

Comprehension:

Read the given passage and answer the four questions that follow.

The postmaster's office was located in the village of Ulapur. It was a quaint village, there was an indigo plantation nearby, and so the manager—an Englishman goaded by the need for communication—had arranged for the setting up of a post office.

The postmaster was a young man from Calcutta. Stationed here, away from the known limits of civilization, he often felt like a fish out of water. The plantation workers seemed to have their own community. Social miscegenation between two different classes of people seemed all but impossible.

In truth, the boy from the city wasn't good at mixing with people. Uprooted and exiled to a foreign land, his feelings oscillated between arrogance and shame. He rarely met any of the villagers. He wrote poems: poems of endless waiting, poems in which the marrow of life seemed to resonate with the faint tremble of young leaves, where the memory of existence was rejuvenated by the sight of rain clouds. He longed for the security of metal roads, of tall houses which blocked the sight of clouds in the open sky. The city was spreading its tentacles, calling him back.

The postmaster's salary was meager. Evenings would arrive with plumes of smoke rising from the cowshed. The evening would be as still as the cadence of lost poetry, the silence all around would shake the fault lines of the heart; and as all of this would take place, the postmaster would light his lamp.

Q1. Which idiom best describes the postmaster's feelings towards the city?

- (a) A bird in hand is worth two in the bush.
- (b) Distance makes the heart grow fonder.
- (c) Don't look a gift horse in the mouth.
- (d) The grass is always greener on the other side.

Q2. What does the line "his feelings oscillated between arrogance and shame" reflect about the postmaster's state of mind?

- (a) He was indifferent towards the people around him.
- (b) He felt victimized and ostracized by the villagers.
- (c) He was struggling with his conflicting feelings.
- (d) He could not make up his mind.

Q3. Why did the small village of Ulapur have a post office at all?

- (a) Because of the English plantation manager's personal need.
- (b) It was set up by the government of India.
- (c) The community had an urgent need for the post office.
- (d) The post office had always existed.

Q4. Select the most appropriate synonym for "marrow" in the line "poems in which the marrow of life seemed to resonate."

- (a) aura
- (b) core
- (c) atmosphere
- (d) component

Comprehension:

Directions (5 - 8) Read the passage given below and answer the four questions that follow:-

Deven Shrank back in apology. "No, sir I teach in- in the Hindi department. I took my degree in Hindi because—"

But the poet was not listening. He was laughing and spitting as he laughed because he did it so rustily and unwillingly. Phlegm flew. 'You see', he croaked, 'what did I tell you? You are a slave. Perhaps a spy even if you don't know it, sent to universities to destroy whatever remains of Urdu, hunt it out and kill it. And you tell me it is for an Urdu magazine you wish to interview me. If so, why are you teaching Hindi?' he suddenly roared, fixing Deven with that small, turtle-lidded eye that had now become lethal, a bullet.

'I studied Urdu, sir, as a boy, in Lucknow. My father, he was a schoolteacher, a scholar, and a lover of Urdu poetry. He taught me the language. But he died. He died and my mother brought me to Delhi to live with her relations here. I was sent to the nearest school, a Hindi-medium school, sir,' Deven stumbled through the explanation. 'I took my degree in Hindi, sir, and now I am temporary lecturer in Lala Ram Lal College at Mirpore. It is my living, sir. You see I am married man, a family man. But I still remember my lesson in Urdu, how my father taught me, how he used to read poetry to me. If it were not for the need to earn a living, I would - I would—'

Q5. What does the poet's reaction reveal about his feeling towards the status of Urdu?

- (a) He believes Urdu, as a language is thriving and well supported.
- (b) He is unconcerned about the status of Urdu.
- (c) He feels Urdu is being suppressed and marginalised.
- (d) He thinks Urdu should be replaced by Hindi.

Q6. The poet accuses Deven of being a 'spy' because he thinks/wonders

- (a) Deven is a government official.

## English Previous Year Paper

- (b) why a Hindi lecturer wish to interview an Urdu poet.  
 (c) Deven previously criticised Urdu poetry.  
 (d) Deven works for rival publication.

Q7. How does Deven respond to the poet's accusation?

- (a) He argues that Hindi and Urdu are equally important.  
 (b) He denies being a Hindi lecturer.  
 (c) He leaves the interview abruptly.  
 (d) He tries to explain his background and circumstances.

