

Directions (1-15): In the following questions, out of the four alternatives choose the one which can be substituted for the given words/sentence.

Q1. Fear of thunder and lightning

- (a) Globophobia
- (b) Taphophobia
- (c) Astraphobia
- (d) Ombrophobia

S1. Ans.(c)

Sol. Globophobia: the fear of balloons.

Taphophobia: the fear of being buried alive.

Astraphobia: abnormal fear of thunder and lightning.

Ombrophobia: the fear of rain.

Hence option C is the correct choice.

Q2. The person to whom one is engaged

- (a) Byre
- (b) Betrothed
- (c) Boor
- (d) Biped

S2. Ans.(b)

Sol. Byre: place where cows are sheltered.

Betrothed: the person to whom someone is engaged to be married.

Boor: clumsy or ill-bred fellow.

Biped: animal having two feet.

Hence option B is the correct choice.

Q3. The infirmity of old age

- (a) Surly
- (b) Naissance
- (c) Ubiety
- (d) Caducity

S3. Ans.(d)

Sol. Surly: bad-tempered and unfriendly.

Naissance: a new style or development, especially in architecture or the arts.

Ubiety: the condition of being in a definite place.

Caducity: the infirmity of old age; senility.

Hence option D is the correct choice.

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Q4. An unfilled space

- (a) Frigorific
- (b) Lacuna
- (c) Pother
- (d) Contour

S4. Ans.(b)

Sol. Frigorific: causing or producing cold.

Lacuna: a blank space or a missing part.

Pother: a commotion or fuss.

Hence option B is the correct choice.

Q5. Able or ready to do anything

- (a) Panurgic
- (b) Sepsis
- (c) Gage
- (d) Hallux

S5. Ans.(a)

Sol. Panurgic: having multiple skills, able and willing to carry out a variety of tasks requiring different sets of skills

Sepsis: a severe blood infection that can lead to organ failure and death.

Gage: a valued object deposited as a guarantee of good faith.

Hallux: a person's big toe.

Hence option A is the correct choice.

Q6. Having the same source or origin

- (a) Gibe
- (b) Polemic
- (c) Cognate
- (d) Dais

S6. Ans.(c)

Sol. Gibe: to utter taunting words.

Polemic: a strong verbal or written attack on someone or something.

Cognate: a word that has the same origin as another word, or is related in some way to another word.

Dais: a low platform for a lectern or throne.

Hence option C is the correct choice.

Q7. Religious insanity

- (a) Sophomania
- (b) Epomania
- (c) Sebastomania
- (d) Timbromania

S7. Ans.(c)

Sol. Sophomania: delusion that one is incredibly intelligent.

Epomania: craze for writing epics.

Sebastomania: religious insanity.

Timbromania: craze for stamp collecting.

Hence option C is the correct choice.

Q8. A bad-tempered person

- (a) Splenetic
- (b) Gust
- (c) Goose
- (d) Choppy

S8. Ans.(a)

Sol. Splenetic: marked by bad temper, malevolence, or spite.

Gust: a sudden strong rush of wind.

Goose: a large water bird with a long neck, short legs, webbed feet, and a short broad bill.

Choppy: forming short, irregular, broken waves.

Hence option A is the correct choice.

Q9. A temporary prohibition of an activity

- (a) Disruption
- (b) Moratorium
- (c) Prescient
- (d) Scrawl

S9. Ans.(b)

Sol. Disruption: disturbance or problems which interrupt an event, activity, or process.

Moratorium: stopping of an activity for an agreed amount of time.

Prescient: having or showing knowledge of events before they take place.

Scrawl: an example of hurried, careless writing.

Hence option B is the correct choice.

Q10. Economize

- (a) Scrimp
- (b) Trousseau
- (c) Soprano
- (d) Truss

S10. Ans.(a)

Sol. Scrimp: live cheaply and spend as little money as possible.

Trousseau: a collection of personal possessions.

