

**Corporation Bank P.O. Exam**  
*Held on November 21, 2004*

**Directions (Qs. 1 to 10):** Read the following passage and answer the questions given below it. Certain words/phrases in the passage have been printed in **bold** to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

Marc Rodin flicked off the switch of his transistor radio and rose from the table, leaving the breakfast tray almost untouched. He walked over to the window, lit another in the endless chain of cigarettes and gazed out at the snow-en-crusted landscape which the late arriving spring had not yet started to dismantle.

He murmured a word quietly and with great venom, following up with other strong nouns and epithets that expressed his feeling towards the French President, his government and the Action Service.

Rodin was unlike predecessor in almost every way. Tall and spare, with a cadaverous face hollowed by the hatred within, he usually masked his emotions with an un-Latin **frigidity**. For him there had been no Ecole Polytechnic to open doors to promotion. The son of a cobbler, he had escaped to England by fishing boat in the halcyon days of his late teens when the Germans overran France, and had enlisted as a private soldier under the banner of the Cross of Lorraine.

Promotion through sergeant to warrant officer had come the hard way, in bloody battles across the face of North Africa under Koenig and later through the hedgerows of Normandy with Leclerc. A field commission during the fight for Paris had got him the officer's chevrons his education and breeding could never have obtained, and in post-war France the choice had been between reverting to civilian life or staying in the Army.

But revert to what? He had no trade but that of cobbler which his father had taught him, and he found the working class of his native country dominated by Communists, who had also taken over the Resistance and the Free French of the Interior. So he stayed in the Army, later to experience the bitterness of an **officer from the ranks** who saw a new young generation of educated boys graduating from the officer schools, earning in theoretical lessons carried out in classrooms the same **chevrons** he had sweated blood for. As he wanted them pass him in rank and privilege the bitterness started to set in.

There was only one thing left to do, and that was join one of the colonial regiments, the tough crack soldiers who did the fighting while the **conscript** army paraded round drill squares. He managed a transfer to the colonial paratroops.

Within a year he had been a company commander in Indo-China, living among other men who spoke and thought as he did. For a young man from a cobbler's bench, promotion could still be obtained through combat, and more combat. By the end of the Indo-China campaign he was a major and after an unhappy and frustrating year in France he was sent to Algeria.

The French withdrawal from Indo-China and the year he spent in France had turned his latent bitterness into a consuming loathing of politicians and Communists, whom he regarded as one and the same thing. Not until France was ruled by a soldier could she ever be weaned away from the grip of the traitors and **lickspittles** who permeated her public life. Only in the Army were both breeds extinct.

Like most combat officers who had seen their men die and occasionally buried the hideously mutilated bodies of those unlucky enough to be taken alive, Rodin worshipped soldiers as the true salt of the earth, the men who sacrificed themselves in blood so that the bourgeoisie could live at home in comfort. To learn from the civilians of his native land after eight years of combat in the forests of Indo-China that most of them **cared not a fig** for the soldiery, to read the **denunciations** of the military by the left wing intellectuals for mere trifles like the torturing of prisoners to obtain vital information, had set off inside Marc Rodin a reaction which, combined with the native bitterness stemming from his own lack of opportunity had turned into zealotry.

He remained convinced that given enough backing by the civil authorities on the spot and the government and people back home, the Army could have beaten the Viet-Minh. The cession of Indo-China had been a massive betrayal of the thousands of fine young men who had died there – seemingly for nothing. For Rodin there would be, could be, no more betrayals. Algeria would prove it. He left the shore of Marseilles in the spring of 1956 as near a happy man as he would ever be, convinced that the distant hills of Algeria would see the consummation of what he regarded as his life's work, the apotheosis of the French Army in the eyes of the world.

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1. What was the period when Rodin escaped to England?
  - (a) First half of the late arriving spring
  - (b) The time when Germany occupied France
  - (c) The period when Cross of Lorraine was disbanded
  - (d) When Rodin was a child doing cobbler's work
  - (e) None of these
  
2. Which of the following best describes the phrase....**careed not a fig**..... as used in the passage?
  - (1) Ignoring the contribution made by a person or group.
  - (2) Under estimating the hidden potential.
  - (3) Overlooking the services rendered by an employee.

(a) Only (1)	(b) Only (1) and (3)
(c) Only (3)	(d) Only (2)
(e) All (1), (2) and (3)	
  
3. Which factors made Rodin stay in the Army?
  - (1) He did not have any big business in civil life.
  - (2) The parent country had communist domination.
  - (3) He wanted to experience the bitterness of officer rank.

