

Day - 4

Module - 4

**Test of
English Language
(Objective)**

Descriptive

Self-Learning Material

Test of

English Language

This test intends to measure your proficiency in English language. It will be tested through questions/items on reading comprehension, functional grammar, context based vocabulary etc.

The different types of questions which are used in this test can be classified as:

- (A) Reading Comprehension (I)
- (B) Spotting the Error
- (C) Sentence Correction
- (D) Sentence Completion
- (E) Reading Comprehension (II)
- (F) Rearrangement of Sentences
- (G) Suppressed words Passage

Each of the above measures one or more areas of language abilities.

(A) Reading Comprehension (I)

Questions on reading comprehension measure the ability to understand, analyse and apply information and concepts presented in the written form. All questions are to be answered on the basis of what is stated or implied in the given passage.

Guidelines for answering the Reading Comprehension Questions.

Each of the above measures one or more areas of language abilities.

(A) Reading Comprehension (I)

Questions on reading comprehension measure the ability to understand, analyse and apply information and concepts presented in the written form. All questions are to be answered on the basis of what is stated or implied in the given passage.

Guidelines for answering the Reading Comprehension Questions.

Given below are some guidelines, which would be of use to you in answering satisfactorily the questions set on the passage.

1. Answer all questions based on what is stated or implied in the passage itself. Even when you do not agree with what the author of the passage is saying, do not let your opinions or knowledge and information influence your judgement of what the author is saying.
2. Read the questions carefully, making sure that you understand what is being asked. If need be refer back to the passage for finding the answer.
3. Read all the alternatives carefully. Without first reading all the alternatives, do not assume that you have selected the best answer.
4. Remember that understanding is the critical factor in reading comprehension.

Qs (1- 11) Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words in the passage are given in bold to help you locate them easily while answering some of the questions.

One great advantage, which I enjoyed in my younger days, was the literary and artistic atmosphere which pervaded our house. I remember how, when I was quite a child, I would be leaning against the verandah railings, which overlooked the detached building comprising the reception rooms. These rooms would be lighted up every evening. In our boyhood, we beheld the dying rays of that intimate sociability which was characteristic of the last generation. Neighbourly feelings were then so strong that the informal gatherings were a necessity, and those who could contribute to its amenities were in great request. The more I think of that period the more I realise that we have no longer the thing known as an informal uninvited gathering. People nowadays call on each other on business, or as a matter of social duty, but not to foregather by way of informal gatherings. They have neither the time, nor are there the same intimate relations! What goings and comings we used to see, how merry were the rooms and verandahs with the hum of conversation and the **snatches of** laughter! The faculty our predecessors had of becoming the centre of groups and gatherings, of starting and keeping up animated and amusing gossip, has vanished. Men still come and go, but those same verandahs and rooms seem empty and **deserted**.

In those days, everything from furniture to festivity was **designed** to be enjoyed by the many, so that whatever of pomp or magnificence there might have been did not smell of superiority. These add-ons have since increased in quantity, but they have become unfeeling, and know not the art of making high and low alike feel at home. The bare-bodied, the indigently clad, no longer have the right to use and occupy them, without a permit, on the strength of their smiling faces alone. Those whom we nowadays seek to imitate in our house-building and furnishing, they have their own society, with its wide hospitality. The mischief with us is that we have lost what we had, but have not the means of building up afresh on the European standard, with the result

permit, on the strength of their smiling faces alone. Those whom we nowadays seek to imitate in our house-building and furnishing, they have their own society, with its wide hospitality. The mischief with us is that we have lost what we had, but have not the means of building up afresh on the European standard, with the result that our home-life has become joyless. We still meet for business or political purposes, but never for the pleasure of simply meeting one another. We have ceased to contrive opportunities to bring men together simply because we love our fellow-men. I can imagine nothing more ugly than this social miserliness; and, when I look back on those whose ringing laughter, coming straight from their hearts, used to lighten for us the burden of household cares, they seem to have been visitors from some other world.

Qs.1 Why does the author feel that the rooms and verandahs have lost their charm?

- 1) The rooms and verandahs have grown too small to accommodate people
- 2) They have been crowded by gatherings of gossiping people
- 3) **The conversational quality which our predecessors possessed has now vanished**
- 4) Unlike in the past, there are no facilities for arranging meetings
- 5) People do not spend on adorning these artistically

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Explanation: In the above question, **answer no.3 is the correct answer.** The author has expressed his feeling that the rooms and verandahs have lost their charm - not because they are deserted, but because the intimate relations among the people are now lacking. People still meet each other but only for a business talk or just as a social duty. The intimacy is lost. Thus, the right answer to the above question is "3" which is implied in the contents of the passage.

