

Comprehension: Direction (Q1-Q4): Read the given passage and answer the four questions that follow:-

I do not claim to tell a story as it ought to be told, but I know how a story should be told, for I have been in the company of expert storytellers for years. There are several kinds of stories. but only one difficult kind-the humorous story. The humorous story depends for its effect upon the manner of telling; the comic and the witty story, upon the matter.

A humorous story can be long and meander without arriving at a particular point, but comic and witty stories must be brief and end with a punch. The humorous story is a high and delicate art that requires an artist to tell, whereas the comic and witty stories do not need artistic skill. The humorous story is told gravely, with the teller attempting to conceal the humor. The comic storyteller, on the other hand, announces beforehand that the story is very funny and laughs at his own jokes.

Often, a rambling, humorous story may finish with a point, but the storyteller drops it casually, with the pretense that he does not know it is a nub. In contrast, the comic storyteller does not slur the nub; he shouts it at you and when he prints it he emphasizes the punchline with italics and exclamation marks, which is very depressing, and makes one want to renounce joking and lead a better life.

Q1. The writer portrays humorous stories as being of a higher level than comic stories by emphasising that

- (a) a humorous story is grave in spite of being humorous
- (b) a humorous story is difficult and superior due to its American descent
- (c) a humorous story is a great and delicate art that requires an artist to tell
- (d) unlike the comic and witty stories, humorous stories do not depress the reader

Q2. How is the humour in a humorous story typically conveyed?

- (a) by announcing beforehand that the story is funny.
- (b) by telling the story gravely and concealing the humour.
- (c) by explicitly exaggerating the punchline.
- (d) by shouting the punchline loudly through narrative markers.

Q3. The expression "In contrast, the comic storyteller does not slur the nub" implies that the comic story teller .

- (a) emphatically highlights the punchline of the story
- (b) deliberately avoids mentioning the punchline of the story
- (c) subtly hides the humour at the end of the story
- (d) is skillfully casual in his treatment of the punchline

Q4. Which of the following best describes the difference between a humorous story and a comic story?

- (a) A humorous story is brief and succinct, while a comic story is long.
- (b) A humorous story depends on the matter, whereas a comic story depends on the manner of telling.
- (c) A humorous story relies on the manner of telling, while a comic story depends on the matter.
- (d) A humorous story requires no artistic skill, while a comic story does.

Comprehension: Direction (Q4-Q8): Read the given passage and answer the four questions that follow:-

Microorganisms were discovered in tiny cracks within 2-billion-year-old rock in South Africa, making it the oldest rock known to host life. This finding offers insights into Earth's early life and the search for extraterrestrial life.

Deep within Earth's crust, billions of resilient microbes survive in extreme isolation, far removed from sunlight, oxygen, and food sources, growing at a glacial pace over thousands or millions of years. Previously, the oldest microbial traces were found in 100 -million-year-old seafloor sediments. However, Yohey Suzuki and his team at Tokyo University have pushed this record back by 2 billion years.

They extracted a 30 – cm cylindrical rock core from the Bushveld Igneous Complex in South Africa, a 2-billion-year-old volcanic region. Upon slicing the core, they found microbial cells in tiny fractures. DNA staining and imaging with advanced microscopes confirmed the microbes were indigenous, with intact cell walls, suggesting they were active.

The researchers hypothesise that the microorganisms were carried into the rock via water shortly after its formation. Clay deposits in the fractures may have provided nutrients. These microbes, primitive in evolutionary terms, offer clues about Earth's earliest life forms and their evolution.

The study also has implications for Mars exploration. Suzuki notes similarities between the Bushveld rocks and Martian rocks, suggesting the same techniques could identify life on Mars.

"This underscores the deep subsurface as a crucial environment for microbial life," says Manuel Reinhardt from the University of Göttingen, while noting that microorganisms colonised the rocks after crack formation; the timing needs investigation.

Q5. What implication does the study have for Mars exploration?

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- (a) Mars lacks geological structures similar to those on Earth.
- (b) Life on Mars, if present, would only exist on its surface.
- (c) Techniques used on Earth's rocks can help detect life in Martian subsurface rocks.
- (d) Microorganisms on Mars are likely much younger than those on Earth.

Q6. How were the microbes in the rock confirmed to be indigenous?

