

PAPER – 'B'
WRITTEN TEST PAPER FOR SELECTION OF TEACHERS : CSB 2011
ENGLISH (PGT): SUBJECT CODE: (P11)

For Questions 1 to 5: The passage given below is followed by a set of five questions. Choose the most appropriate answer to each question.

Language is not a cultural artifact that we learn the way we learn to tell time or how the federal government works. Instead, it is a distinct piece of the biological makeup of our brains. Language is a complex, specialised skill, which develops in the child spontaneously, without conscious effort or formal instruction, is deployed without awareness of its underlying logic, is qualitatively the same in every individual, and is distinct from more general abilities to process information or behave intelligently. For these reasons some cognitive scientists have described language as a psychological faculty, a mental organ, a neural system, and a computational module. But I prefer the admittedly- quaint term 'instinct'. It conveys the idea that people know how to talk in more or less the sense that spiders know how to spin webs. Web-spinning was not invented by some unsung spider genius and does not depend on having had the right education or on having an aptitude for architecture or the construction trades. Rather, spiders spin spider webs because they have spider brains, which give them the urge to spin and the competence to succeed. Although, there are differences between webs and words, I will encourage you to see language in this way, for it helps to make sense of the phenomena we will explore.

Thinking of language as an instinct inverts the popular wisdom, especially as it has been passed down in the canon of the humanities and social sciences. Language is no more a cultural invention than is upright posture. It is not a manifestation of a general capacity to use symbols: a three- year-old, we shall see, is a grammatical genius, but is quite incompetent at the visual arts, religious iconography, traffic signs, and other staples of the semiotics curriculum. Though language is a magnificent ability unique to *Homo sapiens*.

Among living species, it does not call for sequestering the study of humans from the domain of biology, for a magnificent ability unique to a particular living species is far from unique in the animal kingdom. Some kinds of bats home in on flying insects using Doppler sonar. Some kinds of migratory birds navigate thousands of miles by calibrating the position of the constellation against the time of day and year. In nature's talent show, we are simply a species of primate with our own act, a knack for communicating information about who did what to whom by modulating the sounds we make when we exhale.

Once you begin to look at language not as the ineffable essence of human uniqueness but as a biological adaptation to communicate information, it is no longer as tempting to see language as an insidious shaper of thought, and,, we shall see, it is not. Moreover, seeing language as one of nature's engineering marvels—an organ with 'that perfection of structure and co-adaptation which justly excites our admiration,' in Darwin's words—gives us a new respect for your ordinary Joe and the much-maligned English language (or any language). The complexity of language, from the scientist's point of view, is part of our biological birthright; it is not something that parents teach their children or something that must be elaborated in school—as Oscar Wilde said, "Education is an admirable thing, but it is well to remember from time to time that nothing that is worth knowing can be taught." A preschooler's tacit knowledge of grammar is more sophisticated than the thickest style manual or the most state-of-art computer language system, and the same applies to all healthy human beings, even the notorious syntax-fracturing professional athlete and the you-know-like, inarticulate teenage skateboarder. Finally, since language is the product of a well-engineered biological instinct, we shall see that it is not the nutty barrel of monkeys that entertainment-columnists make it out to be.

1. According to the passage, which of the following does not stem from popular wisdom on language?
 - a. Language is a cultural invention.
 - b. Language is learnt as we grow.
 - c. Language is unique to *Homo sapiens*.
 - d. Language is a psychological faculty.

2. Which of the following can be used to replace the "spiders know how to spin webs" analogy as used by the author?
 - a. A kitten learning to jump over a wall.
 - b. Bees collecting nectar.
 - c. A donkey carrying a load.
 - d. A pet dog protecting its owner's property.

3. According to the passage, which of the following is unique to human beings?
 - a. Ability to use symbols while communicating with one another.
 - b. Ability to communicate with each other through voice modulation.
 - c. Ability to communicate information to other members of the species.
 - d. Ability to use sound as means of communication.

4. According to the passage, complexity of language cannot be taught by parents or at school to children because
 - a. Children instinctively know language.
 - b. Children learn the language on their own .
 - c. Language is not amenable to teaching.
 - d. Children know language better than their teachers or parents.

5. Which of the following best summarizes the passage?
 - a. Language is unique to *Homo sapiens*,
 - b. Language is neither learnt nor taught.
 - c. Language is not a cultural invention or artifact as it is made out
 - d. Language is an instinctive ability of human beings.