Q8. Identify the literary device used in, '- eye that had now become lethal, a bullet.'

- (a) Simile  
 (b) Metaphor  
 (c) Personification  
 (d) Hyperbole

Comprehension:

Directions (9 -12) Read the given passage and answer the four questions that follow:-

The arts-be it music, dance, or painting-have enabled artists to express themselves freely across borders for eons. However, speaking a common language remains one of the easiest and most effective ways for people to communicate and understand one another. India has a cornucopia of regional languages and dialects, an integral part of each region's cultural heritage. No national language has ever been declared, and many regional languages are endangered or extinct due to inadequate documentation.

Nagaland, home to 19 languages and 16 tribes, exemplifies this linguistic richness. To preserve them, Nagaland University recently organized a convention focused on their documentation and promotion. Language, as a key element of culture, plays a pivotal role in shaping regional identities, as seen in the prevalence of Russian in Kazakhstan or English in India. While Indian English writers like Salman Rushdie have global recognition, regional languages remain vital for connecting with local heritage.

The National Education Policy 2020 emphasizes the importance of learning one's mother tongue, which connects individuals to their roots and offers insights into local traditions. Languages like Pali, which preserve the teachings of Lord Buddha, and Sanskrit, the language of the Upanishads, offer invaluable cultural and spiritual wisdom. With languages such as Aka-Bo from the Andaman Islands disappearing, documenting these endangered tongues is crucial. The loss of such languages erases not only communication but entire histories. While technology, such as translation apps, helps bridge linguistic gaps, the onus remains on the people to protect, preserve, and promote this invaluable part of India's cultural heritage.

Q9. Which of the following statements is true regarding the significance of languages like Pali and Sanskrit?

- (a) They are no longer spoken and hold no cultural value.  
 (b) They encapsulate the decline of indigenous languages in India.  
 (c) They are primarily used in technological advancements.  
 (d) They serve as tools for spiritual and cultural insight.

Q10. According to the passage, why are regional languages vital in India?

- (a) They facilitate global recognition of Indian writers.  
 (b) They enable communication between different nations.  
 (c) They connect people with their local heritage and traditions.  
 (d) They promote technological advancements in translation.

Q11. According to the passage, what is the consequence of losing regional languages?

- (a) Widening of the global communication gap  
 (b) Erasure of entire histories and cultural identities  
 (c) Local traditions are preserved but communication falters  
 (d) Decline of indigenous languages

Q12. What is the main theme of the passage?

- (a) The decline of music, dance, and painting in modern society  
 (b) The importance of documenting and preserving languages  
 (c) The impact of translation technology on communication  
 (d) The influence of Indian writers on global literature

Q13. Select the word that is opposite in meaning to the word: PERTINENT.

- (a) Tenacious  
 (b) Irrelevant  
 (c) Sporadic  
 (d) Unrelenting

Q14. Re-arrange the following phrases in the correct sequence to form a meaningful sentence:

English Previous Year Paper

- (A) primarily stresses the importance and supreme value
- (B) his famous work on 'Humanism'
- (C) and personal relationship with God
- (D) of mankind in his everyday life

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (B), (A), (C), (D)
- (b) (A), (C), (B), (D)
- (c) (B), (A), (D), (C)
- (d) (D), (B), (C), (A)

Q15. Fill in the blank with the most appropriate preposition:

We can make no progress if we continue working      these conditions.

- (a) with
- (b) for
- (c) from
- (d) under

Q16. Select the word that is opposite in meaning to the word: FORAY.

- (a) Plunder
- (b) Shield
- (c) Redeem
- (d) Escape

Q17. Identify the word opposite in meaning to the underlined word.

Her evasive responses to our questions made us wonder if we were right in our judgment of her.

- (a) Accessible
- (b) Ephemeral
- (c) Evanescent
- (d) Abstruse

Q18. Choose the correct preposition to complete the given sentence Mr. John was finally acquitted      the criminal charge.