Qs. 2. How is the meeting of people of the present generation different from the meeting of the people of the past?

- 1) It is much easier to interact thanks to technology
- 2) Neighbourly feelings have now been strengthened
- 3) Informal gossiping is not considered ethical these days
- 4) **People now do not have close-knit relations among themselves**
- 5) People now-a-days involve themselves more in unhealthy gossips

Qs. 3. Which of the following is 'social miserliness' according to the author?

- 1) Diminishing intimate sociability
- 2) Increasing social inequality
- 3) Mass Starvation
- 4) We do not wish to incur expenditure merely to get people together
- 5) Successful imitation of the European standard

Qs.4. According to the passage, people who do which of the following would seem like visitors from some other world?

- 1) Eradication of poverty and establishing social equality
- 2) Maintaining formal European social customs even in informal meetings
- 3) Reducing the burden of household cares by extending monetary assistance
- 4) Enhancing business opportunities with European countries
- 5) **None of the given options**

5) None of the given options

Qs.5.The approach of the author of this passage seems to be _____

- 1) extremely critical about our indifference towards the past generation
- 2) emphatic about the need for informal social interaction
- 3) cynical about our blindly imitating the Western style
- 4) pessimistic about our business and political avenues
- 5) too conservative to allow for any social evolution

Qs 6. Which of the following statements is definitely **TRUE** in the context of the passage?

- 1) Poor people in the past generation did not have the right to enjoy anything without permission
- 2) We have ceased to bring people together solely for the pleasure of meeting them
- 3) Dying rays of intimate sociability was the characteristic of the last generation
- 4) The gap between different strata of the present society is diminishing
- 5) Our meetings with other people at present have been for the purpose of fostering intimacy

Qs.7 Why, according to the author, has our home life become joyless?

- 1) We have lost the means of building up houses on European standards

Qs.7 Why, according to the author, has our home life become joyless?

- 1) We have lost the means of building up houses on European standards
- 2) Complete imitation of the West is not possible owing to different climatic conditions
- 3) While we have lost interpersonal intimacy and sociability, we do not have the means to build up afresh on European standards.
- 4) Most people cannot live up to the current standard of living and are half-starved
- 5) None of the given options

In addition to such questions, which are based on the content of the passage, some vocabulary questions (synonyms and antonyms) are also asked.

Qs.8. Which of the following words is most nearly the SAME in meaning as the word "snatches" as used in the context of the passage?

- 1) steals
- 2) outbursts
- 3) joys
- 4) tips
- 5) influence

Explanation: Many words when read in isolation have different shades of meaning. But when such a word is used in the passage, it conveys a particular meaning. You have to identify that unique meaning of the word which is implied in the context of the passage. The word "snatches" as used in the passage refers to "outbursts" Therefore the right answer in the context of the passage is "2".

Qs.9 .Which of the following words is most nearly the SAME in meaning as the word "designed" as used in the context of the passage?

- 1) intended
- 2) painted
- 3) deliberated
- 4) stretched

refers to "outbursts" Therefore the right answer in the context of the passage is "2".

Qs.9 .Which of the following words is most nearly the **SAME** in meaning as the word "**designed**" as used in the context of the passage?

- 1) intended
- 2) painted
- 3) deliberated
- 4) stretched
- 5) manipulated

Qs 10. Which of the following words is most **OPPOSITE** of the word "**deserted**" as used in the context of the passage?

- 1) abandoned
- 2) desolate
- 3) forsaken
- 4) empty
- 5) inhabited

Qs. 11. Which of the following words is most nearly the **OPPOSITE** in meaning of the word "**ceased**" as used in the passage.

- 1) stopped
- 2) deceased
- 3) created

- 4) continued
- 5) maximised

(B) Spotting the Error

Candidate's familiarity with the conventions and grammatical rules of standard written English is tested in this type of questions. Emphasis here will be on assessing knowledge of correct expression.

Qs (12-17) Each question in this section has been divided into four parts and each part is numbered as (1), (2), (3), (4) & (5). You have to decide whether there is any error in the sentence and find out if there is any grammatical error, the error if any will be in one part of the sentence, the number of that part is the answer. If the sentence is correct, your answer is "5" i.e. "No error".

Q.12 I was just going/ to start my car/ when I found that/ there is no petrol in it. No error
(1) (2) (3) (4) (5)

The tense in the fourth part of the sentence does not agree with the tense in the other three parts of the sentence. Hence, the error is in part No. 4. Therefore "4" is the answer to this question.