For Questions 6 to 10: The passage given below is followed by a set of five questions. Choose the most appropriate answer to each question.

It is not time yet to wear the national flag on your sleeve, but signs are that we might be getting there soon. Thanks to the passion of one citizen, it has become legally possible for ordinary Indians to freely fly the Tricolour.. In 1993, Naveen Jindal thought that

flying the national colours atop one's place of work gave everyone a "sense of belonging" but the authorities would not agree. Eight years later, having petitioned three prime ministers and waged a long legal battle, Mr. Jindal has at last been granted his wish. The archaic flag code has been changed. The Union cabinet has decreed that the citizen shall now have the right to fly the flag on any day. In India, unlike in western democracies, the flag had thus far been treated by the political class as a zealously-guarded emblem of the state. From ministers to bureaucrats to higher-level judiciary, all arms of the state were allowed the automatic privilege of flaunting the flag, but not so the common people. Citizens wanting to express their identity or indeed their loyalty in a world becoming increasingly globalised and homogenized had, ironically, to seek the government's prior blessings to do so. Even this grudging nod was granted only for the duration of special days, namely, Independence Day, Republic Day and the Mahatma's birth anniversary. The thinking behind this 'saving the flag from the citizen' was a throwback to the days of the Raj when carrying the Tricolor was often regarded as an unacceptable symbol of defiance by our political masters. As has often happened in our history, however, this legacy was thoughtlessly upheld in the vastly changed post-Raj scenario.

In other words, even as India became a democratic republic, the state continued to treat the people's right to wear their national colors with suspicion. Under the obsessive pretext of preserving the honor and dignity of the flag, the assumption survived that the ordinary citizen of the realm could not be trusted to respect it. Wisely, the powers that be, have recognized the anachronism of such a mindset. But there is a further danger which must be guarded against. In time, as flag-waving is exploited commercially by the forces of the free market, puritans will cry foul at the crassness of the spectacle. But this is not a matter, primarily, of aesthetics. At the same time, the detractors should note that countries where the national flag has long been an accepted currency of civil passion, have hardly been buried in an avalanche of flag-abuse. The post-September 11 boom in the sale of stars and-stripes might have been a dream come true for the shopping malls of America, but it was also a symbol of a people hanging together in the hour of their greatest grief. Of course, there are those who will argue that the flag code debate does not go far enough. That, in fact, it's time to go further by questioning the central assumption on which it is premised: The primacy of the European idea of nation-state and its antiquated symbolism. But till such time as we continue to inhabit the fragile

nationalist dream, the flag will remain an evocative totem. And, as with America, patriotism will continue to be the preferred refuge of scoundrels, citizens and the marketplace.

6. According to the passage, the denial of the people's right to fly the flag on any day was
- totally justified.
 - the violation of fundamental rights.
 - arbitrary and against the spirit of freedom,
 - Totally unjustified.

7. According to the passage, carrying and flying the national flag has always been
- regarded as an act of contempt.
 - viewed as an act of defiance.
 - looked at with suspicion,
 - Derided

8. All of the following cannot be inferred from the passage, except:

- The flag occupies the same place both in democracies and dictatorships.
- The flag occupies a far more significant place in western democracies than it does in India.
- The attitude of India towards the flag is in total contrast with the attitude of western democracies towards the flag.
- Indian bureaucrats are very zealous about the existing rules.

9. It can be inferred from the passage that—

- Before the decision of the Union Cabinet, any citizen could fly the national flag, but not without taking permission prior to that from the government.
 - It has always been illegal to fly the national flag without taking prior permission from the government.
 - It has always been the special privilege of the ruling class to fly the national flag.
- Both II and III
 - Only II
 - Only III
 - Both I and III

10. The author's attitude towards the issue can be termed as

- passionate.
- indifferent.
- objective.
- pecuniary.

For questions 11-16 choose the option which is the opposite of the word mentioned.

11. Nadir

- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| a) Zenith | b) Depth |
| c) Day | d) Radiance |

12. Separate

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| a) amalgamate | b) Lonely |
| c) operate | d) None of these |

13. Ambiguity

- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| a) basal | b) lucidity |
| c) lovable | d) necessity |

14. Candour

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| a) frankness | b) cunning |
| c) ingenuous | d) sincere |

15. Prevaricate

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| a) truth | b) abate |
| c) restrained | d) tactful |

16. Industrious

- | | |
|------------|---------------|
| a) idle | b) compatible |
| c) bouyant | d) adversity |

For questions 17-21 read the quotation and choose the best answer.