- (a) By testing their ability to grow in nutrient-rich environments.
- (b) By comparing their DNA to modern microbes found on Earth's surface.
- (c) By staining their DNA and using advanced microscopes to rule out contamination.
- (d) By analysing clay deposits in the fractures of the rock.

Q7. Why are the microbes described as "primitive in evolutionary terms"?

- (a) They evolved from Martian microorganisms.
- (b) They lack DNA and structural complexity.
- (c) They resemble Earth's earliest life forms in terms of adaptation.
- (d) They were found in relatively young volcanic sediments.

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What factor might have supported microbial survival in the rock fractures?

- (a) The presence of volcanic ash
- (b) Nutrients from clay deposits in the fractures
- (c) High oxygen levels deep within the crust
- (d) Light reflected through the cracks

Comprehension: Direction (Q9-Q12): Read the given passage and answer the four questions that follow:-

This is a story from long ago, when the last remaining traces of the British still lurked in their old haunts among the pristine Himalayan hills of Darjeeling. These were the early fifties, in other words.

I would spend entire days at a small, dusty bookshop with a faded, green sign over it- a sign painted with gold letters that said: "Mr Mun-Chee's Books." The paint was chipped at many places, you could barely see the second 's'. The shabby old shop was located in a cul-de-sac, a few hundred meters away from my own home. But inside, it was another world. On the floor stood staggering, towering piles of books, yellowed and aged, and the shelves lining all the walls were crammed with journals, lexicons and biographies, dramas, each laboriously cataloged and meticulously arranged. Mr Mun-Chee dealt mostly in antique books; first editions of books, long forgotten, books one hardly ever encountered anymore. There were sixteen editions of Jane Eyre, twenty-two of The Pickwick Papers, and fifty of The Pilgrim's Progress. It was not famous, but it was unique: customers barely ever walked in, as it was so hidden away in a run-down neighborhood. Tabby, the black Tom, my only possession, and I, were only disturbed five times that we spent there. And we spent nearly an entire year at the shop.

The shop was my sanctuary. After the daily ordeal of school, I invariably called out to Tabby and set out for the shop, to read, read, read, with Tabby curled up around my legs.

Q9. The word 'Lexicon' means:----

- (a) semantics
- (b) syntax
- (c) dictionary
- (d) phonetics

Q10. Mr Mun-Chee's shop was not a new shop as .

- (a) it was dusty
- (b) its paint was chipped
- (c) it was shabby
- (d) it had a green sign

Q11. The author felt 'at home' in the shop as it .

- (a) had all varieties of books
- (b) was unique
- (c) was situated near his house

(d) was his sanctuary

Q12. The author was 'only disturbed five times' refers to the fact that .

- (a) very few customers walked in
- (b) the shop was 'another world'
- (c) too many books were piled up
- (d) it was in a run-down neighborhood

Q13. Select the synonym of the given word:-

Sporadic

- (a) Irregular
- (b) Consistent
- (c) Confident
- (d) Obscure

Q14. Fill in the blanks in List-I with the appropriate phrasal verbs from List-II:-

List-I	List-II
(Sentences)	(Phrasal verbs)
(A) It is possible to ___ any job interview by just talking about your interests.	(I) get down
(B) It appears that the temperature will soon ___ to zero.	(II) get by
(C) In some organisations you never ___ the position for which you were hired.	(III) get back
(D) I have to ___ to London to complete my project that is now long overdue.	(IV) get beyond

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:-

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

Q15. Rearrange the following parts into a meaningful sentence:-

- (A) of minds of contemporary times
- (B) this volume is a rich collection of the best
- (C) cutting across boundaries and gender
- (D) of insights and thoughts of the greatest

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:-

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

Q16. Rearrange the following parts into a meaningful sentence:-

- (A) the writer lived and worked
- (B) lack of substantial evidence
- (C) the exact period in which
- (D) cannot be ascertained due to

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:-

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

Q17. Complete the sentences given in List-I with the appropriate prepositions from List-II:-

List-I (Sentences)	List-II (Prepositions)
(A) The case was put ___ the judge.	(I) across

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(B) She is suffering __ fever.	(ii) before
(C) A jeep hit him while he was going __ the main road.	(iii) among
(D) He is not popular __ the students.	(IV) from

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

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

Q18. Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank in the following sentence:-
The manager asked if they complete the report by the end of the week.

