

## Secretariat Assistant /Auditor Exam 1-10-2007

1. Rani Lakshmi Bai. the fiery Queen of Jhansi, also known as the Rani of Jhansi, is a great nationalist heroine of the first war of Indian freedom and a symbol of resistance to the British rule in India. She died in 1858 fighting the British. What was her original name given by her parents?  
(a) Alakananda (b) Sarada (c) Manikamika (d) Aparna
2. The Gayatri Mantra is the most revered Vedic Mantra in Hinduism. Which Vedic sage is considered as the author of Gayatri Mantra?  
(a) Sage Viswamitra (b) Sage Agasthya (c) Sage Angiras (d) Sage Kashyapa
3. Name the year in which the decimal system was in the modern state of:  
(a) 1960 (b) 1959 (c) 1958 (d) 1957
4. In the great war of Kalinga in 260 BC, the Magadha king Ashoka's forewore violence and accepted Buddhism. The major portion of the Kalinga Kingdom was in the modern state of:  
(a) Orissa (b) Andhra Pradesh (c) Bihar (d) Madhya Pradesh
5. Which was the South Indian Dynasty that established its kingdom with its capital at Kanchipuram in the 4th century and reigned the northern parts of Tamil region for about six hundred years?  
(a) Chera Dynasty (b) Pallava Dynasty (c) Pandya Dynasty (d) Chola
6. Razia Sultana (Razia Sultan) was the only woman monarch who ruled Delhi. Her rule lasted only for four years, and following a revolt by the city's nobles she was killed. When did she ascend the throne of Delhi?  
(a) A.D. 1326 (b) A.D. 1236 (c) A.D. 1623 (d) 1363
7. The dispute over the Himalayan border in Aksai Chin between the People's Republic of China and India triggered the Sino-Indian Border War. This war began in:  
(a) September 1962 (b) November 1964 (c) July 1963 (d) June 1968
8. Among the following former Portuguese colonies in India which one is an island? (a) Goa (b) Diu (c) Daman (d) Dadra
9. Vellore Mutiny was the first instance of mutiny of 1857 by nearly half a century. When did it take place?  
(a) May 10, 1806 (b) June 8, 1808 (c) September 6, 1807 (d) December 24, 1805
10. Vijayanagara empire once extended over the most of the Peninsular India. It is named after its capital city Vijayanagara. As a result of defeat at the hands of an alliance of sultanates, the capital was brutally razed and looted. Where are the impressive ruins of this historic city found today?  
(a) Hampi in Karnataka (b) Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh (c) Tanjavur in Tamil Nadu (d) Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh
11. Velakali is a spectacular ritual and martial folk art of Kerala. Where did this art form take shape in Kerala?  
(a) Vadakara (b) Edappally (c) Kodungalloor (d) Ambalapuzha
12. The first Keralite who became a member of the Central Cabinet and served twice as Finance Minister  
(a) A.K. Antony (b) K. Karunakaran (c) Krishna Kumar (d) Dr. John Mathai
13. Vembanad lake is the largest lake in Kerala. Which among the following districts does not border this lake?  
(a) Alappuzha (b) Kollam (c) Kottayam (d) Ernakulam
14. Which is the district last formed in Kerala?  
(a) Malappuram (b) Pathanamthitta (c) Kasargod (d) Wayanad
15. Which region in Kerala is famous for its natural sandalwood forests?  
(a) Nenmara (b) Peermed (c) Marayoor (d) Mennachil
16. Among the following districts of Kerala which one shares its border both with Karnataka and Tamil Nadu?  
(a) Wayanad (b) Palakkad (c) Kannur (d) Malappuram
17. The Central Tuber Crops Research Institute in Kerala is located at Sreekaryam, Thiruvananthapuram. Where is the headquarters of Central Plantation Crops research Institute located in Kerala?  
(a) Palode (b) Nileswaram (c) Kayakulam (d) Kasargod
18. During the British rule which river in Kerala was nicknamed as English Channel?  
(a) Chalakkudi river (b) Ponnani river (c) Mahe river (d) Karamana river

19. Marthanda Varma renovated the Sri Padmanabhaswamy temple of Thiruvananthapuram, and delivered his new kingdom to his deity and ruled as the servant of the deity. When did this event take place?  