Love is what's left of a relationship after all the selfishness has been removed.

—Cullen Hightower

17. In this sentence, *isis* a/an:

- helping verb
- linking verb
- action verb
- infinitive

18. In this sentence, *love* is a/an:

- noun
- verb

- c. adjective
- d. adverb

19. Which of the following excerpts from the sentence is a prepositional phrase?

- a. love is
- b. of a relationship
- c. all the selfishness
- d. none of the above

20. Which of the following excerpts from the sentence is the subject complement?

- a. what's left
- b. of a relationship
- c. what's left of a relationship after all the selfishness has been removed
- d. none of the above

21. Which of the following excerpts from the sentence is a subordinate clause?

- a. love is what's left
- b. of a relationship
- c. after all the selfishness has been removed
- d. none of the above

For questions 22-26 choose which set of words best fills in the blank.

22. The ___ has agreed to ___ procedures for appointing new members.

- a. counsel, altar, it's
- b. counsel, alter, it's
- c. council, altar, its
- d. council, alter, its

23. I wish you would spend time giving me ___ and more time worrying about your own ___ problems.

- a. less, advice, personal
- b. less, advise, personnel
- c. fewer, advice, personnel
- d. fewer, advise, personal

24. I ___ you, an ___ person cannot have a clear ___

- a. ensure, amoral, conscience
- b. assure, amoral, conscious

- c. insure, immoral, conscience
- d. assure, immoral, conscience

25. In the ___, the ___ was ___ more predictable

- a. past, whether, allot
- b. passed, weather, a lot
- c. past, weather, a lot
- d. past, weather, allot

26. Once you provide ___ instructions, ___ we can ___.

- a. explicit, then, precede
- b. explicit, then, proceed
- c. implicit, than, proceed
- d. implicit, then, precede

For questions 27-31 identify the best version of each sentence based on grammar, mechanics and style. If the original is the best, choose A

27. On my vacation I will go snorkeling, visit the rain forest, and attending local festivals.

- a. No change
- b. Snorkeling, visiting the rain forest, and attending local festivals are all things that I plan to do while on vacation.
- c. On my vacation, I will do many things, including: go snorkeling, visit the rain forest, and attend local festivals.
- d. On my vacation, I will go snorkeling, visit the rain forest, and attend local festivals.

28. I have to lay down because I have a really bad headache.

- a. No change
- b. I have to lay down because I have a nasty headache.
- c. I have to lie down because I have a monstrous headache.
- d. Because I have a really awful headache. I have to lie down.

29. I ordered stationary a month ago, it still has not arrived!

- a. No change
- b. The stationary I ordered—a month ago—has still not arrived.
- c. I ordered stationery a month ago, however it still hasn't arrived!
- d. I ordered stationery a month ago—and it still hasn't arrived.

30. In my judgment, the best profs, are those who teach you how to think, not just tell us the facts.
- No change
 - In my judgment, the best Professors are those who teach you how to think, not just tell you the facts.
 - In my judgment, the best professors teach us how to think, not just tell you the facts.
 - In my judgement, the best professors teach students how to think, not just tell them the facts.
31. I've always done really good in math but have lots of trouble with science.
- No change
 - I've always done really well in Math but have lots of trouble with Science.
 - I've always done really well in math but struggled with science.
 - I've always done really good in math, but struggling with science.

For questions 32-36 Choose the best version of the underlined portion of each sentence below.

32. I was going to go grocery shopping, but it closed early.
- it
 - they
 - the store
 - shopping
33. The founders of the club—Tazjeer and I—are the only permanent members.
- Tazjeer and I
 - Tazjeer and me
 - Tazjeer and myself
 - us
34. They recommend that you floss your teeth every day.
- They recommend that you floss
 - They recommend flossing
 - Dentists recommend that you flosses
 - Dentists recommend that you floss
35. Us tenants have about had it with our superintendent.
- Us tenants
 - We tenants
 - Us tenants ourselves
 - We ourselves

e. Our tenants.