- (a) will
- (b) could
- (c) would
- (d) should

Q19. Rearrange the given parts to form a meaningful sentence:-

- (A) and strengthens economic self-reliance
- (B) manufacturing, creates jobs, encourages
- (C) make in India promotes local
- (D) innovation, attracts global investments

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

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

Q20. Choose the correct antonym for 'Acquittal' from the options given below:-

- (a) confession
- (b) conviction
- (c) consent
- (d) concord

Q21. Fill in the blank with the suitable word from the options given below:-

The company's growth was by the adverse change in the market regulations.

- (a) augmented
- (b) facilitated
- (c) propelled
- (d) hindered

Q22. Fill in the blanks in List-I with the appropriate homonyms from List-II :-

List-I (Sentences)	List-II (Homonyms)
(A) The team was forced to __ the machine for transportation.	(I) descent
(B) Her attempts to her true feelings were unsuccessful.	(II) dissent
(C) The plane's was delayed due to bad weather.	(III) disassemble
(D) He was criticised for voicing his __ during the debate.	(IV) dissemble

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:-

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

Q23. Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank in the following sentence:-

The rumble of the thunder hinted at the approaching danger, filling the air with a sense of unease.

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- (a) pretentious
- (b) contentious
- (c) tenuous
- (d) portentous

Q24. Fill in the blank with the correct word from the options given below:-
Despite his best efforts, the team's failure was given their lack of preparation.

- (a) inevitable
- (b) avoidable
- (c) improbable
- (d) optional

Q25. Fill in the blank with the correct option:
I asked many people the way to the station but of them had any clue about it.

- (a) none
- (b) some
- (c) few
- (d) everyone

Q26. Fill in the blanks in the sentences given in List-I with the appropriate words from List-II:-

List-I (Sentences)	List-II (Words)
(A) The word home often	(I) denotes
(B) Years of playing guitar gave her a large	(II) callous
(C) In grammar, an asterisk often	(III) connotes
(D) Ignoring the beggar on the street was a	(IV) callus

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:-

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

Q27. Fill in the blank with the correct word from the options given below:-

The king the throne voluntarily.

- (a) accessed
- (b) adopted
- (c) abdicated
- (d) abided

Q28. Fill in the blanks in the sentences given in List-I with the appropriate idioms from List-II:-

List-I (Sentences)	List-II (Idioms)
(A) We had to seek the intervention of his wife to after he got into an altercation with the neighbours.	(I) chew the fat
(B) With so many apps launching every day, good mobile games have become , It's hard to find one that stands out.	(II) read the riot act
(C) After a long week at work, we planned to good times over the weekend.	(III) pour oil on troubled waters
(D) The manager had to to the team for their constant delay in submitting the reports warning them that it wouldn't be tolerated anymore.	(IV) a dime a dozen

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:-

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

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

Q29. Identify the word closest in meaning to the underlined word:-
 My boss is a fraudulent character.

- (a) honest
 (b) innocent
 (c) transparent
 (d) deceptive

Q30. Complete the sentences given in List-I with the appropriate expressions from List-II:-

List-I (Sentences)	List-II (Expressions)
(A) Her replies to the questions put to him__ rudeness.	(1) resolved on
(B) She had strong reservations about his plan but not wanting to discourage him, she it.	(II) embarked on
(C) They decided to think through the implications of their course of action before they it.	(III) bordered on
(D) He __ making one more attempt at passing his final in Mathematics.	(IV) concurred with

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:-

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

Q31. Fill in the blank with the correct word from the options given below:-
 Film stars and models are known for their style.

- (a) superior
 (b) frugal
 (c) taciturn
 (d) flamboyant

Q32. Match the words given in List-I with the definitions from List-II:-

List-I (Words)	List-II (Definitions)
(A) Ophthalmologist	(I) A dentist who treats problems related to teeth and jaws
(B) Cardiologist	(II) A doctor who studies and treats kidney diseases
(C) Nephrologist	(III) A doctor who studies and treats diseases of the heart
(D) Orthodontist	(IV) A doctor who studies and treats diseases of the eyes

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:-

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

Q33. Rearrange the following parts into a meaningful sentence:-

- (A) narratives, often capturing royal, religious and nature scenes,
 (B) vibrant colours, offer a unique glimpse into historical and cultural
 (C) with a precision that makes each piece a work of art in itself
 (D) miniature paintings, known for their intricate details and

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:-

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

(d) (C), (B), (D), (A)

Q34. Select the word closest in meaning to the word Narcissism-

- (a) Meanness
- (b) Self-love
- (c) Modesty
- (d) Magnanimity

Q35. Rearrange the following parts into a meaningful sentence:-

- (A) craftsmanship and profound spiritual depth, features
- (B) ancient Indian architecture, celebrated for its intricate
- (C) iconic temples, stupas, and forts that showcase
- (D) a blend of artistic brilliance and advanced engineering

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:-

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

Q36. Fill in the blank with the correct word from the given options:-

Research has proved the significance of leading a structured life with enormous evidence to prove that mental fatigue can actually life.