(a) Only (1)	(b) Only (1) and (2)
(c) Only (3)	(d) Only (2)
(e) Only (2) and (3)	
  
4. According to the passage, who resisted the dominance of communists?
  - (a) The native of Viet-Minh
  - (b) The freedom-loving citizens of Algeria
  - (c) The Marc Rodin
  - (d) The people of France
  - (e) None of these
  
5. Which of the following best describes the meaning of the phrase **officer from the ranks** as used in the passage?
  - (a) The person who has all essential academic qualifications and experience required to become an officer.
  - (b) The person who grows in the organization from lowest hierarchical position
  - (c) An officer who is given a rank of an officer to perform a specific task
  - (d) The person who struggles hard but fails to obtain a rank
  - (e) None of these
  
6. What favourable situations did Rodin find in Indo-China campaign?
  - (a) He could attain his lost seniority
  - (b) He could manage his desired posting to Algeria
  - (c) The people around him were of the same nature as he was
  - (d) He attained the rank of major in the Army
  - (e) None of these
  
7. What option did Robin choose in post war-France situation?
  - (a) He joined an officers' schools for Army
  - (b) He monitored the army parade in drill squares
  - (c) He joined a colonial regiment
  - (d) He preferred a cobbler's bench
  - (e) None of these
  
8. Why the Army could not overpower Viet-Minh?
  - (a) The combating army ignored the local civil authority
  - (b) The government lacked political will to support army operation

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- (c) The built-in hate of the commander did not percolate at the soldier level
  - (d) The conviction held by the army chief proved to be false
  - (e) None of these
9. What were the outcome of battles in Indo-China?
- (a) It removed the inbuilt hatred in Rodin
  - (b) It did not achieve the objectives for which it had been fought
  - (c) The French Army betrayed Rodin
  - (d) Rodin regarded it as he life's achievement
  - (e) None of these
10. Which of the following statements in **TRUE** in the context of the passage?
- (a) Marc Rodin was a qualified officer from Ecole Polytechnic
  - (b) Unlike his predecessor, the achievements in the army for Rodin were easy
  - (c) Rodin believed that only people who are worth their salt are soldiers
  - (d) Rodin's father did not teach him the trade of a cobbler
  - (e) None of these

**Directions:(Qs.11 to 13):** Choose the word which has most nearly the **SAME** meaning as the word printed in **bold** as used in the passage.

11. **chevrons:**
- (a) colours
  - (b) badges
  - (c) skills
  - (d) crowns
  - (e) ranks
12. **conscript:**
- (a) commissioned
  - (b) secret
  - (c) detailed
  - (d) compulsive
  - (e) registered
13. **lickspittles:**
- (a) spoons
  - (b) approvers
  - (c) sycophant
  - (d) witnesses
  - (e) sincere

**Directions (Qs. 14 to 15):** Choose the word which is **MOST OPPOSITE** in meaning to the word printed in **bold** as used in the passage.

14. **frigidity:**
- (a) warmth
  - (b) heat
  - (c) embrace
  - (d) negation
  - (e) calm
15. **denunciations:**
- (a) enrolment
  - (b) greeting
  - (c) rejections
  - (d) honouring
  - (e) acceptance

**Directions (Qs. 16 to 20):** In each questions, a sentence with two words/groups of words printed in **bold** type are given. One of these or both may have certain error. You have to find out the correct word or group of words from among the three choices 1, 2 and 3 given below each sentence which can replace the wrong word/group of words, if any, and makes the sentence grammatically correct. If the sentence is correct as it is, mark (e) i.e. 'No Correction Required' as your answer.

16. Aerobics are found to be **of extreme helpful** to diabetes patients.

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- (1) extremely helpful (2) of extreme help  
(3) of extremely helpful  
(a) (1) only (b) (2) only  
(c) (3) only (d) Either (1) or (2)  
(e) No correction required
17. Our **emphasis** is also on the quality of the product but not on its appearance alone.  
(1) emphasizing \_\_\_\_ and (2) stress \_\_\_\_ but  
(3) emphasis \_\_\_\_ and  
(a) (1) only (b) (2) only  
(c) (3) only (d) None  
(e) No correction required
18. Investors have been **receiving** better services from Insurance Companies.  
(1) demanding \_\_\_\_ by (2) received \_\_\_\_ from  
(3) received \_\_\_\_ by  
(a) 1 only (b) 2 only  
(c) 3 only (d) either 1 or 3  
(e) No correction required
19. Our insistence had **duly impact** on **their** decision – making process.  
(1) due impact \_\_\_\_ their (2) duly impacted \_\_\_\_ their  
(3) due impacting \_\_\_\_ them  
(a) (1) only (b) (2) only  
(c) (3) only (d) either (1) or (2)  
(e) No correction required
20. Before the doctor **comes**, the patient **had been** escaped from the ward.  
(1) reached \_\_\_\_ has (2) came \_\_\_\_ had  
(3) arrived \_\_\_\_ had been  
(a) (1) only (b) (2) only  
(c) (3) only (d) either (1) or (2)  
(e) No correction required

