

NDA / NA

National Defence Academy /
Naval Academy

ENGLISH



QUESTION PAPER
2023

Time Allowed : 40 Minutes

Max. Marks : 200

Instructions

1. This Test Booklet 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. See directions in the Answer Sheet.
3. All items carry equal marks.
4. **Penalty for wrong answers :**
THERE WILL BE PENALTY FOR WRONG ANSWERS MARKED BY A CANDIDATE IN THE OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTION 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.

Fill in the Blanks

Directions: In this section, each of the following sentences has a blank space and is followed by four words. Select the word you consider most appropriate to fill in the blank space and indicate your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

1. As the Southwest monsoon _____ through most of July, flash floods caused by the waters of the Narmada hit Jabalpur town.
(a) lashed (b) flourished
(c) occupied (d) dried
2. Given the scale of the challenges that _____ us today, our company proposes more viable plans for sustainability.
(a) supports (b) conflict
(c) confronts (d) convmce
3. It is a really tough course, I am just worried that I won't be able to go the _____.
(a) way (b) distance
(c) far (d) route
4. The _____ of the advancement made in agricultural productivity in India has been remarkable.
(a) extent (b) context
(c) distance (d) syntax
5. This essay _____ and examines various systems for water appropriation and agricultural practices adapted by society in the arid conditions of Rajasthan.
(a) confuses (b) enhances
(c) controls (d) explores
6. India has been able to successfully _____ its population through family planning programmes.
(a) sterilise (b) stabilise
(c) stratify (d) establish
7. Adolescence is the _____ wherein a child enters adulthood.
(a) threshold (b) position
(c) condition (d) period
8. The British who ruled India for 200 years were here to _____ India's natural resources.
(a) spoil (b) implore
(c) exploit (d) drill
9. Endangered species have a fifty percent or greater probability of _____ within five years or two generations whichever is longer.
(a) distinction (b) extinction
(c) complication (d) completion
10. The first law of thermodynamics states that whereas energy can be _____ from one form into another, it cannot be created or destroyed.
(a) reduced (b) induced
(c) performed (d) transformed

Spotting Errors

Directions: 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).

11. Bread, butter and jam common breakfast items
(a) (b)
that are consumed by many households. No error
(c) (d)
12. Ten thousand dollars is the prize money being offered
(a) (b)
by the game show hosts. No error
(c) (d)
13. Three hundred and sixty five
(a)
create up the number of days
(b)
in a calendar year. No error
(c) (d)
14. The process of removing
(a)
wool from the body of
(b)
an animal is called sharing. No error
(c) (d)
15. Many people came
(a)
from faraway places to prayed
(b)
at the temple on the auspicious day
(c).
No error
(d)
16. After reading foreword of
(a)
the book on environmental issues in India,
(b)
I decided to meet its author.
(c)
No error
(d)
17. The guidance from the mentors
(a)
and teachers facilitated the
(b)
smooth conduct of elections to the Students' council.
(c)
No error
(d)
18. The Principal of our school felicitated the students in
(a) (b)
the prize distribution ceremony. No error
(c) (d)

19. If you were to come to Chennai to settle down
(a) (b)
it will be the best possible decision. No error
(c) (d)
20. They had promised to delivered
(a)
the bags before mid-March
(b)
to enable us to inaugurate the shop.
(c)
No error
(d)

Synonyms

Directions : 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.

21. He is always captious.
(a) worried (b) passionate
(c) faultfinding (d) jovial
22. Geomorphologists ascertain several wonderful facts about our earth.
(a) verify (b) invert
(c) Increase (d) omit
23. The Colonel ordered the Soldiers to meet him in the commissary.
(a) office (b) field
(c) playground (d) canteen
24. The doctor dismembered the patient's finger first and then cured the ailment.
(a) stitched (b) dissected
(c) plastered (d) splintered
25. Mr. Kumar works as a bursar in the sports academy.
(a) secretary (b) accountant
(c) coach (d) trainer
26. His intentions are insidious.
(a) pious (b) inadvertent
(c) deceitful (d) naive
27. Respect for other human beings is intrinsic to the teachings of all religions.
(a) inconsistent (b) peripheral
(c) inherent (d) existential
28. He completed the onerous task with relative ease.
(a) smooth (b) complex
(c) risky (d) wearying
29. Alfred . was a potentate during the Middle Ages.
(a) Monarch (b) lenient
(c) liberal (d) democrat
30. I abandoned the task due to indolence.
(a) difficulty (b) laziness
(c) ugliness (d) helplessness

Usage of Paired Words

Directions: In the following questions a pair of similar sounding words is provided. You are required to select the options that most appropriately describes the meaning of both the words and mark your response in the Answer Sheet accordingly.

