

ENGLISH



QUESTION PAPER 2021

Time: 40 Minutes Total Marks: 200

Important Instructions:

- **1.** This Test contains 50 items (questions). Each item comprises four responses (answers). You will select the response which you want to mark on the Answer Sheet. In case, you feel that there is more than one correct response, mark the response which you consider the best. In any case, choose **ONLY ONE** response for each item.
- **2.** You have to mark all your responses **ONLY** on the separate Answer Sheet provided.
- 3. All items carry equal marks.
- **4.** Before you proceed to mark in the Answer Sheet the response to various items in the Test Booklet, you have to fill in some particulars in the Answer Sheet as per instructions.
- **5.** Penalty for wrong answers:
 - THERE WILL BE PENALTY FOR WRONG ANSWERS MARKED BY A CANDIDATE IN THE OBJECTIVE TYPE OUESTION PAPERS.
 - (i) There are four alternatives for the answer to every question. For each question for which a wrong answer has been given by the candidate, one third of the marks assigned to that question will be deducted as penalty.
 - (ii) If a candidate gives more than one answer, it will be treated as a wrong answer even if one of the given answers happens to be correct and there will be same penalty as above to that question.
 - (iii) If a question is left blank, i.e., no answer is given by the candidate, there will be no penalty for that question.

Synonyms

Directions: (Q. 1–10) Each item in this section consists of a sentence with an underlined word followed by four words. Select the option that is nearest in meaning to the underlined word and mark your response in your answer sheet accordingly.

- 1. Her smile was contagious.
 - (a) arrogant
- (b) disrespectful
- (c) sarcastic
- (d) catching
- 2. Her dynamic nature impressed everyone.
 - (a) enduring
- (b) attentive
- (c) evolutionary
- (d) jealous
- 3. She was lamenting her destiny.
 - (a) celebrating
- (b) bemoaning
- (c) blaming
- (d) making
- **4.** Under his leadership the company grew in an organic manner.
 - (a) natural
- (b) speedy
- (c) unusual
- (d) disciplined
- 5. His charm lies in his oratory.
 - (a) deceit
- **(b)** eloquence
- (c) looks
- (d) nobility

- **6.** She is a patron of art and culture.
 - (a) entrepreneur
- (b) admirer
- (c) critique
- (d) backer
- 7. Arrogance is a hallmark of his nature.
 - (a) concern
- (b) unpretentiousness
- (c) conceit
- (d) simplicity
- 8. She undertook a <u>reconnaissance</u> of the entire issue.
 - (a) revaluation
- (b) ratification
- (c) investigation
- (d) regularisation
- 9. My daughter is my replica.
 - (a) pride
- (b) clone
- (c) love
- (d) original
- **10.** The <u>sardonic</u> nature of her stories made her stand <u>out among</u> the contemporary writers.
 - (a) compassionate
- (b) insightful
- (c) mocking
- (d) comic

Antonyms

Directions: (Q. 11–20) Each item in this section consists of a sentence with an underlined word followed by four words. Select the option that is opposite in meaning to the underlined word and mark your response in your answer sheet accordingly.

11.	He found her ex	tremely <u>attractive</u>				
	charming. (a) unnatural	(b) modern				
	(c) repulsive	(d) disapproving				
10	· · · •	(u) disapproving				
12.	The sky is boundless.	(b) west				
	(a) high(c) expansive	(b) vast(d) finite				
10	· · · •					
13.	The sky is <u>clear</u> today					
	(a) bright(c) cloudless	(b) opaque				
11	• •	, ,				
14.	I have a fascination for					
	(a) dangerous	(b) light				
15	(c) dangerous (d) shallow My boss has been too generous.					
15.	=	(b) rough				
	(a) stingy(c) evil	(d) hostile				
16	• /	()				
10.	Spring is a time of <u>ple</u>					
	(a) ugliness(c) roughness	(b) scarcity(d) dryness				
17		• • •				
1/.	He is an industrious workman. (b) productive					
	(a) lazy	(d) disloyal				
10						
10.	Plants grow in abund (a) shrivel	(b) stretch				
	` '	(d) enlarge				
10	(c) spread					
19.	She rarely comes here					
	(a) seldom	(b) never				
20	(c) always	(d) frequently				
20.	She is a rather crooke	a woman.				

Idioms and Phrases

(b) generous

(d) happy

Directions: (Q. 21–30) Given below are some idioms/phrases followed by four alternative meanings to each. Choose the response (a), (b), (c) or (d), whichever is the most appropriate expression, and mark your response in your answer sheet accordingly.