 (a) October 3rd 1799 (b) June 5th 1756  
 (c) March 7th 1794 (d) January 3rd 1750
20. What is the density of population of Kerala according to 2001 Census?  
 (a) 917 persons/square km (b) 819 persons/square km  
 (c) 864 persons/square (d) 989 persons
21. The term 'light year' is a unit employed in measuring:  
 (a) intensity of light (b) distance (c) speed of light (d) time
22. Vinegar is acidic in nature because of the presence of :  
 (a) citric acid (b) acetic acid (c) hydrochloric acid (d) tartari acid
23. We study viruses because they cause any infections disease. Which of the following diseases is not a viral disease?  
 (a) influenza (b) measles (c) cholera (d) small pox
24. Which one of the following characteristics is absent in a computer, how much sophisticated it may be?  
 (a) High speed (b) Accuracy (c) Perfect memory (d) Intelligence
25. Isotopes of an elements contain the same number of:  
 (a) neutrons and protons  
 (b) neutrons and protons but different number of electrons  
 (c) protons but different number of neutrons  
 (d) neutrons and electrons but different number of protons
26. At which location at the surface of the earth would an observer find the greatest force due to the Earth's gravity?  
 (a) Equator (b) North pole  
 (c) Tropic of Capricorn (23.5°S) (d) Tropic of Cancer (23.5°N)
27. Which is the correct scientific name applied for a 'shooting star'?  
 (a) Comet (b) Meteor (c) Asteroid (d) Meteorite
28. Which type of mirror is used as a 'rear-view' mirror in vehicles?  
 (a) Plane (b) Convex (c) Concave (d) Oval
29. Based on extensive and detailed scientific evidence, geologists have determined the age of the Earth which one of the following figures is the closest to the present estimated age of the earth?  
 (a) 3.25 billion years ( $3.25 \times 10^9$  years)  
 (b) 4.55 billion years ( $4.55 \times 10^9$  years)  
 (c) 2.95 billion years ( $2.95 \times 10^9$  years)  
 (d) 5.55 billion years ( $5.55 \times 10^9$  years)
30. This mineral extensively found in Kerala is a primary ore of several rare earth metals most notably thorium, cerium and lanthanum. Name the mineral which this statement refers to:  
 (a) Ilmenite (b) Zircon (c) Monazite (d) Silimanite
31. While the river Kaveri (Cauvery) is nicknamed "Dakshina Ganga" another river of South India is nicknamed "Vridhha Ganga". Which is that river?  
 (a) Tungabhadra (b) Godavari (c) Mahanadi (d) Krishna
32. In the following pairs of cities and their associated rivers which pairs is NOT correct?  
 (a) Jhelum - Srinagar (b) Jamunau - Agra  
 (c) Hugli - Kolkata (d) Mahanadi - Vijayawada
33. Cherrapunji, the world's wettest place, is located in :  
 (a) Arunachal Pradesh (b) Meghalaya  
 (c) Assam (d) Nagaland
34. Find the incorrect pair among the following  
 (a) Tanjavur - Brihadeeswara Temple (b) Amritsar - Golden Temple  
 (c) Puri-Konark Temple (d) Agra -Konark Temple
35. "It is the only hill station in Rajasthan. It is located at an elevation of 1220 meters. It is also the home to a number of famous Jain temples. The world headquarters of the Brahma Kumari order of lady renunciates is also located here." Which is that place?  
 (a) Jaisalmer (b) Mount abu (c) Jaipur (d) Udaipur
36. The National Defence Academy of India is the premier national institute of military sciences, and fundamental training



- college for all prospective officers of the Indian Army, the Indian Air Force and the Indian Navy. Name the state in which it is located.