**Directions (Qs. 21 to 30):** Which of the phrases (a), (b), (c) and (d) given below should replace the phrase given **bold** in the following sentence to make the sentence grammatically meaningful and correct. If the sentence is correct as it is and no correction is required, mark (e) as the answer.

21. In guest rooms, the central portion is **generally reserved** for sofa set.  
(a) generally is reserved (b) is reserved generally  
(c) was generally reserved (d) are generally reserved  
(e) No correction required
22. The impact of the composite bow on warfare **was equal to the** crossbow of medieval times.  
(a) was equal to of the (b) is equal to the  
(c) is equal to that (d) was equal to that of the  
(e) No correction required
23. Culture, climate and geography **plays an important part** in the formation of any proverb.  
(a) plays an important role (b) plays a important part  
(c) plays an important role (d) play a important part  
(e) No correction required
24. This book will be **of particular interested** to those fascinated by the recent philosophy.  
(a) of particularly interest (b) of particular interest  
(c) of interested in particular (d) particularly of interested

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- (e) No correction required
25. These days developed countries have started **looking down for** underdeveloped countries as it is advantageous for both the parties.  
(a) looking after (b) looking down upon  
(c) to look down at (d) looking for at  
(e) No correction required
26. The methods **to adopt for eradication** of poverty should depend upon the magnitude and nature of resources available.  
(a) to adopt of eradicating (b) to be adopted for eradication  
(c) to be adopting to eradicate (d) for adoption of eradication  
(e) No correction required
27. In the production of desert trees, Nature **seems sometimes to have been experimenting** with the truly strange.  
(a) seem to have been sometimes experimenting  
(b) seems sometimes to have been experimented  
(c) sometimes seen to be experimented  
(d) sometimes seem to have experimented  
(e) No correction required
28. In the first round, the participants played in the presence of an accomplice who **was committed deliberate** errors.  
(a) committed deliberate (b) was to be committed deliberate  
(c) had committed deliberately (d) committed deliberately  
(e) No correction required
29. **What did prevent them from winning** the battle is not known.  
(a) What prevented them to win (b) What prevent them from winning  
(c) What prevented them from winning  
(d) What prevented their winning (e) No correction required
30. The scenario was identical to the one that **was to be observed** in the previous tournament.  
(a) was observing (b) had been observing  
(c) was observed (d) was to observe  
(e) No correction required

**Directions (Qs. 31 to 35):** In each question below a sentence with four words printed in **bold** type is given. These are numbered as (a), (b), (c) and (d). One of these four **boldly** printed words may be either **wrongly spelt or inappropriate** in the context of the sentence. Find out the word which is wrongly spelt or inappropriate, if any. The number of that word is your answer. If all the **boldly** printed words are correctly spelt and also appropriate in the context of the sentence, mark (e) i.e., 'All Correct' as your answer.

31. The questionnaire reflected various phenomena that are sparingly experienced All correct.  
(a) (b) (c) (d) (e)
32. Countryry to popular belief ripe fruits are not necessarily delicious All correct.  
(a) (b) (c) (d) (e)
33. The most ambitious enterprize undertaken in the ancient Egypt was of the construction of pyramids All correct.  
(a) (b) (c) (d) (e)

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34. The astronomical calculations were admirably accurate All correct .  
(a) (b) (c) (d) (e)
35. Looking inward from the top of the ramparts the sentries had a marvellous panorama spread before them  
(a) (b) (c) (d)

**Directions (Qs. 36 to 40):** Rearrange the following six sentences (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6) in the proper sequence to form a meaningful paragraph; then answer the questions given below them.

- (1) No one knows their names.
- (2) With irrigation systems, farmers were able to raise more food with less labour.
- (3) The first engineers lived in the Middle East, probably around 3500 B.C.
- (4) Today's city, thus, is essentially still a place where specialists live and work.
- (5) Thus, an increasing number of people were relieved of agricultural chores and able to gather in cities to practice specialities.
- (6) However, they conceived and built the elevated irrigation canal.

