

Verbal Ability Sample Test

Directions for questions 1 to 5: In each of the following sentences, a part of the sentence is underlined. Beneath each sentence, four different ways of phrasing the underlined part are indicated. Choose the best alternative from among the four.

1. Amar, Binod, Chand and me were all cited for contempt of court.
 - (a) Amar, Binod, Chand and me were all cited
 - (b) Amar, Binod, Chand and I were all cited
 - (c) Amar, Binod, Chand and I were the ones cited
 - (d) Amar, Binod, Chand and I were cited
2. It is often better to try repairing an old vehicle than to junk it.
 - (a) to try repairing an old vehicle than to junk it.
 - (b) to repair an old vehicle than to have it junked.
 - (c) to try repairing an old vehicle than to junking it.
 - (d) to try to repair an old vehicle than to junk it.
3. Vijayendra eats faster than me.
 - (a) Vijayendra eats faster than me.
 - (b) Vijayendra eats the fastest of us two.
 - (c) Vijayendra eats the fastest of us both.
 - (d) Vijayendra eats faster than I.
4. I think everybody in this office works faster than me.
 - (a) everybody in this office works faster than me.
 - (b) everybody in this office works faster than I.
 - (c) everybody in this office works more quickly than me.
 - (d) everybody in this office works more quickly than I do.
5. Neither of the two boys' explanations were satisfactory.
 - (a) Neither of the two boys' explanations were
 - (b) Neither of the two boys' explanation were
 - (c) Neither of the two boys' explanations was
 - (d) Neither of the two boy's explanations were

Directions for questions 6 to 10: Pick out the most effective pair of words from the given pair of words to make the sentence/sentences meaningfully complete.

6. Many people take spirituality very seriously and _____ about those who do not worrying about them and _____ them to believe.
 - (a) think, criticizing
 - (b) pride, appraising
 - (c) rationalize, enabling
 - (d) wonder, prodding
7. Unless new reserves are found soon, the world's supply of coal is being _____ in such a way that with demand continuing to grow at present rates reserves will be _____ by the year 2050.
 - (a) consumed, completed
 - (b) depleted, exhausted
 - (c) reduced, argument
 - (d) brunt, destroyed
8. If you are _____, you tend to respond to stressful situations, in a calm secure, steady and _____ way.
 - (a) resilient, rational
 - (b) obdurate, manageable
 - (c) propitious, stable
 - (d) delectable, flexible
9. Management can be defined as the process of _____ organizational goals and non-human resources to _____ improve value added to the world.
 - (a) getting, deliberately
 - (b) managing, purposefully
 - (c) targeting, critically
 - (d) reaching, continuously
10. If you are an introvert, you _____ to prefer working alone and, if possible, will _____ towards projects where you can work by yourself or with as few people as possible.
 - (a) like, depart
 - (b) advocate, move
 - (c) tend, gravitate
 - (d) express, attract

Direction for questions 11: Solve these questions independently.

11. Any person who uses words ambiguously cannot become a journalist, since journalistic reporting cannot invite artistic interpretation.

Which of the following, if assumed, would allow the conclusion above to be properly drawn?

- (a) No person who invites artistic interpretation can use words ambiguously.

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- (b) Any person who uses words ambiguously will invite artistic interpretation in their reporting.
- (c) Any journalist who invites artistic interpretation will sometimes use words ambiguously.
- (d) Either a journalist uses words ambiguously or that journalist invites artistic interpretation.

Directions for questions 12 to 15: There are few sentences in each question. Each sentence has pairs of words/phrases that are italicized/highlighted. From the italicized/highlighted word(s)/phrase(s), select the most appropriate word(s)/phrase(s) to form correct sentences. Then choose the best option.