- (a) produce
- (b) curtail
- (c) prolong
- (d) procure

Q37. Select the appropriate word from the given options to complete the following sentence:-

The artist struggled with the perfect shade of blue for the sky on his palette.

- (a) affecting
- (b) creating
- (c) adjusting
- (d) extracting

Q38. Select the word opposite in meaning to the given word:-

Novice

- (a) Amateur
- (b) Expert
- (c) Artist
- (d) Priest

Q39. Complete the sentences given in List-I with the appropriate Phrasal verbs from List-II:-

List-I (Sentences)	List-II (Phrasal Verbs)
(A) The evidence presented in the trial will certainly ___ his claims of innocence.	(1) beat out
(B) The storm began to ___ on the city, leaving behind widespread damage and power outages.	(ii) bear on
(C) The small start-up managed to ___ its larger competitors by offering more innovative solutions and better customer service.	(iii) bear out
(D) The new research findings could ___ our understanding of the disease and lead to better treatment options.	(IV) beat down

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:-

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

Q40. Select the verb form that most appropriately completes the following sentence:-
My sister me once or twice since the time she moved to Athens.

- (a) was messaging
- (b) has messaged
- (c) has been messaging
- (d) had messaged

Q41. Rearrange the parts to form a meaningful sentence:-

- (A) proportions, due to the adoption of urban
- (B) vitamin D deficiency, driven to an epidemic
- (C) as stress fractures and neurological issues
- (D) lifestyles result in severe symptoms, such

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:-

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

Q42. Choose the most appropriate antonym for Vitiate from the options given below:-

- (a) Debase
- (b) Activate
- (c) Avenge
- (d) Offend

Q43. Choose the correct antonym for 'Infallible' from the options given below:-

- (a) Unerring
- (b) Flawed
- (c) Impeccable
- (d) Explicable

Q44. Match the proverbs in List-I with their meanings in List-II:-

List-I	List-II
(Proverbs)	(Meanings)
(A) It's an ill bird that fouls its own nest	(1) People often blame their equipments for their failure or incompetence
(B) Never look a gift horse in the mouth	(II) People can have perfect intentions and still act wrongly or inappropriately
(C) The bad workman blames his tools	(III) Only a bad person would do something to harm his family or friends
(D) The road to hell is paved with good intentions	(IV) Never be ungrateful or critical of something that you have received as a gift or obtained by chance

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:-

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

Q45. Match the words given in List-I with their meanings given in List-II:-

List-I (Words)	List-II (Meanings)
(A) Divergent	(I) used to describe differences when one might be deceived by similarities
(B) Discrete	(II) often used for contrasting opinions or ideas
(C) Diverse	(III) used of different types of something
(D) Distinct	(IV) different and separate, not overlapping

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:-

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

Q46. Rearrange the following parts into a meaningful sentence:-

- (A) share a common broad template, there are
- (B) someone is prone to certain diseases, or has a particular hair colour
- (C) although most of the letters in our DNA are identical, and
- (D) also a lot of person-specific changes in them, due to which

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:-

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

Q47. Rearrange the following parts to make a meaningful sentence:-

- (A) role in scavenging dead organic materials and diseased
- (B) population as well as aquatic plants and weeds
- (C) according to environmentalists, the turtle plays a significant
- (D) fish in the river, thereby controlling the fish

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:-

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

Q48. Identify the word closest in meaning to the word Plaintive-

- (a) Joyful
- (b) Peaceful
- (c) Mournful
- (d) Triumphant

Q49. Choose the antonym for Loquacity from the options given below:-

- (a) Impetuosity
- (b) Frivolity
- (c) Taciturnity
- (d) Superfluity

Q50. Select the option closest in meaning to the underlined word:-

'You can't enter the building without showing your identity card', said the officious little man at the reception door.

- (a) Intrusive
- (b) Impetuous
- (c) Vicious
- (d) Respectful