

IES 2006 : ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Directions (for the 8 questions which follow) :

Each question below consists of a phrase/idiom in capital letters, followed by four groups of words that is most nearly similar in meaning to phrase/idiom in capital letters.

1. To read the riot act
 - (a) To instigate a crowd
 - (b) To declare authoritatively that something must stop
 - (c) To offer something as an explanation or excuse
 - (d) To train fresh recruits
2. Raise somebody's hackles
 - (a) To prepare somebody for a tough encounter
 - (b) To bribe somebody
 - (c) To provide support to someone in need
 - (d) To make somebody angry
3. Hedge one's bets
 - (a) To prepare for an examination
 - (b) To protect oneself by not committing to one course of action
 - (c) To plan one's career
 - (d) To pluck up courage to propose to somebody for marriage
4. Flotsam and jetsam
 - (a) Navigation controls used in ship
 - (b) Important members of a political party
 - (c) Various unimportant objects
 - (d) Procedural rules to be followed in an organization
5. Red herring
 - (a) Red carpet treatment
 - (b) A new automobile
 - (c) The latest fashion
 - (d) An argument to divert attention
6. To take a rain-check
 - (a) To analyse a problem deeply
 - (b) To politely decline an offer
 - (c) To prepare for all possible contingencies
 - (d) To indulge in wasteful expenditure
7. Bring home the Bacon
 - (a) To attract clientele
 - (b) To achieve something successfully
 - (c) To take up a new job
 - (d) To purchase a new house
8. Gordian knot
 - (a) Utmost hatred for someone
 - (b) An exercise in mountaineering
 - (c) Close family ties
 - (d) A seemingly impossible problem

ORDERING OF SENTENCES

Directions (for the 7 questions which follow) : In the following items, each passage consists of six sentences. The first sentence (S_1) and the final sentence (S_6) are given into the beginning. The middle four sentences in each have been removed and jumbled up. These are labeled P, Q, R and S. You are required to find to the proper sequence of the four sentences and mark accordingly on the Answer Sheet.

Example 'X' has been solved for you.

- X. S_1 : There was a boy named Jack.
 S_6 : At last she turned him out of the house.
 P : So the mother asked him to find work.
 Q : They were very poor.
 R : He lived with his mother.
 S : But Jack refused to work.

Which one of the following is the correct sequence?

- (a) R – Q – P – S
 (b) P – Q – R – S
 (c) Q – P – R – S
 (d) R – P – S – Q

Explanation : The correct sequence in this example is R – Q – P – S which is marked by (a). Therefore, (a) is the correct answer.

9. S_1 : The backbone of a country is its labour force.
 S_6 : In other countries workers are made to work efficiently and the errant among them are taken to task.
 P : Thus, our work force has become a liability to the nation.
 Q : But unfortunately, instead of sensitizing the labour force about the need to work sincerely, our union leaders pamper them just to remain in power.
 R : Our labour laws are far too lenient.
 S : Most of them suffer from lack of work culture and hold the nation to ransom by going on strike.

Which one of the following is correct sequence?

- (a) Q – S – P – R
 (b) R – P – S – Q
 (c) Q – P – S – R
 (d) R – S – P – Q
10. S_1 : I am very much impressed with the budget.
 S_6 : It signifies a major effort to shift resources towards improving the quality and impact of public expenditure.
 P : This means taking another step towards reducing the nation's vulnerability to external adversities like rise in interest rates and oil prices, and economic slowdown.

- Q : The second point in the way the budget has re-allocated resources for key programmes.
- R : The continuing fiscal adjustment is important because, while things are rosy today, they may not be so tomorrow.
- S : The first point to be emphasized is that it puts India on the fiscal responsibility track from which it deviated last year.

Which one of the following is correct sequence?

- (a) P – R – S – Q
- (b) S – Q – P – R
- (c) P – S – Q – R
- (d) S – R – P – Q

11. S₁ : Our country is famous the world over for its arts and crafts, forts and palaces and the holy shrines.
- S₆ : One only hopes that the efforts are sustained and India emerges as the leading tourist destination.
- P : But a lot still needs to be done to develop infrastructure to meet international standards.
- Q : It is a positive move that the state tourism departments are actively promoting their respective states.
- R : A step in the right direction has been taken.
- S : Exploring the culture and heritage of India is an experience that is definitely a major attraction for tourists from the West.

Which one of the following is the correct sequence?