- 12. i. The college *affected* [A]/*effected* [B] a new policy on leave encashment by teachers.
ii. The *rationale* [A]/*rational* [B] behind current curricula is that students need to learn language and thinking skills, not specific information.
(a) AA (b) BB
(c) BA (d) AB
- 13. i. Our confidence in cricket has been seriously *undermined* [A]/*underrated* [B] by the recent match fixing scandal.
ii. His valid [A]/vapid [B] talk failed to impress the investors.
iii. It was so hot that he walked in the shade [A]/shadow [B] of the tree.
(a) BBA (b) ABA
(c) ABB (d) BAB
- 14. i. She demonstrated *immanent* [A]/*imminent* [B] good sense in her dress and behaviour.
ii. The thunder was heard *immediately* [A]/*imminently* [B] after they saw lighting.
iii. Her nervousness was obvious with her forehead *damp* [A]/*dank* [B] with perspiration.
(a) ABA (b) BBA
(c) AAA (d) BBB
- 15. i. The *warp* [A]/*woof* [B] of India's economic structure is still agriculture.
ii. My friend always does the opposite of [A]/*to* [B] what I advise him.
iii. Compact disks with *prurient* [A]/*prudish* [B] content are secretly in circulation in the assembly.

- iv. He believed that the existence of god cannot be proved; he was not an *atheist* [A]/*agnostic* [B].
(a) AAAA (b) ABAA
(c) AB BB (d) BAAB

Directions for questions 16 to 19: Given below are five sentences S1, P, Q, R and S that make a paragraph. The sentences making the paragraph have been jumbled randomly, only the first sentence S1 is at its right place. Find out the correct sequence in which P, Q, R and S should follow after S1 so that a coherent and meaningful paragraph is made.

- 16. S1. There was a time Egypt faced economic crisis.
P. Cotton is the chief export commodity of Egypt.
Q. Foreign trade depends on cultivation of cotton on large scale.
R. It became necessary for Egypt to boost cotton crops.
S. Only by means of increasing foreign trade Egypt could survive.
(a) PQRS (b) QRPS
(c) RPSQ (d) SRQP
- 17. S1. Exercising daily is a must for good health.
P. Luckily, there is no link between the amount of money spent and beneficent exercise, else the poor would have creaking bodies.
Q. While some cost you nothing, others may require the investment of some amount of money.
R. However, it is important to remember that exercises should not be overdone.
S. It can take any form from sedentary ones like walking to vigorous work-outs like a game of squash.
(a) PQSR (b) QPRS
(c) RSQP (d) SQPR
- 18. S1. Urban problems differ from state to state and city to city.
P. Most of the cities have neither water nor the required pipelines.
Q. The population in these cities has grown beyond the planners' imagination.
R. However, certain basic problems are common to all cities.
S. Only broad macro-planning was done for such cities, without envisaging the future growth, and this has failed to meet the requirements.
(a) PQSR (b) QPSR
(c) RQSP (d) RQPS

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19. S1. Satyajit Ray made several films for children.
P. Later film-makers have followed his lead.
Q. Today other nations are making children's films in a big way.
R. This was at a time when no director considered children as potential audience.
S. Ray was, thus, a pioneer in the field.
- (a) SQRP (b) RSQP
(c) PSQR (d) RSPQ

Directions for questions 20 and 21: Read the passage given below and solve the questions based on it.

Hindi ought to be the official language of India. There is no reason for the government to spend money printing documents in different languages, just to cater to people who cannot read/write Hindi. The government has better ways to spend tax payers' money. People across India should read/write Hindi or learn it at the earliest.

20. Which of the following, if true, would weaken the speaker's argument the most?
- (a) The government currently translates official documents into more than eighteen languages.
(b) Hindi is the most difficult language in the world to speak.
(c) Most people who travel across India learn Hindi within five years.
(d) People who are multilingual usually pay maximum taxes.
21. United Nations members contribute funds, proportionate to their population, for facilitating smooth functioning of the UN. By 2010, India, being the most populous nation on the planet, would contribute the maximum amount to the UN. Therefore, official language of United Nations should be changed to Hindi.
- Which of the following is true?
- (a) The point above contradicts the speaker's argument.
(b) The point above extends the speaker's argument.
(c) The point above is similar to speaker's argument.
(d) The point above concludes speaker's argument.