36. Neither the books nor the magazine has its original cover.
- Has its
 - Have its
 - Have their
 - Has their

For questions 37 -41 choose the version of the underlined portion of the sentence that best corrects any error(s) in the original. If the original is correct, choose (A).

37. Sam likes to spend his Sundays reading the paper, watching sports, and he'll make a gourmet dinner.
- No change
 - reading the paper, watching sports, and making a gourmet dinner.
 - to read the paper, watch sports, and to make a gourmet dinner.
 - reading the paper. Watching sports, and making a gourmet dinner.
38. Without electricity and not having any candles, we were stuck in total darkness for hours.
- No change
 - Without electricity and not having no candles, we
 - Without electricity or candles, we
 - Without electricity and no candles; we
39. To be honest, being fair, and being kind are the three principles I try to live by.
- No change
 - Being honest, being fair, and being kind are the three principles
 - Being honest, being fair, and being kind. Are the three principles
 - The three principles, to be honest, fair, and kind, are what
40. The keynote speaker seemed nervous; he kept adjusting his tie and shuffling his papers as he spoke.
- No change
 - Nervous, he kept adjusting his tie and shuffling his papers as he spoke.
 - Nervous; he kept adjusting his tie and shuffling papers. As he spoke.
 - Nervous, he kept adjusting his ties as he spoke and shuffling his papers.

41. The meal was thoroughly enjoyed by all of us.
 a. No change
 b. By all of us, the meal was thoroughly enjoyed.
 c. The meal was thoroughly enjoyed by all of we
 d. We all thoroughly enjoyed the meal.

For questions 42-46 choose the letter that identifies the subject- verb agreement error in each sentence below.

42. Can you tell me who else besides you have
 (A) (B)
Seen these results? No Error
 (C) (D)

43. I believe either Ravi or his children is going
 (A) (B)
 to pick up the cake and bring it to the party, so
 (C)
 we don't have to worry about it. No Error
 (D)

44. These dreams of mine that keep me awake
 (A)
 always have the same ending: I am falling into a
 (B) (C)
 dark, bottomless pit. No error
 (D)

45. I am concerned about these statistics which
 (A)
suggests our customer base has shrunk
 (B) (C)
 considerably since we switched suppliers.

No error
 (D)

46. Leading the list of household dangers to
 (A)
 Children is cleaners that contain poisonous
 (B) (C)
 chemicals. No error
 (D)

For questions 47-51 choose the options closest in meaning to the word given.

47. Qualm

- a. concavity b. Amplitude
 c. Misgiving d. repute

48. Equivocal

- a. questionable b. resistance
 c. actual d. fall apart

49. Gratuitous

- a. correct b. unkind
 c. absurd d. given freely

50. Pandemonium

- a. lock b. instrumental
 c. garment d. uproar

51. Salutary

- a. honest b. beneficial
 c. respectful d. obedient

For questions 52-56 choose the word which matches the definition given

52. Frank, candid, not cunning

- a. Adverse
 b. Explicit
 c. Ingenious
 d. Ingenuous

53. Opposed or reluctant

- a. Illicit
 b. Amoral
 c. Averse
 d. Implicit

54. About to happen

- a. Continual
 b. Imminent
 c. Eminent
 d. Tardy

55. To draw a conclusion based on reasoning

- a. Infer
 b. Imply
 c. Suggest
 d. Advise

56. Unlawful

- a. Contraband

- b. Illicit
- c. Censor
- d. Forbidden

- a. ChetanBhagat
- b. Philip Pulman
- c. Terence Rattigan
- d. None of these

For questions 57-60 choose the correctly spelt word –

- 57 a. Acoloadé
b. Accolade
c. Acoled
d. Acolade
- 58 a. Ideasyncracy
b. idiocyncracy
c. Idiosyncrasy
d. Ideosyncracy
- 59 a. Demeenour
b. Demeanor
c. Dimenor
d. demeanour
- 60 a. Connoisseur
b. Connoisseur
c. Connoisseur
d. conioiseur

For questions 61-65 match the character with his/her creator.