- (a) S – Q – P – R
- (b) R – P – Q – S
- (c) S – P – Q – R
- (d) R – Q – P – S

12. S₁ : The classroom of the future will feature electronic white boards.
- S₆ : It already exists in many countries.
- P : The classroom I'm describing is not some figment of imagination.
- Q : And the students of the future won't have to choose between concentrating on the teacher and scribbling the equations into notebooks.
- R : The teachers of the future will write equations on these boards with electronic pens.
- S : They will devote all their energy to listening, then download the equations straight into laptops they've plugged into their desks.

Which one of the following is the correct sequence?

- (a) P – S – Q – R
- (b) R – Q – S – P
- (c) P – Q – S – R
- (d) R – S – Q – P

13. S₁ : Digital cameras have successfully permeated into the Indian market.
- S₆ : The photographer in you can come alive with the kind of user-friendly options available in digicams and the corresponding software on computers.

- P : Gone are the days of buying film rolls and waiting for days to get the pictures.
- Q : Even the printing costs are much lower.
- R : Digital cameras do away with film rolls and make it easier for users to shoot pictures, edit and print them as per their requirements.
- S : With almost every second person owning one, analogue cameras are fast becoming things of the past.
- Which one of the following is the correct sequence?
- (a) S – P – R – Q
- (b) R – Q – S – P
- (c) S – Q – R – P
- (d) R – P – S – Q
14. S₁ : What drives people to kill themselves with work?
- S₆ : The stresses are the same for men and women, the risks are also the same, except for the protection in a woman's heart gets from the female hormone, estrogen.
- P : That's why we are increasingly seeing people in their thirties and forties having heart attacks.
- Q : Usually, it's job insecurity or ambition, or sometimes a bit of both.
- R : The effects of overwork are already visible in hospitals.
- S : People driven by work have little time for themselves, have poor eating habits and are inactive.
- Which one of the following is the correct sequence?
- (a) Q – P – S – R
- (b) S – R – Q – P
- (c) Q – R – S – P
- (d) S – P – Q – R
15. S₁ : Germany is the latest of the countries to have said that photographs on passports should be expressionless.
- S₆ : In India, the passport office already has an informal rule to reject photographs where the teeth are exhibited through a grin or grimace.
- P : The German Interior Minister has described broad smiles as "unacceptable", however nice they are.
- Q : Even if it is a beauty who can launch a thousand ships, like the Helen of Troy, she will have to keep her mouth shut and avoid the twinkling in her eyes.
- R : Germans as a race have been much more serious than their more sunny neighbors in Italy and other Mediterranean countries.
- S : These smiles can trip the biometric instruments which ensure that the face of the passport holder matches the photograph pasted in the travel document.
- Which one of the following is the correct sequence?
- (a) R – S – P – Q
- (b) Q – P – S – R
- (c) R – P – S – Q
- (d) Q – S – P – R

SPOTTING ERRORS

Directions (For the 8 questions which follow) :

(i) In this Section a number of sentences are given. The sentences are underlined in three separate parts and each one is labeled (a), (b) and (c). Read each sentence to find out whether there is an error in any underline part. No sentence has more than one error. When you find an error in any one of the underline part (a), (b) or (c), indicate your response on the separate Answer Sheet at the appropriate space. You may feel that there is no error in a sentence. In that case letter (d) will signify a 'No error' response.

(ii) You are to indicate only one response for each item in your Answer Sheet. (If you indicate more than one response, your answer will be considered wrong.) Errors may be in grammar, word usage or idioms. There may be a word mission or there may be a word which should be removed.

(iii) You are not required to correct the error. You are required only to indicate your response on the Answer Sheet.

Examples 'P' and 'Q' have been solved for you.

P. $\frac{\text{The young child}}{\text{bg}}$ $\frac{\text{singed}}{\text{bg}}$ $\frac{\text{a very sweet song.}}{\text{cg}}$ $\frac{\text{No error}}{\text{dg}}$

Q. $\frac{\text{We worked}}{\text{bg}_a}$ $\frac{\text{very hard}}{\text{bg}_b}$ $\frac{\text{throughout the season}}{\text{bg}_c}$ $\frac{\text{No error}}{\text{bg}_d}$

Explanation : In item P, the word 'signed' is wrong. The letter under this part is (b) ; so (b) is the correct answer. Similarly, for item Q, (d) is the correct answer, as the sentence does not contain any error.