36. Which of the following will be the **FOURTH** sentence after rearrangement?

- |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (a) | (1) | (b) | (2) |
| (c) | (3) | (d) | (4) |
| (e) | (5) |     |     |

37. Which of the following will be the **FIFTH** sentence after rearrangement?

- |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (a) | (1) | (b) | (2) |
| (c) | (3) | (d) | (4) |
| (e) | (5) |     |     |

38. Which of the following will be the **SECOND** sentence after rearrangement?

- |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (a) | (1) | (b) | (2) |
| (c) | (3) | (d) | (4) |
| (e) | (5) |     |     |

39. Which of the following will be the **SIXTH (LAST)** sentence after rearrangement?

- |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (a) | (1) | (b) | (2) |
| (c) | (3) | (d) | (4) |
| (e) | (5) |     |     |

40. Which of the following will be the **FIRST** sentence after rearrangement?

- |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (a) | (1) | (b) | (2) |
| (c) | (3) | (d) | (4) |
| (e) | (5) |     |     |

**Directions (Qs. 41 to 50):** In the following passage there are blanks each of which have been numbered. Against each number, there are five words one of which fills the blank appropriately. Find the appropriate word in each case.

In any organized group of mammals, no matter how co-operative, there is always a (41) for social dominance. As he pursues this, each adult individual (42) a particular social rank, giving him his position, or status, in the group hierarchy. The situation never remains (43) for very long, largely because all the status strugglers are (44) older. When the overlords, or 'top-dogs', become senile, their seniority is challenged and they are (45) by their immediate subordinates. There is then renewed dominance squabbling as (46) moves a little farther up the pressure from (47). In addition, certain members of the group may suddenly be (48) down by disease or accidental death, leaving gaps in the hierarchy that have to be quickly filled.

The general result is a constant condition of status tension. Under natural (49) this tension remains tolerable because of the limited size of the social groupings. If, however, in the artificial

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environment of captivity, the group size becomes too big, or the space available too small, then the status 'rat race' soon gets out of hand, dominance battles rage uncontrollably, and the leaders of the packs, prides, colonies or tribes come under (50) strain.

- |     |                |                   |
|-----|----------------|-------------------|
| 41. | (a) feel       | (b) struggle      |
|     | (c) war        | (d) envy          |
|     | (e) stress     |                   |
| 42. | (a) allots     | (b) inherits      |
|     | (c) approves   | (d) acquires      |
|     | (e) desires    |                   |
| 43. | (a) stable     | (b) equitable     |
|     | (c) equal      | (d) calm          |
|     | (e) unstable   |                   |
| 44. | (a) aheading   | (b) looking       |
|     | (c) feeling    | (d) moving        |
|     | (e) growing    |                   |
| 45. | (a) throned    | (b) thrown        |
|     | (c) overthrown | (d) insulted      |
|     | (e) picked     |                   |
| 46. | (a) they       | (b) junior        |
|     | (c) elder      | (d) everyone      |
|     | (e) each one   |                   |
| 47. | (a) above      | (b) sides         |
|     | (c) top        | (d) behind        |
|     | (e) below      |                   |
| 48. | (a) go         | (b) feel          |
|     | (c) struck     | (d) run           |
|     | (e) come       |                   |
| 49. | (a) forces     | (b) conditions    |
|     | (c) pressures  | (d) preconditions |
|     | (e) upbringing |                   |
| 50. | (a) severe     | (b) unwanted      |
|     | (c) stress     | (d) productive    |
|     | (e) desirable  |                   |

### ANSWER KEYS

- |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1.  | (b) | 11. | (b) | 21. | (a) | 31. | (d) | 41. | (b) |
| 2.  | (a) | 12. | (d) | 22. | (d) | 32. | (e) | 42. | (d) |
| 3.  | (c) | 13. | (c) | 23. | (c) | 33. | (b) | 43. | (a) |
| 4.  | (e) | 14. | (a) | 24. | (b) | 34. | (c) | 44. | (e) |
| 5.  | (b) | 15. | (d) | 25. | (a) | 35. | (c) | 45. | (c) |
| 6.  | (d) | 16. | (a) | 26. | (b) | 36. | (b) | 46. | (e) |
| 7.  | (c) | 17. | (c) | 27. | (e) | 37. | (e) | 47. | (a) |
| 8.  | (b) | 18. | (e) | 28. | (a) | 38. | (a) | 48. | (c) |
| 9.  | (b) | 19. | (b) | 29. | (b) | 39. | (d) | 49. | (b) |
| 10. | (c) | 20. | (b) | 30. | (c) | 40. | (c) | 50. | (a) |

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