- (a) from
- (b) of
- (c) in
- (d) for

Q19. Complete the sentences in List-I with the appropriate adverbs from List-II

List-I (Sentences)	List-II (Adverbs)
(A) She <u>    </u> knows anything about me.	(I) poorly
(B) <u>    </u> the figures mentioned in the report are incorrect.	(II) dearly
(C) You are missed <u>    </u> by all of us.	(III) hardly
(D) He fared <u>    </u> in his exams.	(IV) evidently

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)
- (b) (A) - (IV), (B) - (III), (C) - (II), (D) - (I)
- (c) (A) - (I), (B) - (IV), (C) - (II), (D) - (III)
- (d) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (II), (D) - (I)

Q20. Rearrange the following parts in the correct sequence to form a meaningful sentence:

- (A) despite its success and its scale, continues to
- (B) proactively embrace transformational innovation opportunities
- (C) a creative construction enterprise is one that
- (D) pursue strategies, design systems and nourish cultures that

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (C), (B), (A), (D)
- (b) (C), (A), (D), (B)
- (c) (C), (D), (A), (B)
- (d) (A), (B), (D), (C)

Q21. Rearrange the following parts in the correct sequence to form a meaningful sentence:

- (A) until the flavors meld together and the curry thickens to the desired consistency

English Previous Year Paper

- (B) after which everything is slowly simmered with coconut milk, fresh herbs and seasonings  
 (C) the preparation begins with chopping assorted vegetables and preparing the spice mix  
 (D) followed by sautéing the vegetables in oil infused with mustard seeds and curry leaves

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (C), (A), (B), (D)  
 (b) (C), (D), (A), (B)  
 (c) (D), (A), (B), (C)  
 (d) (C), (D), (B), (A)

Q22. Match the definitions in List-I with the appropriate words of similar meanings given in List-II

List-I (Definitions)	List-II (Words)
(A) A person who withdraws from society to live a solitary life	(I) Pacifist
(B) A decision that cannot be changed	(II) Deadlock
(C) A person who opposes war and violence	(III) Recluse
(D) A situation in which no progress is possible, especially due to disagreement	(IV) Irrevocable

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)  
 (b) (A) - (II), (B) - (III), (C) - (IV), (D) - (I)  
 (c) (A) - (I), (B) - (II), (C) - (IV), (D) - (III)  
 (d) (A) - (IV), (B) - (III), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)

Q23. Match the words in List-I with their meanings in List-II.

List-I (Words)	List-II (Meanings)
(A) Pseudonym	(I) intuitive sagacity or perception
(B) Clairvoyance	(II) immoderate indulgence of appetite
(C) Intemperance	(III) a model, example or pattern
(D) paradigm	(IV) a fictitious name assumed by an author

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A) - (IV), (B) - (I), (C) - (II), (D) - (III)  
 (b) (A) - (IV), (B) - (II), (C) - (I), (D) - (III)  
 (c) (A) - (III), (B) - (I), (C) - (IV), (D) - (II)  
 (d) (A) - (III), (B) - (I), (C) - (II), (D) - (IV)

Q24. Match the idioms in List-I with their meaning in List-II

List-I Idioms	List-II (Meanings)
(A) to be in hot water	(I) to become angry or upset unexpectedly
(B) to gild the lily	(II) to hide or ignore an issue or problem
(C) to fly off the handle	(III) to over-embellish
(D) to sweep something under the rug	(IV) to be in a difficult or tricky situation

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A) - (IV), (B) - (I), (C) - (III), (D) - (II)  
 (b) (A) - (IV), (B) - (III), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)  
 (c) (A) - (III), (B) - (II), (C) - (IV), (D) - (I)  
 (d) (A) - (IV), (B) - (I), (C) - (II), (D) - (III)

Q25. Fill in the blank with the correct word from the options given:

Although the theory seemed plausible, it was ultimately by experimented evidence.

- (a) refuted  
 (b) encrusted  
 (c) regulated  
 (d) refurbished

Q26. Rearrange the parts in the correct sequence to form a meaningful sentence.

- (A) while the anti-oxidants in it are known to neutralize free radicals that damage cells in  
 (B) curcumin in turmeric has strong anti-inflammatory effects, which may help reduce

(C) the body and cause neurodegenerative and cardiovascular disease and cancer  
 (D) chronic inflammation linked to various diseases like arthritis, heart and bowel disease  
 Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A), (B), (D), (C)
- (b) (B), (C), (A), (D)
- (c) (B), (D), (A), (C)
- (d) (D), (A), (C), (B)

Q27. Select the most appropriate word to fill in the blank in the following sentence.  
 She listened to the speaker, hanging on every word as if it were a life-changing revelation.