16. May we inform, or reassure, readers that the British Journal of Photography has
reached Volume 122 and still going strong No error

17. She described the Chief of Police in terms no lady should use and told us
that he was too far full of his own importance. No error

18. While you blow hot and cold whether you want to get married or not,
Rita will be off with somebody else. No error

19. Artists and writers, no less than political reformers,
have their parts to pay and often indeed subtly create
that change in the climate of opinion which makes reforms possible. No error
20. Like many great a people who are very bright in other directions, he lost all his
wits when confronted with a column of figures. No error
21. Atul appears to be very innocent but manys the promise that has been
broken by him No error
22. The thieves would have happily resorted to violence
- so it was fortunate for the night - watchman that he was sound asleep
in his room over the whole time the thieves were in the warehouse. No error
23. While Parliament talks about the future of our economy, the vital decisions
have been already made behind closed doors. No error

ORDERING OR WORDS IN A SENTENCE

Directions (For the 8 questions which follow) : In the following items, some parts of the sentence have been jumbled up. You are required to re-arrange these parts which are labeled P, Q, R and S to produce the correct sentence.

Example 'Z' has been solved for you

- Z. IT is well-known that
the effect is very bad On children of cinema

Which one of the following is the correct sequence?

- (a) P – S – R – Q
 (b) S – P – Q – E
 (c) S – R – P – Q
 (d) Q – S – R – P

Explanation : The proper way of writing the sentence is “It is well-known that the effect of cinema on children is very bad”. This is indicated by the sequence P – S – R – Q and so (a) is the correct answer.

24. In India’s
port handling facilities and delays in transportation which in turn are
export and manufacturing potential remains considerably unfulfilled
it is because of infrastructure bottlenecks such as power shortages.
due to poor transport links within the country

Which one of the following is the correct sequence?

- (a) Q – S – R – P
(b) P – R – S – Q
(c) Q – R – P – S
(d) P – S – R – Q

25. In order
in government needs to grant infrastructure status
to catalyze the growth and for consequent improvement.
ensure that both public and private institution deliver quality health care
to the health care industry and create a regulatory mechanism

Which one of the following is the correct sequence

- (a) S – R – Q – P
(b) Q – P – S – R
(c) S – P – Q – R
(d) Q – R – S – P

26. The Indian nuclear
electricity generation capacity in the country
with a total installed capacity of 3,310 MWe.
power programme currently consists of 15 operational reactors
amounting to about 3 per cent of total installed

Which one of the following is the correct sequence

- (a) S – Q – R – P
- (b) R – P – S – Q
- (c) S – P – Q – R
- (d) R – Q – S – P

27. Although not

openly articulated by United States official,

their countrys decision to help catapult one of the major factors influencing

India into the “superpower” orbit is the rise of China.

Which one of the following is the correct sequence

- (a) P – R – Q – S
- (b) Q – S – P – R
- (c) P – S – Q – R
- (d) Q – R – P – S

28. The Census

when they were released in 2001 as they

imbalance in the child sed ration (CSR) against girls

of Indias provisional results caused alarm showed a continuing trend in the serious.

Which one of the following is the correct sequence

- (a) Q – S – P – R
- (b) R – P – S – Q
- (c) Q – P – S – R
- (d) R – S – P – Q

29. Given the alarming

in the transmission, the outbreak of the disease in India was only a matter of time

or “bird flue”, caused by the virus H5N1.

speed of the highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI)

across the globe and the increasing evidence of the role of migratory birds

Which one of the following is the correct sequence

- (a) S – Q – P – R
- (b) R – P – Q – S

- (c) S – P – Q – R
(d) R – Q – S – P
30. In an era of
standards of competition, yet the Government
the reservation culture to the private sector
is only promoting mediocrity by extending
liberalization, India cannot afford to lower

Which one of the following is the correct sequence

- (a) S – P – R – Q
(b) R – Q – S – P
(c) S – Q – R – P
(d) R – P – S – Q
31. Such are
expectations in a coalition era

not doing anything wrong is seen as a virtuous act
that more than doing the right thing
the perils of managing

Which one of the following is the correct sequence

- (a) R – Q – S – P
(b) S – P – R – Q
(c) R – P – S – Q
(d) S – Q – R – P

ANTONYMS

Direction (for the 8 questions which follow) : Each question below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by four words or groups of words. Select the word or group of word that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters.