- 61 Silas Marner
- a. Charles Dickens
 - b. George Eliot
 - c. Charlotte Brontë
 - d. None of these
- 62 Heathcliff
- a. Emily Brontë
 - b. Walter Scott
 - c. Charles Lamb
 - d. None of these

- 63 Scarlett O'Hara
- a. Barbara Taylor Bradford
 - b. Daphne Du Maurier
 - c. Margaret Mitchell
 - d. None of these

64 Professor Dumbledore

65 Hercule Poirot

- a. Agatha Christie
- b. Alistair Maclean
- c. P.D. James
- d. None of these

For questions 66-70 match the author with his/her work

66. Ignited Minds
- a. JayantNarlikar
 - b. APJ Abdul Kalam
 - c. Narayan Murthy
 - d. None of these
67. A Thousand Splendid Suns
- a. A.J. Cronin
 - b. KhaledHosseini
 - c. Vikram Seth
 - d. None of these
68. Wise and Otherwise
- a. Anita Desai
 - b. Shobhaa De'
 - c. SudhaMurty
 - d. None of these
69. Five Point Something
- a. ChetanBhagat
 - b. ArvindAdiga
 - c. R.K.Narayan
 - d. None of these
70. Imagining India
- a. NandanNilekani
 - b. AmartyaSen
 - c. KiranBedi
 - d. None of these

For questions 71-75 select the writer of the given lines.

71. "True ease in writing comes from art, not chance, As those move easiest who have learned to dance"
- a. Ben Jonson
 - b. Alexander Pope
 - c. William Shakespeare
 - d. None of these

72. "If winter comes, can spring be behind?"

- a. P.B. Shelley
- b. Lord Byron
- c. J. Keats
- d. None of these

73. "To strive, to seek, to find and not to yield."

- a. R. Browning
- b. A. Tennyson
- c. Robert Southey
- d. None of these

74. "The child is Father of the Man"

- a. T.S. Eliot
- b. Robert Frost
- c. W. Wordsworth
- d. None of these

75. 'Water, water everywhere
Nor any drop to drink'

- a. S.T. Coleridge
- b. John Donne
- c. William Cowper
- d. None of these

For questions 76-80 identify the figure of speech.

76. Variety is the spice of life.

- a. Apostrophe
- b. Antithesis
- c. Metaphor
- d. Personification

77. Here's the smell of bloodstill; all the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little hand.

- a. Irony
- b. Hyperbole
- c. Euphemism
- d. Epigram

78. An ambassador is an honest man who lies abroad for his country.

- a. Similie
- b. Litotes
- c. Anticlimax
- d. Pun

79. Uneasy lies the head that wears the crown.

- a. Personification
- b. Synecdoche
- c. Litotes
- d. Metonymy

80. The ploughman homeward plods his weary way

- a. Oxymoron
- b. Epigram
- c. Transferred epithet
- d. Irony

For questions 81-90 choose the most appropriate answer.

81. Restoration comedy is characterized by

- a. Women impersonating men
- b. Complicated plots
- c. Witty exchange of words
- d. None of these

82. The property of negative capability that is when a man is capable of being in uncertainties without any reaching after fact and reason was propounded by

- a. John Milton
- b. Mathew Arnold
- c. F.R. Leavis
- d. None of these

83. The author of Biographical-literaria is

- a. Wordsworth
- b. Shelley
- c. Keats
- d. None of these

84. The character Touchstone features in Shakespeare's play

- a. A Midsummers Night's Dream
- b. Twelfth Night
- c. As You like it
- d. None of these

85. The title 'Virgin Queen' was used to describe

- a. Mary Queen of Scots
- b. Queen Elizabeth I
- c. Queen Victoria
- d. None of these

86. In poetry diction means

- a. Good pronunciation
- b. Choice of words
- c. Listening and writing
- d. None of these

87. A metrical foot consisting of an accented syllable followed by two unaccented syllables is

- a. iamb
- b. anapaest
- c. dactyl

d. none of these

88. Narratives to be sung which tell a story and are transmitted by word of mouth are called

- a. lyrics
- b. epics
- c. ballads
- d. none of these

89. The Sonnet form which ends with a couplet is

- a. Italian
- b. Shakespearian
- c. Spenserian
- d. None of these

90. A poem expressing grief is an

- a. elegy
- b. ode
- c. allegory
- d. none of these

91. **Write a speech**, about 250 words long, to be made on Sadbhavana Diwas on the importance of communal harmony and what students can do to counter communalism, **(15 marks)**.

92. **Students are greatly influenced** by what they see on the Television and Computer screens. Write an article, about 250 words long, for the magazine "Good Parenting" on why parents should monitor their childrens' TV & Computer habits. **(15 Marks)**