Directions for questions 22 to 25: Read the passage and answer the question that follows:

Though persons of any age can have cancer, recent research has shown that eating fiber rich diet may

reduce risk of some types of cancer. Modern lifestyle has resulted in increased consumption of junk food that is low in fiber. We should fortify junk food with fiber.

22. "NO JUNK FOOD NO CANCER"!
- (a) The statement cannot be logically inferred from the passage.
(b) The statement is a logical inference from the passage above.
(c) The passage has contradicting statements.
(d) None of the above

23. I: Cancer is a modern disease.
II: Modern lifestyle and eating habits may have increased risk of cancer.
- (a) Both I and II can be logically inferred from the above passage.
(b) Neither I nor II can be logically inferred from the above passage.
(c) Only I can be logically inferred from the above passage.
(d) Only II can be logically inferred from the above passage.

24. Teenagers are best reached via their favourite pastimes and hobbies – internet, music, movies, peer groups, sports, etc. It is through these very formats they can be told of things that would be good for them in the long run – decency, patriotism, honesty, hard work, fair play, community feeling, harmony and tolerance. Being natural rebels, no teenager likes to be lectured. These values must be communicated to them in palatable ways of their own choice via their own favorite communication modes. Only then will the lessons stick.

Which of these can be derived from the passage:

- (a) Everything cannot be taught in schools and colleges.
(b) Subtlety and sensitivity would help in reaching out to teenagers.
(c) Being young, teenagers tend to have short attention spans. Long term issues must be communicated in special ways, which they are attracted to.
(d) (a) and (b) both.
25. Brushing your teeth regularly, no matter which toothpaste you use, will reduce your chances of tooth decay. Scientists have concluded that, when you brush, you reduce tooth decay by removing the film of plaque that forms on teeth and gums. So, you can forget about fluorides: brush your teeth carefully and say goodbye to cavities.

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Which one of the following is a criticism of the reasoning in the argument?

- (a) Brushing with fluoride toothpaste has been shown to reduce tooth decay.
- (b) The fact that brushing will reduce tooth decay does not show that fluorides are of no value.
- (c) Few people adequately remove plaque by brushing.
- (d) People have plaque on their teeth most of the time.

Directions for questions 26 to 30: From the alternatives, choose the one which correctly classifies the four sentences as a

- F: Fact: If it relates to a known matter of direct observation, or an existing reality or something known to be true,
- J: Judgment: If it is an opinion or estimate or anticipation of common sense or intention,
- I: Inference: If it is a logical conclusion or deduction about something, based on the knowledge of facts.

26. A. If India has embarked on the liberalization route, she cannot afford to go back.
B. Under these circumstance, being an active supporter of WTO policies will be a good idea.
C. The WTO is a truly global organization aiming at freer trade.
D. Many member countries have already drafted plans to simplify tariff structures.
(a) FJFI (b) IFJF
(c) IJFF (d) IFIF
27. A. The Minister definitely took the wrong step.
B. Under the circumstances, he had many other alternatives.
C. The Prime Minister is embarrassed due to the Minister's decision.
D. If he has put the government in jeopardy, the Minister must resign.
(a) JFFI (b) IFJI
(c) FFJI (d) IFU
28. A. The ideal solution will be to advertise aggressively.
B. One brand is already popular amongst the youth.
C. Reducing prices will mean trouble as our revenues are already dwindling.
D. The correct solution will be to consolidate by aggressive marketing.
(a) JFIJ (b) FJJI
(c) IJFF (d) JJIF