Soprano: the highest singing voice.

Truss: a device for holding an organ of the body.

Hence option A is the correct choice.

Q11. Examine thoroughly and in great depth

- (a) Raiment
- (b) Tout
- (c) Plumb
- (d) Canto

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S11. Ans.(c)

Sol. Raiment: clothing.

Tout: a person who buys up tickets for an event to resell them at a profit.

Plumb: to understand or discover all about something.

Canto: one of the sections into which certain long poems are divided.

Hence option C is the correct choice.

Q12. Avoid or try to avoid fulfilling, answering or performing

(a) Parry

(b) Ravel

(c) Repast

(d) Waive

S12. Ans.(a)

Sol. Parry: to manage cleverly to avoid dealing with a difficult question or some criticism.

Ravel: a tangle, cluster, or knot.

Repast: a meal.

Waive: to not demand something you have a right to or not cause a rule to be obeyed.

Hence option A is the correct choice.

Q13. Fear of food or eating

(a) Sitophobia

(b) Sciophobia

(c) Pupaphobia

(d) Sophophobia

S13. Ans.(a)

Sol. Sitophobia: fear of food or eating.

Sciophobia: fear of shadows.

Pupaphobia: fear of puppets.

Sophophobia: fear of learning.

Hence option A is the correct choice.

Q14. Group of bats

(a) Sedge

(b) Clan

(c) Colony

(d) Brace

S14. Ans.(c)

Sol. Sedge: group of crane.

Clan: group of cats.

Colony: group of bats.

Brace: group of ducks.

Hence option C is the correct choice.

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Q15. A female donkey is called

- (a) Empress
- (b) Doe
- (c) Sow
- (d) Jennet

S15. Ans.(d)

Sol. Empress: female chimpanzee.

Doe: female deer.

Sow: female bear.

Jennet: female donkey.

Hence option D is the correct choice.

Direction (16-30): Improve the bracketed part of the sentence.

Q16. At harvest the corn was cut high on the stalk with short sickles and (put up in sheafs), after which it was carried to the threshing-floor and trodden out by the hoofs of oxen.

- (a) put up in a sheaves
- (b) put up in sheaf
- (c) put up in sheaves
- (d) No Improvement

S16. Ans.(c)

Sol. 'Sheaves' are bundles of grain stalks, stacked lengthwise and tied together. 'Sheaf' is singular while plural form is 'sheaves'. 'put up in a sheaves' can't be used as sheaves is a plural noun hence 'a' can't be used before it. 'put up in sheaf' is not correct as 'sheaf' is a singular form of countable noun hence article 'a' should be used before it. Hence option C improves the sentence.

Q17. How long should a murderer be (kept in prison?)

- (a) kept in a prison
- (b) kept in the prison
- (c) keep in prison
- (d) No Improvement

S17. Ans.(d)

Sol. No Improvement

No article is used before prison, market, hospital, bed etc. if they are used for their primary purpose.

Q18. It looked as if filing for bankruptcy would be the only option for the business that was drowning (in a debt).

- (a) in the debt
- (b) into a debt
- (c) in debt
- (d) No Improvement

S18. Ans.(c)

Sol. 'In debt' is an idiomatic expression and no article is placed between 'in' and 'debt'.

Hence option C is a correct choice.

Q19. Many of the (older woman doctors) interviewed were still working, but had ended up in what were essentially dead end jobs.

- (a) older woman doctor
- (b) older women doctors
- (c) older women doctor
- (d) No Improvement

S19. Ans.(b)

Sol. 'Woman doctor' is a compound noun and its plural form is 'Women doctors'. Moreover, 'Many of the + Plural Countable Noun' will be followed here.

Hence option B is the correct choice.

Q20. Smith is better than (any other boys) in the class.

- (a) any other boy
- (b) all other boy
- (c) any boys
- (d) No Improvement

S20. Ans.(a)

Sol. 'Comparative + than + any other + Singular noun' is the correct sentence formation.