- (a) admiringly
- (b) avidly
- (c) thoughtfully
- (d) anxiously

Q28. Match the blanks in List-I with the appropriate phrasal verbs from List-II

List-I	List-II
Sentence	Phrasal verb
(A) I will ___ the letters on my way home.	(I) put up
(B) When you are in town next week please .	(II) put off
(C) Don't check into a hotel, you'll be at my house.	(III) drop off
(D) I am so by his rude behaviour.	(IV) drop by

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A) - (II), (B) - (I), (C) - (III), (D) - (IV)
- (b) (A) - (IV), (B) - (III), (C) - (II), (D) - (I)
- (c) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)
- (d) (A) - (I), (B) - (II), (C) - (III), (D) - (IV)

Q29. Rearrange the following parts to form a meaningful sentence:

- (A) to inventions and at other times to destruction.
- (B) ethical conundrums experienced by human beings
- (C) fascination for abominations is one of the
- (D) since their origin, which sometimes leads them

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A), (B), (C), (D)
- (b) (A), (C), (B), (D)
- (c) (B), (A), (D), (C)
- (d) (C), (B), (D), (A)

Q30. Choose the correct antonym for 'JOVIAL' from the options given below.

- (a) Jocular
- (b) Crestfallen
- (c) Convivial
- (d) Gaily

Q31. Re-arrange the following phrases in the correct sequence to form a meaningful sentence:

- (A) is merely the practice of clearing
- (B) one simple definition of mindfulness
- (C) in order to manage stress and achieve health and happiness
- (D) one's mind of the daily distractions of life

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A), (D), (C), (B)
- (b) (D), (C), (B), (A)
- (c) (B), (A), (D), (C)
- (d) (D), (B), (C), (A)

Q32. Match the words given in List-I with the correct meaning given in List-II

List-I	List-II
(Words)	(Meanings)
(A) Reprehension	(I) A place where something is stored in large quantity
(B) Repartee	(II) A prearranged place of meeting

(C) Repository	(III) A ready ,witty or apt reply
(D) Rendezvous	(IV) Expression of blame

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A) - (I), (B) - (II), (C) - (III), (D) - (IV)
- (b) (A) - (IV), (B) - (III), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)
- (c) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (II), (D) - (I)
- (d) (A) - (II), (B) - (I), (C) - (III), (D) - (IV)

Q33. Replace the underlined word in the following sentence with the correct synonym from the options given below:

When the manager saw the intern handling a difficult customer skillfully, he decided it was expedient not to interfere yet.

- (a) prudent
- (b) alacritous
- (c) injudicious
- (d) exorbitant

Q34. Choose the correct synonym of the word REPUGNANT from the options given below:

- (a) Abhorent
- (b) Alluring
- (c) Mandatory
- (d) Remorseful

Q35. Fill in the blank with the correct option:

Radha is very good at \_\_\_\_\_ difficult situations.

- (a) placating
- (b) appeasing
- (c) diffusing
- (d) concluding

Q36. Choose the most appropriate verb to fill in the blank.

Both the government and the civil society must work together to \_\_\_\_\_ the cause of pollution.

- (a) crystallise
- (b) mitigate
- (c) expedite
- (d) perpetrate

Q37. Insert the appropriate words from List-I in the blanks in List-II to form meaningful sentences.

List-I	List-II
(Words)	(Sentences)
(A) affected	(I) The mother's _____ for her child knows no bounds.
(B) affectation	(II) The flood has greatly _____ the entire region.
(C) affection	(III) The innovative methods of solving the problems proved very _____
(D) effective	(IV) No one can put up with his irritating _____.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A) - (II), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (III)
- (b) (A) - (IV), (B) - (III), (C) - (II), (D) - (I)
- (c) (A) - (II), (B) - (I), (C) - (IV), (D) - (III)
- (d) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)

Q38. Rearrange the parts in the correct sequence to form a meaningful sentence.

- (A) vitamins or minerals that you take in addition to your regular meals
- (B) healthy eating, exercising and abstaining from harmful activities
- (C) dietary supplements are substances like chemicals, plant extracts,
- (D) to boost immunity and get other benefits, but they are hardly a substitute for

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A), (D), (C), (B)
- (b) (C), (A), (D), (B)
- (c) (C), (A), (B), (D)
- (d) (C), (B), (D), (A)

Q39. Replace the underlined word in the following sentence with a similar meaning word from the options given below:

English Previous Year Paper

The police investigation into the robbery at the ABC Mall, has revealed that the main electric supply had been sabotaged by the rebels.