29. A. If democracy is to survive, the people must develop a sense of consumerism.
B. Consumerism has helped improve the quality of goods in certain countries.
C. The protected environment in our country is helping local manufacturers.
D. The quality of goods suffers if the manufacturers take undue advantage of this.
(a) IJFJ (b) JFJI
(c) IJJF (d) IFJJ
30. A. Unless the banks agree to a deferment of the interest, we cannot show profits this year.
B. This would not have happened had we adopted a stricter credit scheme.
C. The revenues so far cover only the cost and salaries.
D. Let us learn a lesson: we cannot make profits without complete control over credit.
(a) IJIF (b) IJFI
(c) FJIF (d) FJFI

Directions for questions 31 to 36: Read the passage and choose the right sentence from the options to fill in the blank:

31. Conventional education makes independent thinking _____ extremely difficult.
_____ To be different from the group or to resist environment is not easy and is often risky as long as we worship success.
(a) creativity is crushed by orthodoxy.
(b) innovative thinking is the key.
(c) this has ruined many careers.
(d) Conformity leads to mediocrity.
32. Though there is a higher and wider significance to life, of what value is our education if we never discover it? We may be highly educated, but if we are without deep integration of thought and feeling, our lives are incomplete, contradictory and torn with many fears; _____.
(a) the 'well-educated' are ignoramus louts
(b) and as long as education does not cultivate an integrated outlook on life, it has very little significance
(c) and integrity is the key to spiritual evolution
(d) It has been rightly remarked, "I never let school interfere in my education"
33. The function of education is to create human beings who are integrated and therefore intelligent. _____. We may

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take degrees and be mechanically efficient without being intelligent. Intelligence is not mere information; it is not derived from books, nor does it consist of clever self-defensive responses and aggressive assertions.

- (a) Education should help us to discover lasting values so that we do not merely cling to formulas or repeat slogans
 - (b) Education should not encourage the individual to conform to society or to be negatively harmonious with it
 - (c) One who has not studied may be more intelligent than the learned
 - (d) Unfortunately, the present system of education is making us subservient, mechanical and deeply thoughtless
34. Politicians may be corrupt, but have to seek re-election, and to that extent are accountable to voters. But civil servants are virtually unsackable, unaccountable and widely corrupt. You cannot change this overnight.
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- (a) However, you can create jobs for the unemployed.
 - (b) So, go easy on making temporary workers permanent.
 - (c) But you can halt the growth of unsackable, unaccountable staff.
 - (d) So, devise safeguards against false accusations.
35. The “grand sweep of history” has become a much overused cliché. It incorporated the belief that change stemmed from big ideas that motivated individuals, classes and nations. _____.
- (a) The Bolshevik Revolution, whose impact dominated the 20th century, was prompted by disillusionment among the proletariat
 - (b) This finds support in Namier’s view that big ideas are less important than mundane and even base considerations
 - (c) Mass movements, cannot be judged by pronouncements of those who manage to filch them
 - (d) Thus, the French Revolution happened because the idea of liberty, equality and fraternity motivated people to overturn the decrepit absolute monarchy
36. A country that retains the death penalty needs constantly to fine-tune its clemency jurisprudence as the second best option. The Supreme Court’s latest verdict on death row

convicts is a thoughtful exposition of the law in this regard. _____

- (a) Commuting the death sentences of 15 convicts to life sentences has significantly expanded the scope for judicial intervention to save the lives of convicts after the rejection of their mercy petitions.
- (b) The court has laid down fresh rules to humanise the treatment of those facing the gallows, right up to the moment of their execution and even after that.
- (c) The breadth of this ruling is not as impressive: it fails to remove all lingering doubts about the rule against undue delay.
- (d) The court has crafted a new rule that families of convicts ought to be informed in writing as soon as their mercy petitions are rejected.

Direction for questions 37 to 40: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

It is difficult to compare countries because various factors such as size, Culture, History, Geography, natural **endowments**, geopolitics and internal polity comes into play. There are some goals which can be achieved by smaller countries; but sometimes smaller countries find it difficult to embark upon certain big technological plans even if they have the funds, because the size of the domestic market is too small. If we consider the bigger countries, the closest comparison to India is China, though there are many **crucial** differences.