Q.13. Both alternatives/ have their merits/ and demerits when/ it comes to implementation. No error
(1) (2) (3) (4) (5)

Q. 14. The patient admitted yesterday/ did not responded/ to the treatment prescribed/
(1) (2) (3)
by the doctor.
(4) (5)
No error

Q. 15. The discourse reflects the speaker's insight/ in the subject/ and the speaker's

11) by the doctor. (4) 12) No error (5)

Q. 15. The discourse reflects the speaker's insight/ in the subject/ which stems out from/
(1) (2) (3)
the experience and original thinking. (4) (5) No error

Q. 16 The young boy, who was travelling alone/ was looking around guilty/ so the ticket checker asked him/
(1) (2) (3)
where you are going? (4) (5) No error

Q. 17 The old woman has had/ the best medical facilities available/ but she will not be cured/
(1) (2) (3)
unless she does not have strong desire to live. (4) (5) No error

(C) Sentence Correction

Qs (18-19) In this question, a word is given in bold followed by three sentences (A), (B) and (C) in which the said word has been used. Read the given sentences carefully and decide in which of the given sentences the word/form of the word given in bold has been correctly used making the sentence grammatically correct and meaningful.

Q. 18 Borne:

- (A) The Student's fee shall be borne by the School
- (B) She has borne all her problems with great courage
- (C) She was borne and raised in small town

- 1) Only A is correct
- 2) Only B is correct
- 3) Only C is Correct
- 4) Only (A) and (B) are correct
- 5) All A,B and C are Correct

Q.19 Affect:

- (A) The town was affected by the natural disaster.
- (B) The accident has severely affected his health
- (C) The medicine has no side affect.

- 1) Only A is correct
- 2) Only B is correct
- 3) Only C is Correct
- 4) Only (A) and (B) are correct

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(D) Sentence Completion

Q. 20-27. This type of question measure your ability to recognise words and phrases that both logically and grammatically complete the meaning of the sentence. A sentence is given with a word/phrase missing in it. The missing word will be indicated by a blank. You have to read the sentence and choose the word for the blank which best fits in the blank to make the sentences meaningfully complete and mark the correct options accordingly as your answer.

Q.20 The patient died _____ the correct diagnosis.

- 1) despite
- 2) besides
- 3) in place of
- 4) instead of
- 5) due to

Q.21 The older generation is _____ in its outlook and hence cannot tolerate independent ideas of the youngsters.

- 1) liberal
- 2) paradox
- 3) orthodox
- 4) progressive
- 5) restricted

Q.22 The President will be provided _____ all the facilities he is entitled to.

- 1) by
- 2) for
- 3) with
- 4) of
- 5) to

Q.23 In _____ of the recommendations the Board has established a counter to entertain the complaints from consumers.

- 1) adherence
- 2) pursuance
- 3) accordance
- 4) relevance
- 5) relation

Q.24 It is delightful to do something that _____ skill and patience.

- 1) defy
- 2) despises
- 3) apply
- 4) demands
- 5) invite

Q.25 If this interpretation is held valid, then the States are _____ of power to plan, implement and monitor

- 4) demands
- 5) invite

Q.25 If this interpretation is held valid, then the States are _____ of power to plan, implement and monitor the schemes.

- 1) absolve
- 2) awarded
- 3) delegated
- 4) invested
- 5) divested

Q.26 The child could not extend her elbow after the injury; in addition, the injury _____ her ability to write.

- 1) postponed
- 2) mollified
- 3) pacified
- 4) placated
- 5) hindered

Q.27 After working into the night at the office, he felt extremely _____; however, he still attended the wedding ceremony of his friend the next morning.

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Q.27 After working into the night at the office, he felt extremely _____; however, he still attended the wedding ceremony of his friend the next morning.

- 1) tiresome
- 2) weary
- 3) controversial
- 4) energetic
- 5) vigorous

Q.(28- 30) The sentences have two blanks, each blank indicates that something has been omitted. Choose the set of words for the blanks, which best fits, the meaning of the sentence as a whole.

Q.28. Although the whole family arrived together, the elderly uncle was in _____ clothes, while his businessman son wore an ornate, almost ----- suit.

- 1) impressive; complete
- 2) decrepit; flashy
- 3) desirable ; plain
- 4) dazzling; translucent
- 5) attractive : diminutive

Q.29. The _____ gave such a patriotic speech that the soldiers seemed moved to _____.

- 1) orator ; elation
- 2) miscreant ; duress
- 3) interloper ; passivity
- 4) politician; ordeal
- 5) student ;teary

- 3) interloper ; passivity
- 4) politician; ordeal
- 5) student ;teary

Q.30. _____ its many difficult and mature themes, *Geetanjali* remains a _____ choice for introducing teenagers to Rabindra Nath Tagore.