- (a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Maharashtra (c) Punjab (d) Haryana
37. Which is the southernmost point of land in the territory of India?
- (a) Point Calimere (b) Indira Point (c) Kanyakumari (d) Dhanushkodi
38. When greenwich time is 10am, the corresponding Indian Standard Time will be:
- (a) 3.30 p.m (b) 2.30 p.m (c) 5.00 p.m (d) 5.30 p.m
39. The strait that separates the continent of Asia from North America is:
- (a) Strait of Gibraltar (b) Strait of Malacca (c) Palik strait (d) Bering Strait
40. Which of the following statements regarding eclipses is correct?
- (a) A solar eclipse occurs only on new moon days  
 (b) A lunar eclipses occurs only on full moon days  
 (c) In a solar eclipse the moon moves through the shadow caste by the earth  
 (d) A lunar eclipse occurs when the moon is between the sun and the earth and the moon's shadow moves across the face of the earth
41. The maximum period for which a proclamation of emergency issued by the President can remain in force without approval by a resolution of the parliament is:
- (a) two months from the date of issue (b) six months from the date of issue
42. In 2000 three new states were created in Indian Union. Which one of the following is not among those states?
- (a) Meghalaya (b) Uttaranchal (c) Jharkhand (d) Chhattisgarh
43. Name the Indian state having maximum number of members in Rajya Sabha
- (a) Bihar (b) Uttar Pradesh (c) Maharashtra (d) Tamil Nadu
44. Including the Speaker and two nominated members, what is the present total strength of the Lok Sabha of India?
- (a) 545 members (b) 525 members (c) 530 members (d) 535 members
45. A high court judge can hold office till he attains the age of:
- (a) 58 (b) 60 (c) 62 (d) 65
46. States Reorganisation Act resulted in erasing the distinction between parts A, B and C state, and caused the reorganisation of the state boundaries along linguistic lines. This was in the year
- (a) 1948 (b) 1956 (c) 1953 (d) 1961
47. Out of the total 250 members of the Rajya Sabha, how many are nominated by the President of India?
- (a) 12 (b) 10 (c) 16 (d) 22
48. Father of the Nation is a term by many countries to describe a political or symbolic leader seen as a founding father of the nation. In the following Nation Father of the Nation's pair which one is incorrect?
- (a) South Africa - Nelson Mandela (b) Cambodia - Norodon Sihanouk  
 (c) Indonesia - Lee Kuan Yew (d) Vietnam - Ho Chi Minh
49. The first general elections under the new Constitution were held in India during the year 1951-52. When did the first elected Parliament come into being?
- (a) March 1953 (b) November 1952 (c) April 1952 (d) January 1953
50. The allocation of seats in Rajya Sabha is contained in the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution. How many seats in Rajya Sabha are allocated for the state of Kerala?
- (a) 9 (b) 12 (c) 14 (d) 20
51. The Afro-Asian Games held in India in 2003 were the first such instance of a sporting event involving the two continents. Which was its venue in India?
- (a) Patiala (b) Chennai (c) Kolkata (d) Hyderabad
52. Name the person who resigned in 1991, after serving less than an year as Governor of Tamil Nadu and was again appointed as the Governor of Tamil Nadu in 2004:
- (a) T.N. Chaturvedi (b) Balram Jakhar  
 (c) Surjit Singh Barnala (d) Rameshwar Takur
53. Who is the Minister for Electricity in Kerala?
- (a) P.K. Gurudasan (b) S. Sharma (c) A.K. Balan (d) G. Sudhakaran
54. Saka Era was adopted as the National Calendar in India in 1957. What will be the the Saka Year corresponding to January 1 of 2007?
- (a) 1912 (b) 1284 (c) 1928 (d) 1574
55. Who is the present Chief Minister of Bihar?

- (a) Nitish Kumar (b) Arjun Munda  
(c) Naveen Patnaik (d) Karpoori Thakur
56. Under the Irrigation Component of Bharat Nirman the target of creation of additional irrigation potential of 1 crore hectare in India is planned to be achieved in:  
(a) 2010 (b) 2007 (c) 2009 (d) 2012
57. Bollywood is the informal name given to the popular Mumbai - based Hindi language film industry in India. What does the name 'Kollywood' represent?  
