was restored,” so part (B) carries the error.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- “Each of the murals” is the correct singular subject phrase.
- “by skilled artists” is a correct passive agent phrase.
- “over several months” is a correct time phrase.

**Final Answer:** The error is in part (B) ⇒ **B**

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

Q12.

**Solution**

**Concept — Subject of the relative clause:** The verb inside “whose/who hands...” must agree with “hands,” which is plural.

**Step 1 — Identify the subject:** The clause refers to the potter’s “hands,” a plural noun.

**Step 2 — Match the verb:** A plural subject in the past tense needs “were trembling.”

**Why other options are wrong:**

- “was trembling” is singular and does not agree with “hands.”
- “are trembling” is present tense and breaks the past-tense sentence.
- “has trembled” is singular and changes the continuous meaning.

**Final Answer:** The correct phrase is “were trembling” ⇒ **D**

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



Q13.

**Solution**

**Concept — Synonym:** A synonym is a word with nearly the same meaning. “Intricate” means having many small, complex parts.

**Step 1 — Define the word:** “Intricate” describes something detailed and finely worked, like a carved screen.

**Step 2 — Pick the closest:** “Elaborate” also means detailed and complex, so it is the synonym.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- “Plain” means simple, the opposite of intricate.
- “Hollow” means empty inside and is unrelated.
- “Careless” refers to lack of attention, not detail.

**Final Answer:** The synonym of INTRICATE is “elaborate” ⇒

[Go Back to Q13](#)

Q14.

**Solution**

**Concept — Antonym:** An antonym is a word of opposite meaning. “Ornate” means heavily decorated.

**Step 1 — Define the word:** “Ornate” describes a richly, elaborately decorated surface or style.

**Step 2 — Pick the opposite:** “Austere” means plain and severe, the clear opposite of ornate.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- “Decorated” is a near-synonym, not an antonym.
- “Lavish” means richly abundant, similar to ornate.
- “Colourful” supports, rather than opposes, “ornate.”

**Final Answer:** The antonym of ORNATE is “austere” ⇒

[Go Back to Q14](#)



Q15.

**Solution**

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

**Step 1 — Read the clue:** The phrase is “a person who collects and studies old objects of artistic value.”

**Step 2 — Match the word:** An “antiquarian” is exactly such a collector and student of antiquities.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- A “philatelist” collects postage stamps only.
- A “cartographer” draws maps.
- A “linguist” studies languages.

**Final Answer:** The word is “antiquarian” ⇒ **B**

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

Q16.

**Solution**

**Concept — Idiom:** An idiom carries a figurative meaning that differs from the literal words.

**Step 1 — Read the idiom:** “To face the music” literally mentions music but is used figuratively.

**Step 2 — Give the meaning:** It means to accept and deal with the unpleasant results of one’s own actions.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Enjoying a concert is a literal, not idiomatic, reading.
- Learning an instrument has nothing to do with the idiom.
- Celebrating a success is the opposite of facing consequences.

**Final Answer:** It means to accept the consequences of one’s actions ⇒ **D**

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



Q17.

**Solution**

**Concept — Word that fits sense and grammar:** The chosen word must match both the praise in the sentence and its positive context.

**Step 1 — Read the cue:** The weavers were “praised,” so the patterns must be admirable.

**Step 2 — Pick the fit:** “Exquisite” means extremely beautiful and finely made, fitting praise perfectly.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- “Monotonous” means dull, which would not earn praise.
- “Shabby” means worn and poor in quality, a negative word.
- “Temporary” describes duration, not quality, and does not suit praise.

**Final Answer:** The best word is “exquisite” ⇒

[Go Back to Q17](#)

Q18.

**Solution**

**Concept — Meaning from context:** The blank verb must agree with the idea of bringing back something nearly lost.

**Step 1 — Read the cue:** The ballad “had almost been forgotten,” so the troupe must bring it back to life.

**Step 2 — Pick the fit:** “Revive” means to bring back into use or memory, which suits the cue.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- “Abandon” means to give up, the opposite of saving it.
- “Conceal” means to hide, not to bring back.
- “Postpone” means to delay, which does not match “forgotten.”

**Final Answer:** The best word is “revive” ⇒

[Go Back to Q18](#)



Q19.

**Solution**

**Concept — Sentence rearrangement:** Find the subject and verb first, then attach the objects and clauses in logical order.

**Step 1 — Subject and verb:** “R: the artisans carefully applied” gives the doer and the action and must come first.

**Step 2 — Object and place:** “P: a thin layer of gold leaf” is what they applied; “S: over the wooden frame of the shrine” tells where; “Q: before the lamps were lit” tells when. So the order is R, P, S, Q.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Q R P S starts with a time clause and splits the verb from its object.
- P S R Q begins with the object before the subject and verb.
- S P R Q opens with the place phrase, leaving the verb stranded.

**Final Answer:** The correct order is R P S Q ⇒

[Go Back to Q19](#)

Q20.

**Solution**

**Concept — Sentence rearrangement:** Build the sentence around the main subject, then add its description, verb, and place.

**Step 1 — Subject and description:** “Q: the cave paintings at Ajanta” is the subject; “S: with their soft natural colours” describes it and follows it.

**Step 2 — Verb and place:** “P: have been preserved for centuries” is the verb phrase; “R: in the dim halls cut into rock” tells where. So the order is Q, S, P, R.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- R S Q P opens with a place phrase before the subject.
- Q P R S separates the description “S” from its noun “Q.”
- P Q S R begins with the verb before the subject.

**Final Answer:** The correct order is Q S P R ⇒

[Go Back to Q20](#)



**Answer Key**

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