32. Choleric
- (a) Unreasonable
(b) Even-tempered
(c) Quarrelsome
(d) Weird

33. Assiduity
(a) Moroseness
(b) Mortification
(c) Judiciousness
(d) Lack of careful attention to a task
34. Prodigious
(a) Careless
(b) Negligible
(c) Miserly
(d) Critical
35. Sterile
(a) Imbecile
(b) Solitary
(c) Fertile
(d) Unscrupulous
36. Contumacious
(a) Astute
(b) Pliable
(c) Stoical
(d) Humorous
37. Approbation
(a) Support
(b) Prediction
(c) Uncertainty
(d) Disapproval
38. Erudite
(a) Unflappable
(b) Ignoramus
(c) Coward
(d) Enthusiastic
39. Unbridled
(a) Restrained
(b) Arrogant
(c) Diligent
(d) Admired

SYNONYMS

Directions (for the 8 questions which follow) : Each question below consist of a word or group of words in capital letters, followed by four words or groups of words. Select the word or group of word that is most nearly similar in meaning to the word or group in capital letters.

40. Caprice
(a) Resoluteness
(b) Joke

- (c) Sudden change in attitude
- (d) Attraction
- 41. Vestige
 - (a) Apology
 - (b) Excuse
 - (c) Offence
 - (d) Trance
- 42. Adventitious
 - (a) Accidental
 - (b) Critical
 - (c) A process using high technology
 - (d) Exciting
- 43. Obstreperous
 - (a) Fathomless
 - (b) Unruly
 - (c) Anathema
 - (d) Causing fatigue
- 44. Puerile
 - (a) Unalloyed
 - (b) Childish
 - (c) Strictness in morals
 - (d) Poisonous
- 45. Nit-picking
 - (a) An accomplished weaver
 - (b) Critical of minor details
 - (c) A outstanding story-teller
 - (d) Adept in the worldly affairs
- 46. Spick and span
 - (a) Neat and clear
 - (b) Short and sweet
 - (c) Helter-skelter
 - (d) Fire and brimstone
- 47. Dilettante
 - (a) A diligent person
 - (b) A person who studies something without serious understanding
 - (c) A person who takes undue interest in others affairs
 - (d) A person who is always complaining over minor things

COMPREHENSION

Direction (for the 6 questions which follow) : The passage given below is followed by questions based on its content. After reading the passage, choose the best answer to each question. Answer all questions following the passage on the basis of what is stated or implied in the passage.

Passage:

The atmosphere is a mixture of several gases. There are about ten chemical elements which remain permanently in gaseous form in the atmosphere under all natural conditions. Of these permanent gases, oxygen make up about 21 per cent and nitrogen about 78 per cent. Several other gases, such as argon, carbon dioxide, hydrogen, neon, krypton, and xenon, comprise the remaining 1 per cent of the volume of dry air. The amount of water vapour, and its variations in amount and distribution, are of extraordinary importance in weather changes. Atmospheric gases hold in suspension great quantities of dust, pollen, smoke and other impurities which are always present in considerable, but variable amount.

The layer of the air next to the earth, which extends upward for about 16 km, is known as the troposphere. On the whole, it makes up about 75 per cent of all the weight of the atmosphere. It is the warmest part of the atmosphere because most of the solar radiation is absorbed by the earth's surface, which warms the air immediately surrounding it. A steady decrease of temperature with increasing elevation is a most striking characteristic. The upper layers are colder because of their great distance from the earth's surface and rapid radiation of heat into space. The temperatures within the troposphere decrease about 3.50 per 1,000 feet increase in altitude. Within the Troposphere, winds and air currents distribute heat and moisture. Strong winds, called jet streams are located at the upper levels of the troposphere. These jet streams are both complex and widespread in occurrence. They normally show a wave-shaped pattern and move from west to east at velocities of 240 kmph, but velocities as high as 640 kmph have been noted. The influences of changing locations and strengths of jet streams upon weather conditions and pattern are no doubt considerable.

Above the troposphere to a height of about 80 km is a zone called the stratosphere. The stratosphere is separated from the troposphere by a zone of uniform temperatures called the tropopause. Within the lower portions of the stratosphere is layer of ozone gases which filters out most of the ultraviolet rays from the sun. the ozone layer varies with air pressure. If this zone were not there, the full blast of the sun's ultraviolet light would burn our skins, blind our eyes and eventually result in our destruction. Within the stratosphere, the temperature and atmosphere composition are relatively uniform. The layer upward of about 80 km is the most fascinating but the least known of these three strata. It is called ionosphere because it consists of electrically charged particles called ions, thrown from the sun. Its effect upon weather conditions, if any, is as yet unknown.