(a) Tamil Film industry of Chennai  
(b) Kannada Film Industry of Hyderabad  
(c) Telugu Film industry of Hyderabad  
(d) Bengali Film Industry of Kolkata
58. Name the country presently having the fifth largest installed wind power capacity in the world (1870 MW):  
(a) Australia (b) USA (c) Brazil (d) India
59. In 2010 New Delhi will be a venue for an important event. Which is that event?  
(a) Asian Games (b) World Games  
(c) Commonwealth Games (d) Asian Indoor Games
60. Who is the present Chief Election Commissioner of India?  
(a) S. Narayanaswamy (b) T.S.Krishnamoorthy  
(c) N. Gopalswamy (d) J.M. Lyngdoh
61. Match the following proverbs of List A with their correct meanings in the List B.  
List A  
1. Sacrifice future gains to satisfy present needs  
2. The opinions, advice, etc, of a second person are valuable  
3. There is always some reasons for a rumour  
4. People of the same sort gather together  
List B  
A. There is no smoke without fire  
B. Still waters run deep  
C. Birds of the same feather flock together  
D. Kill the goose that lays the golden eggs  
(A) 1-D, 2-E, 3-B and 4 - C (B) 1 - C, 2 - E, 3 - A and 4 - D  
(C) 1 - E, 2 - B, 3 - A and 4 - D (D) 1 - D, 2 - E, 3 - A and 4 - Cc) four months from the date of issue  
(d) one year from the date of issue
62. Which among the following sentences is grammatically correct?  
(a) Take off your shoes before you enter into the house  
(b) One should obey his parents (c) He has failed in the examination  
(d) He has not replied my letter yet
63. In which of the following sentences is the verb incorrectly used?  
1. Smitha and Lakshmi are going to lay the carpet  
2. He lay on the floor 3. Why don't you lay on the bed?  
4. He had laid on the floor for hours  
(a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 4
64. Which one of the following sentences is grammatically correct?  
(a) Mother-in-laws always quarrel with their daughter in-laws  
(b) That news is not reliable  
(c) These deers have always quarrel with their daughters in - law  
(d) He is the only a six years old child
65. Which of the following sentences is grammatically correct?  
1. Mary is elder than I  
2. The person who is standing besides the door is my sister.  
3. She told to me to read it.  
4. Please don't mention about the incident again  
(a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 4

66. How many of the following sentences are grammatically correct?
1. She shock her head with a regrettable smile
  2. They spent five tortuous days in the enemy camp
  3. I spent the majority of day reading
  4. We intend to stay here a father two weeks
- (a) one (b) two (c) three (d) none
67. Find the portion where error occurs in the following sentence.  
My elder brother/and my sister / helps me in / doing my homework
- (a) (b) (c) (d)
68. How many of the following sentences are grammatically correct?
- (a) Bacteria causing salmonella is killed by through cooking
  - (b) Her article is detrimental both understanding and to peace
  - (c) Studies of anteater, both in the wide and captivity indicate that it is a nocturnal animal
  - (d) He came with you and I
69. How many of the following sentences are grammatically incorrect?
1. I am either going to buy new camera or a video
  2. Either I accompany you or Harikrishnan
  3. I don't know nothing
  4. There is no problem between you and I
70. Find the portion where error occurs in the following sentences:  
Tree/drop its/leaves in / autumn
- (a) (b) (c) (d)
71. Which of the following English Translations of common Latin phrases is correct?
1. in toto- in the mean time
  2. ad infinitum to infinity
  3. sub judis - under a judge said of a case that cannot be publicly discussed until it is finished
  4. ad hoc- means to this thing; generally used to describe a particular type of committee; one which is formed to deal with a particular issue, and dishonoured after the issue is resolved
- (b) 1 (c) 1 and 4 (d) 1 and 3
72. Which of the following statements regarding common Latin abbreviations are incorrect?
- cf. (conferre) means "to confess one's fault"
  - viz. (videlicet) means "namely"
  - c.g. (exempli gratia) means 'for example'
  - ibid. (ibidem) means 'in the same place'
73. In the list of synonyms given below, which one is incorrect?
- surplus - deficit
  - haste-hurry
  - absurd - stupid
  - lavish - deficit
74. Among the following antonyms listed below, which one is incorrect?
- surplus - deficit
  - genuine - squalid
  - bold-shy
  - savage - civilized
75. Complete the following proverbs of List A choosing the appropriate word/words from list B.
- List A
1. .... never won fair lady
  2. .... is mightier than the sword
  3. .... is the sincerest form of flattery
  4. .... speaks louder than words
- List B.