21. Overstep the mark

(a) polite

(c) straightforward

- (a) To tell people how successful you are
- **(b)** To step into someone else's areas of expertise
- (c) To upset someone by doing/saying more than you should
- (d) To do something in an excited way

22. Palsy-walsy friends

and

- (a) Good friends
- **(b)** Friends who help each other in difficult situations
- (c) Friends by choice, and not by chance
- (d) Unfriendly
- 23. Open a Pandora's box
 - (a) To do something that causes a lot of new problems that you did not expect
 - (b) To do something out of compulsion
 - (c) To do something beyond expectation
 - **(d)** To do something out of the box, that causes awards and ceremonies for you
- **24.** Pull your socks up
 - (a) To be well-dressed for an occasion
 - **(b)** Improve your work or behaviour
 - (c) To speak in an honest way without hesitation
 - **(d)** To be in control of an organization, often secretly
- 25. To get under somebody's skin
 - (a) To deceive someone
 - (b) To admire someone
 - (c) To annoy someone
 - (d) To support someone
- **26.** Turn topsy-turvy
 - (a) To completely change something
 - (b) To completely evaluate something
 - (c) To enjoy yourself greatly
 - (d) To exhaust yourself completely
- 27. A clarion call
 - (a) A trumpet call
 - **(b)** An intimidating voice
 - (c) A strong request
 - (d) An urgent order
- **28.** Fire in the belly
 - (a) Fear and hatred
 - (a) Tear aria riarrea
 - **(b)** Powerful ambition
 - (c) Love and dedication
 - (d) Lethargy and indifference
- 29. A hunky-dory situation
 - (a) There are serious issues among people
 - **(b)** There are no problems and people are happy
 - (c) There is war and bloodshed all around
 - (d) There is no work, only enjoyment

- 30. Give somebody a leg up
 - (a) To pull someone down
 - (b) To deceive and betray someone
 - (c) To help someone for their livelihood
 - (d) To help someone be successful

Spotting Errors

Directions: (Q. 31–40) Each item in this section has a sentence with three underlined parts labelled (a), (b) and (c). Read each sentence to find out whether there is any error in any underlined part and indicate your response in the answer sheet against the corresponding letter i.e., (a) or (b) or (c). If you find no error, your response should be indicated as (d).

31.	You don't have a monopoly on suffering;		
	(a)	(b)	
	other peop	ole don't have problems too.	
		(c)	
	No error		
	(d)		
~~	TC	(1)	

32. If you say that someone

(a)

you admire has feet of clay,

(b)

you mean that they have hidden faults.

o error

 $\frac{\text{No error}}{\text{(d)}}$

33. He refused to change his decision;

 $\frac{\text{(a)}}{\text{he refused it point out.}} \frac{\text{(b)}}{\text{(c)}} \frac{\text{No error}}{\text{(d)}}$

34. The importance of trade in Mughal times reinforced

(a)

(c)

the cultural definition of wealth as something
(b)

 $\frac{\text{comprising of movable property.}}{\text{(c)}} \frac{\text{No error}}{\text{(d)}}$

35. In the nineteenth century,

(a) most traditional scholars (b)

 $tried \ to \ stay \ clear \ from \ the \ imperial \ Government.$

(c)
No error
(d)

36. He began his discussion by pointing over(a)

that men and women (b)

 $\frac{\text{had different biological functions.}}{\text{(c)}} \frac{\text{No error}}{\text{(d)}}$

- 37. Though he is poor, but he is honest. No error
 (a)
 (b)
 (c)
 (d)
- 38. My mother has been doing

 (a) (b)

 everything for the family. No error
 (c) (d)
- 39. When learning to dive it is important

 (a)
 (b)

 to relax in between and take breaks. No error
 (c)
 (d)
- 40. I have the opportunity to study
 (a)
 (b)
 in America next year. No error
 (c)
 (d)

Fill in The Blanks

Directions: (Q. 41–50) Each of the following sentences in this section has a blank space and four words or group of words given after the sentence. Select the word or group of words you consider most appropriate for the blank space and indicate your response on the answer sheet accordingly.

you	your response on the answer sheet accordingly.			
41.	There was a time when West Germany was a			
	distinct			
	(a) policy	(b) polity		
	(c) abstract	(d) hierarchy		
42.	I was	with the film; I had expected		
	it to be better.			
	(a) disappointed	(b) disappointing		
	(c) annoying	(d) prejudiced		
43.	It was a	experience. Everybody was		
	shocked.			
	(a) terrified	(b) horrified		
	(c) terrifying	(d) denouncing		
44.	Elephants	when they perceive		
	danger.			