- 1) Despite ; popular
- 2) Considering; naturally
- 3) Whereas ; spurned
- 4) Inspite of ; insignificant
- 5) Although ; undesirable

(E) Reading Comprehension (II)

Q. (31-37) Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it in the context of the passage. Certain words in the passage are in bold to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

In this age, when the popular involvement of **Governmental** influence in day-to-day matters is mounting, it is the electronic systems that offer us a potential service infrastructure which could, with careful programming, take care of what we describe as mechanical, procedural governance without all the distortions, corruptions

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and harassments which constitute the daily **misery** of the average citizen. Of course, the electronic systems will only behave to the **extent** that they are properly programmed.

Once we move our minds beyond the mere use of the electronic revolution for business efficiency and higher profitability and apply it to the task of reducing the routine, repetitive activities of governance, we will conserve time and energy for more important and creative tasks. The electronic revolution can make for better and more effective handling of real everyday problems, besides the basic computerized information banks. Even in less developed conditions, the potential of the electronic network to take over what is called "paper work" has been **vividly** demonstrated. Licensing system involving endless form filling in endless copies; tax matters which baffle millions of citizens, particularly those who have nothing to hide; election systems which require massive supervisory mobilisations or referendums based on minuscule "samples" which seldom reflect the social reality at the social base. At all these points, the electronic advantage is seen and recognized. However, we must proceed further.

It is possible to foresee a situation where the citizen, with his personalized computer entry card or his "number", is able to enter the electronic network for a variety of needs now serviced by regiments of officials. Indeed, this is already happening in a number of countries. From simple needs, we will move to more complex servicing, and, ultimately, into creativity or what is called "artificial intelligence" which will guide citizens through all possible options to facilitate informed choices.

Q 31. According to the passage, which of the following is the basic service provided by electronic systems?

- 1) Taking care of routine preventive governance
- 2) Confidentiality of data
- 3) Surveillance of citizens
- 4) Safeguarding of financial transactions
- 5) None of the given options

Q32. Which of the following is/are the distinct features of artificial intelligence as mentioned in the passage?

- 4) Safeguarding of financial transactions
- 5) None of the given options

Q32. Which of the following is/are the distinct features of artificial intelligence as mentioned in the passage?

- A. Ability to create innovative ideas
- B. Ability to maintain social order
- C. Inbuilt bias on account of human programming

- 1) Only (A)
- 2) Only (A) & (B)
- 3) Only (B)
- 4) Only (C)
- 5) All (A), (B) & (C)

Q.33. What is the limitation of the electronic systems according to the passage?

- 1) It is a very costly technology
- 2) It needs an army trained professionals to operate
- 3) It will act only as programmed
- 4) It is easily susceptible to manipulation and error
- 5) Maintenance of this system is a human intensive

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Q.34. Which of the following statements is NOT TRUE in the context of the passage?

- 1) Electronic systems require proper programming
- 2) Electronic systems can reduce routine paperwork
- 3) Efficiency of the electronic system has been demonstrated in many areas
- 4) **In future computers are going to replace bureaucratic functions**
- 5) One of the reasons procedural governance is torturous to people is because of corruption

Q.35 Which of the following words is most nearly the same in meaning as the word “misery” as used in the passage.

- 1) Disaster
- 2) Agony
- 3) Poverty
- 4) Temperament
- 5) Evil

Q.36 Which of the following words is most nearly the same in meaning as the word “extent” as used in the passage.

- 1) Increase
- 2) Feasibility
- 3) Encompass
- 4) Degree
- 5) Expanse

Q.37 Which of the following words is most OPPOSITE of the word “vividly” as used in the context of the passage?

- 1) Colourfully
- 2) Strikingly
- 3) Plainly

2) **Feasibility**

- 3) Encompass
- 4) Degree
- 5) Expanse

Q.37 Which of the following words is most **OPPOSITE** of the word “vividly” as used in the context of the passage?

- 1) Colourfully
- 2) Strikingly
- 3) Plainly
- 4) Graphically
- 5) Vaguely

(F) Rearrangement of Sentences:

Q.38-42. Another set of questions, by which the ability to understand what is read to extract information and to arrange the string of thoughts in logical order is assessed, is discussed below. These questions test your ability to organise your thoughts and ideas in a suitable sequence.