- A faint heart
  - The pen
  - limitation
  - Action
  - Laziness
- a) (1) - e (2) - b, (3) - c (4) - a
  - b) (1) - a (2) - e (3) - (4)
  - c) (1) - a (2) - b (3) - c, (4) - d
  - d) (1) - e (2) - d, (3) - c (4) - a
76. Which one of the following pairs is incorrect?



- (a) Cardiology - heart (b) Ornithology birds  
(c) Metrology -weather (d) Seimology - earthquake
77. How many of the following four words have correct spellings? curriculum, miniscule, millenium, homogenous  
(a) one (b) two (c) three (d) none
78. Choose the correct word from List B to complete the sentences in List A  
List A  
(a) The title child sit as still as (b) The burglar who entered  
(c) He is as happy as a ..... today because it is his birthday  
(d) The athelete ran as swift as ..... along the track.  
List B  
(a) A -4, B -3, C -2 and D -1 (b) A -4, B -2, C -3 and D -1  
(c) A -5, B -3, C -2 and D -2 (d) A -2, B -3, C - 5 and D - 1
79. Which of the following is wrongly matched?  
(a) Hangar - A place for housing aircrafts  
(b) Mint - A place where coins are made  
(c) Stable - A place where horses are kept  
(d) Apiary - A place where monkeys are kept
80. Meaning of which of the following idioms is incorrectly stated?  
(a) To build castles in the air - to day dream  
(b) To be in black and white - to write it down on paper  
(c) Like a dog with two tails - a person who is extremely delighted  
(d) A tall story - a long story
81. Complete the following series of words inserting the proper word selecting from (a) , (b), (c) or (d)  
THOUSAND, BILLION, OCTILLION, HUNDRED, ONE, ..... EIGHT  
(a) TWO (b) FOUR (c) THREE (d) SIX
82. Find the next two letters in the following series:  
A, C, F, J,....., .....  
(a) O and U (b) M and P (c) L and S (d) N and S
83. Seven of the following nine name are alike in a certain way and so form a group. Which are the ones that do not belong to that group?  
1. Albania 2. Afghanistan 3. Algeria 4. Angola  
(a) 3 and 7 (b) 4 and 6 (c) 2 and 5 (d) 1 and 6
84. If the number of girls in a class is five times the number of boys of the same class, which one of the following numbers cannot be the total number of students in that class?  
(a) 36 (b) 48 (c) 54 (d) 62
85. Aditya multiplied 123 by a certain number and obtained 56077 as his answer. If both the sevens (7s) in the answer are wrong, but the other figures are right, which is the correct answer?  
(a) 56045 (b) 56068 (c) 56088 (d) 56034
86. In the place of mathematical symbols '+' and '-' the letters (X), (Y) and (Z) are inserted between the series of numbers given below. Choose the correct mathematical relationship from the choices given:  
143 (X) 95 (Y) 30 (Z) 128 = 336  
(a) (X) and (Z) represent – and (Y) represents +  
(b) (X) and (Z) represent + and (Y) represents –  
(c) (X) and (Y) represent + and (Z) represents -  
(d) (X) and (Y) represent – and (Z) represents +
87. Choose from (a), (b), (c) or (d) the right word that belongs to the group of words listed below.  
ZEPELIN, VERNIER, ..... TEDDY BEAR, HEARTZ, SANDWICH, OSCAR  
(a) DIESEL (b) CALCULATOR (c) BATTERY (d) RADAR
88. In the series of words given hereunder select the missing word to complete the series:

- Cookbook ..... toolroom, protofrom, foolproof  
 (a) doomsday (b) roombay (c) broomstick (d) schoolroom
89. Which is the odd one in the following list?  
 Gujarat, Goa, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Orissa, Kerala, Haryana  
 (a) Haryana (b) Kerala (c) Goa (d) Gujarat
90. Arrange the following words in the order in alphabetical order as they appear in a dictionary and identify the word that will come fifth in the correct sequence:  
 quadruple, quack, quality, quarry, qualification, quasar, quadrant  
 (a) quality (b) quack (c) quasar (d) quadrant
91. Supply the missing number in the following series:  
 2, 9, 28, 65, ..... 217  
 (a) 115 (b) 186 (c) 126 (d) 201
92. Which of the following numbers has its letters (when written in words) in alphabetical order?  
 (a) 20 (b) 30 (c) 40 (d) 50
93. Provide the last missing word in the following series of words.  
 ONE, FOUR, THREE, ELEVEN, FIFTEEN, THIRTEEN, SEVENTEEN  
 (a) THIRTYNINE (b) FORTYSEVEN  
 (c) TWENTY FOUR (d) FORTYFOUR
94. Name the pair in the following group of numbers which consists of the same digits but in different order.  
 N - 65823904510 - 1472356890 P - 9615602378  
 Q - 7493401256 R - 8915670231 S - 3587126790  
 I - 9028532167 U - 3529036718 V - 548290673  
 (a) Q and S (b) S and U (c) R and P (d) V and O
95. Complete the following statement with suitable word:  
 Umbrella is to rain as sword to.....  