- (a) supported
- (b) subverted
- (c) sugar coated
- (d) safeguarded

Q40. Identify the word that is opposite in meaning to the underlined word:

Elsa is very voluble on the subject of Women's rights.

- (a) Refined
- (b) Articulate
- (c) Taciturn
- (d) Effusive

Q41. Identify the most appropriate word to fill in the blank and form a meaningful sentence.

When the police questioned the witness, he was hesitant to \_\_\_\_\_ any information about the incident.

- (a) divulge
- (b) dislodge
- (c) discredit
- (d) evade

Q42. Fill in the blank with the correct option:

In no other country are seasons as \_\_\_\_\_ as they are in India.

- (a) homogeneous
- (b) vague
- (c) varied
- (d) mystic

Q43. Select the most appropriate word to fill in the blank in the following sentence:

The new manager was known for giving her team enough \_\_\_\_\_ to experiment with innovative ideas and make decisions independently.

- (a) liberality
- (b) lassitude
- (c) lattitude
- (d) levity

Q44. Choose the correct synonym of the word PROLIXITY from the options given below:

- (a) Verbosity
- (b) Succinctness
- (c) Veracity
- (d) Verbalization

Q45. Complete the sentences given in List-I with the appropriate idioms given in List-II

List-I	List-II
Sentences	Idioms
(A) The manager appears to be incharge, but all the important decsions are made by__ at the head office in Mumbai.	(I) jumped the gun
(B) He has been__ me ever since I was critical about his new book.	(II) the big guns
(C) He __ by thanking the Boss before the awards were announced.	(III) great guns
(D) The school choir team was going __ in the inter school competition as they reached the semi finals.	(IV) gunning for

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A) - (III), (B) - (I), (C) - (IV), (D) - (II)
- (b) (A) - (I), (B) - (III), (C) - (II), (D) - (IV)
- (c) (A) - (II), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (III)
- (d) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)

Q46. Fill in the blank with the correct word from the options given below:

The professors's explanations were so \_\_\_\_\_ that the students remained confused.

- (a) lucid
- (b) ambiguous
- (c) straightforward
- (d) Enlightening

Q47. Complete the sentences given in List-I with the appropriate prepositions given in List-II

List-I (Sentences)	List-II (Prepositions)
(A) He is waiting for me ___ the road	(I) through
(B) The message was conveyed to me ___ my friend	(II) across
(C) He is going to get married ___ the month of September	(III) on
(D) I shall meet him ___ the day of the examination	(IV) in

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A) - (II), (B) - (I), (C) - (III), (D) - (IV)
- (b) (A) - (I), (B) - (III), (C) - (II), (D) - (IV)
- (c) (A) - (I), (B) - (II), (C) - (IV), (D) - (III)
- (d) (A) - (II), (B) - (I), (C) - (IV), (D) - (III)

Q48. Match the idioms in List-I with their meanings in List-II.

List-I (Idioms)	List-II (Meanings)
(A) beard the lion in his den	(I) to keep away poverty or hunger
(B) an axe to grind	(II) be badly frightened or surprised
(C) keep the wolf from the door	(III) to confront a dangerous person boldly and openly
(D) jump out of one's skin	(IV) have a personal or selfish reason for being involved in something

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A) - (IV), (B) - (II), (C) - (III), (D) - (I)
- (b) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)
- (c) (A) - (I), (B) - (II), (C) - (IV), (D) - (III)
- (d) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (II), (D) - (I)

Q49. Choose the correct synonym of the word SQUANDER from the options given below:

- (a) Whinny
- (b) Binge
- (c) Waste
- (d) Whimsy

Q50. Re-arrange the following phrases in the correct sequence to form a meaningful sentence:

- (A) our public charities are but
- (B) of an unjust and ill organized society and
- (C) the first tardy awakening of the conscience of a robber
- (D) the existence of poverty is the proof

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (D), (B), (C), (A)
- (b) (A), (B), (D), (C)
- (c) (D), (B), (A), (C)
- (d) (A), (C), (D), (B)