	(a) trumpet	(b) frolic		(c) normally	(d) basically
	(c) whine	(d) sing	48.	My son is very	; he trusts everyone.
45.	The first film on Tagore	e was such a success that		(a) fallible	(b) gullible
	now they are going to	make a		(c) sensible	(d) credible
	(a) serial	(b) sequence	49.	Mahatma Gandhi wa	as a lover of humanity and
	(c) sequel	(d) sequential		a believer i	n the goodness of human
46.	The United Nations h	ad 2020 as the		nature.	
	International Year of P	lant Health.		(a) staunch	(b) powerful
	(a) ruled	(b) ordered		(c) cheerful	(d) hopeful
	(c) foretold	(d) declared	50.	I wish I her	before we met.
47.	My brother is	punctual, but he is late		(a) know	(b) have known
	today.			(c) knew	(d) known
	(a) normatively	(b) primarily			

Answers

Q No	Answer Key	Topic Name	Chapter Name
1	(d)	Vocabulary	Synonyms
2	(c)	Vocabulary	Synonyms
3	(b)	Vocabulary	Synonyms
4	(a)	Vocabulary	Synonyms
5	(b)	Vocabulary	Synonyms
6	(b)	Vocabulary	Synonyms
7	(c)	Vocabulary	Synonyms
8	(c)	Vocabulary	Synonyms
9	(b)	Vocabulary	Synonyms
10	(c)	Vocabulary	Synonyms
11	(c)	Vocabulary	Antonyms
12	(d)	Vocabulary	Antonyms
13	(b)	Vocabulary	Antonyms
14	(d)	Vocabulary	Antonyms
15	(a)	Vocabulary	Antonyms
16	(b)	Vocabulary	Antonyms
17	(c)	Vocabulary	Antonyms
18	(a)	Vocabulary	Antonyms
19	(c)	Vocabulary	Antonyms
20	(c)	Vocabulary	Antonyms
21	(c)	Vocabulary	Idioms & phrases
22	(a)	Vocabulary	Idioms & phrases
23	(a)	Vocabulary	Idioms & phrases
24	(b)	Vocabulary	Idioms & phrases
25	(c)	Vocabulary	Idioms & phrases
26	(a)	Vocabulary	Idioms & phrases
27	(c)	Vocabulary	Idioms & phrases
28	(b)	Vocabulary	Idioms & phrases
29	(b)	Vocabulary	Idioms & phrases
30	(d)	Vocabulary	Idioms & phrases
31	(c)	Grammar	Spotting Error
32	(c)	Grammar	Spotting Error
33	(c)	Grammar	Spotting Error
34	(c)	Grammar	Spotting Error
35	(c)	Grammar	Spotting Error
36	(a)	Grammar	Spotting Error
37	(b)	Grammar	Spotting Error
38	(b)	Grammar	Spotting Error
39	(d)	Grammar	Spotting Error
40	(a)	Grammar	Spotting Error

Q No	Answer Key	Topic Name	Chapter Name
41	(b)	Fill in the blanks	Fill in the blanks
42	(a)	Fill in the blanks	Fill in the blanks
43	(c)	Fill in the blanks	Fill in the blanks
44	(a)	Fill in the blanks	Fill in the blanks
45	(c)	Fill in the blanks	Fill in the blanks
46	(d)	Fill in the blanks	Fill in the blanks
47	(c)	Fill in the blanks	Fill in the blanks
48	(b)	Fill in the blanks	Fill in the blanks
49	(a)	Fill in the blanks	Fill in the blanks
50	(c)	Fill in the blanks	Fill in the blanks

NDA/NA National Defence Academy / Naval Academy

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ANSWERS WITH EXPLANATION

1. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation:

'Arrogant' means 'showing an offensive attitude of superiority'. 'Sarcastic' means 'to say or do opposite of what you really mean in order to mock or insult someone', and 'contagious' means 'spread by direct or indirect contact, tending to spread from person to person'. Out of all the given options, only option (d) 'catching' is close to the meaning of 'contagious'.

2. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

'Dynamic' means 'full of energy and ideas, marked usually by continuous activity or change', 'enduring' means 'long lasting' and 'attentive' means 'cautious, alert'. Among all the given options, option (c), evolutionary has the closest meaning to the word dynamic.

3. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation:

'Lament' means 'to express sadness and feel sorry about something'. Celebrating and making can be eliminated outrightly. Out of bemoaning and blaming, bemoaning is closest in meaning to lamenting. Both mean 'express deep grief or distress over something'.

4. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation:

'Organic' means 'produced by or using natural materials, without artificial chemicals'. Option (b) is a synonym of organic. Hence, A is the answer.

5. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation:

'Oratory' means 'the art or skill of powerful and effective public speaking'. 'Deceit' means 'dishonest behavior' and 'eloquence' means 'using language to express ideas or opinions clearly and well, so that they have a strong effect on others'. Oratory and eloquence are close meaning words.

6. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation:

'Patron' means 'a person who gives money and support to an artist, organization, etc., supporter'. Out of the given options, option (b), 'admirer' is the closest meaning word.

7. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

'Unpretentious' means 'not trying to appear more special or important than you really are', 'arrogance' means 'an attitude of superiority manifested in an overbearing manner ' and 'conceit' means 'too much pride in yourself and your abilities and importance'. Conceit and arrogance are synonyms.

8. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

'Reconnaissance' means 'preliminary survey to gain information; especially: an exploratory military survey of enemy territory.', 'ratification' means 'the act of voting on a decision or signing a written agreement to make it official'. Option (c), investigation is close meaning word of reconnaissance.

9. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation:

'Replica' means 'copy, duplicate' and clone also means the same.

10. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

'Sardonic' means 'disdainfully or skeptically humorous: derisively mocking', 'compassionate' means 'someone who has a feeling of sympathy or pity for others', and 'insightful' means 'having or showing an accurate and deep understanding; perceptive'. Option (c), mocking is close meaning word of sardonic.

11. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

You have to select the antonym of 'attractive', which is 'repulsive'. 'Repulsive' means 'something that causes a strong feeling of disgust'.

12. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation:

Boundless means 'without any boundary or infinite'. Opposite of 'boundless' is 'infinite'. Hence, option (d) is the answer.

13. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation:

'Clear' refers 'to something transparent'. 'Bright' means 'shining' and 'blue' is a colour. 'Opaque' refers to 'something through which light cannot pass' which is the opposite to clear.

14. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation:

The opposite of 'deep' is 'shallow'.

15. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation:

'Generous' means 'showing a readiness to give more of something especially money', 'stingy' means 'mean or ungenerous', 'rough' means 'not gentle', 'evil' means 'immoral or wicked', and 'hostile' means 'showing or feeling opposition and dislike'. As per the meaning, the opposite of generous is stingy.

16. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation:

'Plenty' means 'ample, a lot, as much or as many of something as you need', 'ugliness' means 'the quality or state of being ugly', 'scarcity' means 'limited availability of a resource in comparison to the limitless wants'. The opposite of plenty is scarcity.

17. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

'Industrious' means 'always working hard', 'productive' refers to 'someone who makes or grows something, especially in large quantities',

'lazy' means 'not willing to work', 'disloyal' means 'not loyal, not supporting your friends'. The opposite of industrious is lazy.

18. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation:

'Shrivel' means 'to become smaller, especially because of dry conditions', 'stretch' means ' to pull something so that it becomes longer or wider'. The opposite of 'grow' is 'shrivel'.

19. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

'Rarely' means 'not often: seldom'. The opposite of rarely is always.

20. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

'Crooked' means 'not straight or even, not honest', 'polite' means 'having good manners and showing respect for others', 'generous' means 'freely giving or sharing money and other valuable things', 'straightforward' means 'honest, candid'. The opposite of crooked is straightforward.

21. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

'Overstep the mark' means 'to behave in an unacceptable way' which has a similar meaning to option (c), making it the correct option.

22. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation:

'Palsy walsy' means 'very friendly or intimate, friendly or appearing to be friendly in a very intimate or hearty way'.

23. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation:

'Pandora's box (Greek mythology) was a box that Zeus gave to Pandora with instructions that she should not open it: but she gave in to her curiosity and opened it. It caused all the miseries and evils to flow out to afflict mankind.' So, Pandora's box means a prolific source of troubles.

24. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation:

'Pull your socks up' means 'to make an effort to improve your work or behaviour.'

25. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

'To get under someone's skin' means 'to annoy or worry someone'.

26. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation:

'To turn topsy-turvy' means 'in a state of complete confusion and disorder; upside down'.

27. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

'A clarion call' means 'a strongly expressed demand or request for action.'

28. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation:

'Fire in the belly' means 'a powerful sense of ambition or determination.'

29. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation:

'A hunky dory situation' means 'as well as one could wish or expect; satisfactory; fine'.

30. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation:

'Give someone a leg up' means 'to help someone to achieve something and become successful.'

31. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

There is an error in part (c). The sentence has a double negative. The former part of the sentence is negative so the othe latter part of the sentence should be positive. Therefore, the use of 'don't' in part (c) is incorrect and should be removed to make the sentence grammatically correct.

32. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

The sentence has an error of pronoun. As per pronoun agreement, a pronoun must agree with its antecedent in number, gender and usage. Indefinite pronouns like someone, somebody, anyone, anybody, each, every, many a, either, and neither are considered as singular subject and are followed by a singular verb and a singular pronoun. In the given sentence for the pronoun 'they' has a singular antecedent 'someone', which is incorrect. It should be 'he/she'.

33. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

This question checks your knowledge of idiomatic expression. The sentence states that he refused something directly. 'Point out' is not the correct expression to express something said directly, the correct expression would be point blank.

34. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

There is error in part (c). In part (c) 'of' after comprising should be removed, because comprise means 'made up of'. So, using 'of' after comprising is grammatically incorrect.

35. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

This question checks your knowledge of idiomatic expression and usage of preposition. The correct expression is 'steer clear of' not 'steer clear from'. 'Stay clear or steer clear of means 'to avoid someone or something that seems unpleasant, dangerous, or likely to cause problems'.

36. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation:

This question checks your knowledge of idiomatic expression and usage of preposition. The correct expression is 'point at', which means 'to aim or direct something at someone or something'. So, 'point over' should be replaced with 'point at'.

37. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation:

The error is in part (b). 'Though' is followed by 'yet' not by 'but'. So, 'but' has to be either removed or replaced by 'yet'.

38. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation:

The sentence is grammatically incorrect because usage of tense is incorrect. Factual statements are represented by simple present tense. Here, the tense used is present perfect continuous, which is incorrect in the given context. The correct sentence should be 'My mother does everything for the family.'

39. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation:

The sentence is grammatically correct.

40. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation:

The error lies in part (a). Talking about something for the first time demands indefinite articles 'a/an', and talking about the same thing for the second time demands definite article 'the.' Also the words starting with vowel sounds are preceded by 'an'. Here in this sentence 'opportunity' has been talked about for the first time. So, it has to be preceded by an indefinite article 'an'. Replace 'the' with 'an' to make the sentence grammatically correct.

41. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation:

A country can't be abstract, policy or hierarchy, but it can be a polity. Polity means a state as a political entity. Polity is the only word which makes especin the context of this sentence.

42. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation:

The latter part of the sentence is the key. It states that the person had expected something better from the film, which means he was not satisfied with the film. The only word that refers to dissatisfaction is 'disappointed'.

43. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

The sentence says 'everyone was shocked', which suggests the experience was not positive.

The blank should be an adjective because it is describing a noun 'experience'. Horrified, terrified, and denouncing are verbs. So, all these options can be eliminated. Option (c), 'terrifying' is an adjective and is suitable for the blank.

44. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation:

The sound made by an elephant is 'trumpet'. 'Frolic' means to behave in a playful way and 'whine' means to complain about something in an annoying, crying voice.

45. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

Serial means 'a story in a magazine or on television or radio that is told in a number of parts over a period of time', sequence means 'the order in which a number of things happen or are arranged', sequential means 'following in order of time or place', and sequel means 'a book, film, etc. that continues the story of the one before'. In the context of the given sentence 'sequel' makes sense.

46. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation:

Ruled means 'usually written order or to exert control, direction'. Foretold means to predict and declare means to make known formally. In the given context to make known formally fits best.

47. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

The latter part of the sentence states that the person is late today, which is an exception. It does not happen very frequently.

48. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation:

Fallible means capable of making mistakes, credible means one who can be trusted and gullible means one who believes easily and can be fooled easily. In this sentence 'gullible' makes sense.

49. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation:

Staunch means firm, steadfast in loyalty or principle. In this sentence, the blank should be filled with a word that shows strong faith in humanity. 'Staunch' makes sense in this context.

50. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

The sentence is in subjunctive mood. The

subjunctive mood is the verb form used to explore a hypothetical situation (e.g., If I were you) or to express a wish, a demand, or a suggestion. One of the most straightforward ways of using the subjunctive mood is when we want to describe a wish for something to be different than it is or was. We generally construct these sentences using the word wish, followed by the past verb of the desired action. So, the sentence should read as: I wish I knew her.