Hence option A is the correct choice.

Q21. Wisdom does not automatically (accrue in) an individual because he or she lived through certain seminal events.

- (a) accrue of
- (b) accrue to
- (c) accrue from
- (d) No Improvement

S21. Ans.(b)

Sol. Accrue: to increase in number or amount over a period of time. 'Accrue to somebody' is the correct usage.

Q22. Despite the fact the soldiers have not been home in eight months, they are still (soporific) about seeing their families soon.

- (a) far-right
- (b) perilous
- (c) sanguine
- (d) No Improvement

S22. Ans.(c)

Sol. Soporific: tending to induce drowsiness or sleep.

Far-right: relating to the extreme right wing of a political party or group.

Perilous: dangerous.

Sanguine: optimistic, hopeful, or confident about the future.

Hence option C fits in the context.



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Q23. The upheaval in the risk-reward structure of investment banking implies major alterations in how and at what cost the industry (render) its services.

- (a) reindeer
- (b) reindeers
- (c) renders
- (d) No Improvement

S23. Ans.(c)

Sol. Render: provide or give (a service, help, etc.)

Reindeer: type of deer with large horns that lives in the northern parts of Europe, Asia, and North America.

Following the subject-verb agreement rule, singular verb 'renders' goes well with singular subject 'industry'.

Q24. As the moon (goes to seed), so does the height of the tide change.

- (a) waxes and wanes
- (b) knocks into shape
- (c) scrapes the surface
- (d) No Improvement

S24. Ans.(a)

Sol. Go to seed (idiom): to deteriorate from lack of attention.

Wax and wane (idiom): to grow stronger and then weaker again/ to alternately increase and decrease.

Knock into shape (idiom): to use vigorous action to bring someone or something into a proper specified state or better condition.

Scrape the surface (idiom): to examine only the superficial aspects of something.

Q25. The report is viewed as a (bellwether) for economic trends.

- (a) bellweather
- (b) belwether
- (c) bellwither
- (d) No Improvement

S25. Ans.(d)

Sol. No Improvement.

Bellwether: someone or something that shows how a situation will develop or change:

Q26. In the exhibition, abstract paintings were (battered) with shocking photographs.

- (a) lynched
- (b) juxtaposed
- (c) spiked
- (d) No Improvement

S26. Ans.(b)

Sol. Batter: damage.

Juxtapose: to put things or people next to each other, especially in order to compare them.

Spike: increase.

Hence option B fits in the context.

Q27. I don't know when I am going to (get on) writing the thank you cards for my well-wishers.

- (a) get around to
- (b) go over
- (c) come down with
- (d) No Improvement

S27. Ans.(a)

Sol. Get on (phrasal verb): step onto a vehicle
Get around to (phrasal verb): finally find time to do
Go over (phrasal verb): review
Come down with (phrasal verb): fall sick
Hence option A is correct.

Q28. Our plans for the trip fell (down) because we had no money.

- (a) off
- (b) out
- (c) through
- (d) No Improvement

S28. Ans.(c)

Sol. Fall through (phrasal verb): come to nothing; fail and hence denotes the failure of the trip.

Q29. Illness, injury, food poisoning, grief- any of these things can (prostate) people or lying down in a helpless position.

- (a) prostrate
- (b) prospect
- (c) prosecute
- (d) No Improvement

S29. Ans.(a)

Sol. Prostate: A gland which is a part of a man's reproductive system.
Prostrate: to make helpless or defenseless.
Prospect: to inspect (a region).
Hence option A is the correct choice.

Q30. When it comes to lawsuits, everyone seems to want (piece of an action).

- (a) piece of action
- (b) a piece of the action
- (c) a piece of the information
- (d) No Improvement

S30. Ans.(b)

Sol. 'A piece of the action' is an idiom which means a part of the profits or advantages that come from an activity.
Hence option B fits in the context.

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