The Chinese vision is to prepare the county for entry into the ranks of mid-level developed nations by the middle of the twenty-first century. Acceleration of his nation’s economic growth and social development by relying on advances in science and technology is **pivotal** in this.

Documents describing the Chinese vision state that science and technology constitute premier productive forces and represent a great revolutionary power that can propel economic and social development. It is interesting to note that the main lessons the Chinese have drawn from their past performance is their failure to promote science and technology as strategic tools for empowerment. They also point to the absence of mechanisms and motivations in their economic activity to promote dependences on science and technology. Similarly, they hold that their scientific and technological efforts were not **oriented**. They conclude that a large number of achievements were not converted into productive forces as they were too far removed from China’s immediate economic and social needs. The Chinese vision is therefore aimed at exploiting state-of-art science and

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technology to enhance the nation's overall power and strength, to improve the people's living standards, to focus on resolving problems encountered in large-scale industrial and agricultural production and to effectively control and alleviate pressures brought on by population resources and the environment. By the year 2000, China had aimed at bringing the main industrial sectors up to the technological levels achieved by the developed countries in the 1970s or 80s and by 2020 to the level they would have attained by the early twenty-first century. The aim is to bridge an overall gap with the advanced world. There is a special emphasis on research and development of high technologies that would find defense applications. Some of these technologies are critical for improving the features of key **conventional** weapons. Some technologies are meant for enhancing future military capabilities. Other efforts are aimed at maintaining the momentum to develop capabilities for cutting-edge defense technologies. They call for defense technologies. They call for unremitting efforts in this regard with the aim of maintaining effective self defense and nuclear deterrent capabilities and to enable **parity** in defense, science and technology with the advanced world.

Word Count = 446

Time Taken =

37. Comparison between two countries becomes difficult because
- A. the countries differ in their internal political systems.
 - B. each country has its own culture and natural resources which differ from those of others.
 - C. the countries with homogeneous backgrounds are many in number.
- (a) Only A
(b) Only B
(c) Only A and B
(d) All the three A, B and C
38. Which of the following have the Chinese identified as their pitfall(s) from their past?
- A. Lack of orientation of Science and Technology towards economic growth.
 - B. Lack of mechanisms in their economic activities to promote use of Science and Technology.
 - C. Neglect of Science and Technology as a strategic measure for empowerment.
- (a) Only A and B
(b) Only B and C
(c) Only A and C
(d) All the three A, B and C
39. Which of the following is/are the expected result/s of China's new visions?
- A. To augment peoples' standard of living.
 - B. To tackle pressure effectively brought on by the population.
 - C. To utilize modern technology for bringing the latent power under control.
- (a) Only A and B
(b) Only B and C
(c) Only A and C
(d) All the three A, B and C
40. Which of the following is the essence of the contents of the passage?
- (a) Enormous population of the country can be positively utilized for developments.
 - (b) Scientific and Technological principles may not necessarily be instrumental in economic growth.
 - (c) Harmonious development of a country can take place even in the absence of technology upgradation.
 - (d) Economic growth needs to be driven by science and technology.

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ANSWERS

1.	(b)	2.	(d)	3.	(d)	4.	(b)	5.	(c)
6.	(d)	7.	(b)	8.	(a)	9.	(d)	10.	(c)
11.	(b)	12.	(a)	13.	(b)	14.	(c)	15.	(d)
16.	(d)	17.	(d)	18.	(d)	19.	(d)	20.	(d)
21.	(b)	22.	(b)	23.	(c)	24.	(d)	25.	(b)
26.	(c)	27.	(a)	28.	(a)	29.	(a)	30.	(b)
31.	(d)	32.	(b)	33.	(c)	34.	(c)	35.	(d)
36.	(a)	37.	(c)	38.	(d)	39.	(d)	40.	(d)