48. The troposphere is the warmest part of the atmosphere because it:
- (a) Radiates heat into space
 - (b) Is warmed by the earth's heat
 - (c) Has winds and air currents that distribute the heat
 - (d) Contains jet streams
49. Life as we know it exists on the earth because the atmosphere:
- (a) Is warmest at the bottom
 - (b) Carries the ultraviolet rays of the sun
 - (c) Contains a layer of ozone gases
 - (d) Contains a lot of water vapours
50. It can be inferred from the passage that at the top of a location which is above 16,000 feet above a town, the temperature is usually:
- (a) Below freezing

- (b) Warmer than that in the town
 - (c) About 560 colder than on the ground
 - (d) Affected by the ionosphere
51. Which of the following question is / are answered on the basis of information contained in the passage?
- 1. How do the troposphere and the stratosphere differ/
 - 2. How does the ionosphere affect the weather?
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- (a) Only 1
 - (b) Only 2
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
52. This passage does not provide information about:
- (a) The effect of refrigerants on ozone depletion
 - (b) The amount of oxygen in the atmosphere
 - (c) The presence of considerable waste products in the atmosphere
 - (d) The presence of permanent gases in the atmosphere
53. It can be inferred from the passage that a jet plane will usually have its best average speed on its run from :
- (a) London to New York
 - (b) New Delhi to Tokyo
 - (c) New Delhi to Washington
 - (d) Melbourne to New Delhi

Directions (for the 7 questions which follow): In each of the following questions, a related pair of word is followed by four pairs of words. Select the pair out of these four choices that best expresses a relationship similar to that expressed in the original pair.

54. Laugh : Guffaw ::
- (a) Drink : Sip
 - (b) Quarrel : Squabble
 - (c) Cough : Sneeze
 - (d) Deluge : Tickle
55. Dispassionate : Partisanship ::
- (a) Disconsolate : Sorrow
 - (b) Ardent : Involvement
 - (c) Enthusiastic : Zealousness
 - (d) Intemperate : Moderation
56. Ramshackle : Soundness ::
- (a) Humadrum : Monotony
 - (b) Garbled : Clarity
 - (c) Flimsy : Transparency
 - (d) Steadfast : Speed
57. Minatory : Threaten ::
- (a) Salutory : Greet
 - (b) Defamatory : Publicize
 - (c) Mandatory : Complete
 - (d) Laudatory : Praise

58. Skulduggery : Swindler : :
 (a) Chicanery : Trickster
 (b) Forgery : Speculator
 (c) Quandary : Craven
 (d) Surgery : Quack
59. Punishment : Mitigate : :
 (a) Mandate : Execute
 (b) Wealth : Aggregate
 (c) Sentence : Commute
 (d) Fine : Collect
60. Events : Contemporaneous : :
 (a) Measures : Temporary
 (b) Objects : Adjacent
 (c) Steps : Repetitive
 (d) Times : Victories

ANSWER

- | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (c) | 28. (b) | 55. (d) |
| 2. (d) | 29. (d) | 56. (b) |
| 3. (b) | 30. (a) | 57. (d) |
| 4. (a) | 31. (b) | 58. (a) |
| 5. (d) | 32. (b) | 59. (b) |
| 6. (b) | 33. (d) | 60. (b) |
| 7. (b) | 34. (b) | |
| 8. (d) | 35. (c) | |
| 9. (d) | 36. (b) | |
| 10. (d) | 37. (d) | |
| 11. (a) | 38. (b) | |
| 12. (b) | 39. (a) | |
| 13. (a) | 40. (c) | |
| 14. (c) | 41. (d) | |
| 15. (c) | 42. (a) | |
| 16. (a) | 43. (b) | |
| 17. (b) | 44. (b) | |
| 18. (d) | 45. (b) | |
| 19. (c) | 46. (a) | |
| 20. (a) | 47. (b) | |
| 21. (b) | 48. (b) | |
| 22. (c) | 49. (c) | |
| 23. (c) | 50. (c) | |
| 24. (c) | 51. (a) | |
| 25. (b) | 52. (a) | |
| 26. (d) | 53. (b) | |
| 27. (a) | 54. (b) | |