 (a) enemy (b) fight (c) seize (d) battle
96. Which among the following statement is wrong?  
 (a) 32 is the smallest 4th power  
 (b) 132 is the smallest number which is the sum of all the two-digit numbers that can be formed with its digits  
 (c) 50 is the smallest number that can be written as the sum of two square numbers in two ways  
 (d) 25 is the smallest square number that can be written as the sum of two square numbers that can be written as the sum of two square numbers
97. Among the following four statements identify the one which is incorrect  
 (a)  $780 = (7+5)(8+5)(0+5)$  (b)  $4772 = (4+4)(7+4)(5+4)(2+4)$   
 (c)  $1500 = (1+5)(5+5)(0+5)(0+5)$  (d)  $4340 = (4+6)(3+6)(2+6)(0+6)$
98. The largest four digit number which is perfect square of a whole number is:  
 (a) 9801 (b) 9604 (c) 9216 (d) 9025
99. A, B, C and D start from the same point to walk around in a circular path, in the same direction, around a garden whose circumference is one kilometer. A walks 5 km an hour, B walks 4km and hour. C walks 3 km an hour and D walks 2 km an hour. How long will it be before all for again meet at the starting point?  
 (a) 4 hours (b) 3 hours (c) 2 hours (d) 1 hour
100. How many numbers are there that are completely divisible by 7 between 100 and 205?  
 (a) 15 (b) 13 (c) 14 (d) 12

## ANSWERS

- |   |         |             |         |         |          |
|---|---------|-------------|---------|---------|----------|
| 1. (c)  | 2. (a)  | 3. (d)      | 4. (a)  | 5. (b)  | 6. (b)   |
| 7. (a) (യുദ്ധം തുടങ്ങിയത് 1962 ഒക്ടോബർ 10 നാണ്) |         |             |         |         |          |
| 8. (b)  | 9. (a)  | 10. (a)     | 11. (d) | 12. (d) | 13. (d)  |
| 14. (c)   | 15. (c) | 16. (a)     | 17. (d) | 18. (c) | 19. (d)  |
| 20. (b)   | 21. (b) | 22. (b)     | 23. (c) | 24. (d) | 25. (c)  |
| 26. (b)   | 27. (b) | 28. (b)     | 29. (b) | 30. (c) | 31. (b)  |
| 32. (d)   | 33. (b) | 34. (c)     | 35. (b) | 36. (b) | 37. (c)  |
| 38. (a)   | 39. (d) | 40. (d)     | 41. (b) | 42. (a) | 43. (b)  |
| 44. (a)   | 45. (c) | 46. (b)     | 47. (a) | 48. (c) | 49. (c)  |
| 50. (a)   | 51. (d) | 52. (c)     | 53. (c) | 54. (c) | 55. (a)  |
| 56. (c)   | 57. (a) | 58. DENMARK | 59. (c) |         |          |
| 60. Navin.B.Chawla                              | 61. (d) | 62. (c)     | 63. (c) | 64. (b) |          |
| 65. (a)   | 66. (d) | 67. (c)     | 68. (d) | 69. (b) | 70. (a)  |
| 71. (a)   | 72. (a) | 73. (d)     | 74. (c) | 75. (c) | 76. (c)  |
| 77. (b)   | 78. (a) | 79. (d)     | 80. (d) | 81. (a) | 82. (a)  |
| 83. (c)   | 84. (d) | 85. (c)     | 86. (b) | 87. (d) | 88. (d)  |
| 89. (a)   | 90. (a) | 91. (c)     | 92. (c) | 93. (b) | 94. (d)  |
| 95. (a)   | 96. (a) | 97. (b & d) | 98. (a) | 99. (d) | 100. (a) |