Given below are five statements A, B, C, D and E which when arranged in the correct order, form a coherent and meaningful paragraph. Rearrange the other statements in a proper sequence to form a meaningful paragraph, and then answer the questions that follows

- (A) Therefore a large scale affordable construction programme has to be launched.
- (B) Construction has not kept pace with it and the shortage of accommodation has been accentuated.
- (C) However high cost of materials and labour makes housing an unprofitable proposition.
- (D) The census figures show that the population of our cities has increased immensely in the recent years.
- (E) This shortage must be overcome in a reasonably short time.

Q.38. Which of the following should be the First sentence?

(1) A (2) B (3) C (4) D (5) E

Q.39. Which of the following should be the Second sentence?

(1) A (2) B (3) C (4) D (5) E

Q.40. Which of the following should be the Third sentence?

(1) A (2) B (3) C (4) D (5) E

Q.41. Which of the following should be the Fourth sentence?

(1) A (2) B (3) C (4) D (5) E

Q.42. Which of the following should be the Fifth sentence?

(1) A (2) B (3) C (4) D (5) E

(G) Suppressed words Passage:

Q.43-50. Instructions: In the given passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are given below the passage and against each, five words are suggested, one of which fills the blank appropriately in the context of the whole passage. Find out the appropriate words.

Organizational change (43) often run into some form of human resistance. (44) experienced managers are generally all too aware of this fact, surprisingly few take time before an organizational change to (45) systematically who might resist the change initiative and for what reasons. Because of the many different ways in which individuals and groups can react to change, correct assessments are often not intuitively obvious and require (46) thought.

All people who are (47) by change experience some emotional (48). People also (49) change because they fear they will not be able to (50) the new skills and behavior that will be required of them. Organizational change can inadvertently require people to change too much, too quickly.

Q.43. 1) labour 2) efforts 3) facility 4) reduces 5) comforts

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Q.43. 1) labour 2) efforts 3) facility 4) reduces 5) comforts

Q.44. 1) Although 2) Permitting 3) Conceding 4) Consequently 5) Henceforward

Q.45. 1) measurement 2) assess 3) charges 4) impose 5) collects

Q.46. 1) cavalier 2) remotely 3) careful 4) vigil 5) attention

Q.47. 1) distress 2) affected 3) move 4) effecting 5) likely

Q.48. 1) unrest 2) anxiety 3) confusion 4) hassle 5) turmoil

Q.49. 1) resist 2) submit 3) conceding 4) fearful 5) argument

Q.50. 1) develop 2) grows 3) advancing 4) foresaw 5) agreement

DESCRIPTIVE TEST

The questions in the Descriptive Paper are intended to assess your higher order cognitive abilities such as analysing and comprehending the situation, generating new creative ideas or situations and also your communication skills. It consists of two parts -essay writing and questions based on a Comprehension Passage.

Sample:

Section A: Write an essay on any **ONE** of the following topics in about 250 words

1. Three measures to eradicate illiteracy in India. Explain how the measures suggested by you will be effective.
2. Unemployment is a major problem in India due to lack of job opportunities, a mismatch between the skills of the workforce and the needs of employers. Explain the ways to reduce unemployment in India.
3. Explain how global warming impacts air quality. Discuss the ways to arrest global warming and improve air quality?

Section B: English Comprehension based on a passage:

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follows.

In this age, when the popular involvement in day-to-day matters is mounting, it is the electronic systems that offer us a potential service infrastructure which could, with careful programming, probably take care of a very large element of what we describe as mechanical, procedural governance without all the distortions, corruptions and harassments which constitute the daily misery of the average citizen. Of course, the electronic systems will only



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Once we move our minds beyond the mere use of the electronic revolution for business efficiency and higher profitabilities and apply it to the task of reducing the routine, repetitive activities of governance, we will conserve time and energy for more important and creative tasks. In other words, the electronic revolution can make for better and more effective handling of real everyday problems, additionally to providing the basic service of computerized information banks. Even in less developed conditions, the potential of the electronic network to take over a great deal of what is called bureaucratic "paper work" has been vividly demonstrated. Licensing system involving endless form filling in endless copies; tax matters which baffle millions of citizens, particularly those who have nothing to hide; election system which require massive supervisory mobilizations or referendums based on minuscule "samples" which seldom reflect the reality at the social base. At all these points, the electronic advantage is seen and recognized. However, we must proceed further.

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It is possible to foresee a situation where the citizen, with his personalized computer entry card, his "number", is able to enter the electronic network for a variety of needs now serviced by regiments of officials, high and low. Indeed, this is already happening in a number of countries. From simple needs, we will move to more complex servicing, and, ultimately, into creativity or what is called "artificial intelligence".

- Q. (i) What does the term "bureaucratic paper work" refer to?
- Q. (ii) How has electronic revolution helped organisations in day-to-day activities?
- Q. (iii) What is "artificial intelligence"?