31. 'Principal' and 'Principle'
 - (a) 'Principal' means belief system, and 'principle' means head of an educational institution
 - (b) 'Principal' means head of an educational institution, and 'principle' means original sum on which interest is charged
 - (c) 'Principle' means moral rule, and 'principal' means head of an educational institution.
 - (d) 'Principal' means original sum on which interest is charged, and 'principle' means head of an educational institution.
32. 'Plane' and 'Plain'
 - (a) 'Plane' means a flat surface, and 'plain' means something that flies.
 - (b) 'Plane' means the flat surface, and 'plain' means not elaborate.
 - (c) 'Plane' means something that flies, and 'plain' means flat surface.
 - (d) 'Plane' means not elaborate, and 'plain' means flat surface.
33. 'Pail' and 'Pale'
 - (a) 'Pale' means inferior or unimpressive, and 'pail' means faded.
 - (b) 'Pale' means faded or light in shade, and 'pail' means inferior or unimpressive.
 - (c) 'Pale' means faded or light in shade, and 'pail' means a bucket.
 - (d) 'Pale' means a bucket, and 'pail' means inferior or unimpressive.
34. 'Metal' and 'Mettle'
 - (a) 'Metal' is a hard shiny material that is a good conductor, and 'mettle' means malleable metal.
 - (b) 'Metal' is a hard shiny material that is a good conductor, and 'mettle' means metallic substance.
 - (c) 'Metal' means mental resilience, and 'mettle' is a hard shiny material that is a good conductor.
 - (d) 'Metal' is a hard shiny material that is a good conductor, and 'mettle' means mental resilience
35. 'Hail' and 'Hale'
 - (a) 'Hail' means pellets of frozen rain, and 'hale' means wind storm
 - (b) 'Hail' means pellets of frozen rain, and 'hale' means strong and healthy
 - (c) 'Hail' means pellets of frozen rain, and 'hale' means to greet with enthusiastic approval
 - (d) 'Hail' means strong and healthy, and 'hale' means pellets of frozen rain
36. 'Conscious' and 'Conscience'
 - (a) 'Conscious' means sense of right and wrong, and 'conscience' means awareness about something
 - (b) 'Conscious' means alert, and 'conscience' means presence of mind
 - (c) 'Conscious' means intent, and 'conscience' means unprincipled action
 - (d) 'Conscious' means aware, and 'conscience' means sense of right and wrong
37. 'Dissent' and 'Descent'
 - (a) 'Dissent' means having ideas different from general beliefs or official position, and 'descent' means movement towards a lower place
 - (b) 'Dissent' means having ideas different from general beliefs or official position, and 'descent' means being of acceptable standard
 - (c) 'Dissent' means being of acceptable standard, and 'descent' means movement towards a lower place
 - (d) 'Dissent' means being of acceptable standard, and 'descent' means ideas different from general beliefs or official position
38. 'Devise' and 'Device'
 - (a) 'Device' means to determine, and 'devise' means a piece of equipment meant for accomplishing a specific task.
 - (b) 'Device' means finding a new way to do something, and 'devise' means to determine
 - (c) 'Device' means a piece of equipment meant for accomplishing a specific task, and 'devise' means finding a new way to do something
 - (d) 'Device' means finding a new way to do something, and 'devise' means a piece of equipment meant for accomplishing a specific task
39. 'Discrete' and 'Discreet'
 - (a) 'Discrete' means separate and distinct categories of objects, and 'discreet' means misuse of authority
 - (b) 'Discrete' means separate and distinct categories of objects, and 'discreet' means maintaining confidentiality
 - (c) 'Discrete' means being careful in what one says or does, and 'discreet' means separate and distinct categories of objects
 - (d) 'Discrete' means misuse of authority and 'discreet' means being careful in what one says or does
40. 'Eminent' and 'Imminent'
 - (a) 'Eminent' means important and famous, and 'imminent' means something about to happen
 - (b) 'Eminent' means something unpleasant about to happen, and 'imminent' means important and famous person
 - (c) 'Eminent' means important and famous person, and 'imminent' means inherent or existing within
 - (d) 'Eminent' means inherent or existing within, and 'imminent' means something about to happen

Antonyms

Directions: 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.

41. Many metals are malleable in nature and property.
(a) hard (b) strong
(c) tender (d) weak
42. To neglect a warning is to invite danger.
(a) disregard (b) Ignore
(c) regard (d) overlook
43. His ostentatious behaviour surprised everyone.
(a) tawdry (b) modest
(c) gaudy (d) apparent
44. The experience of Covid Pandemic was excruciating for much of the population.
(a) gnawing (b) gruelling
(c) harrowing (d) mild
45. A trip to the hills was refreshing.
(a) conniving (b) wearying
(c) revivifying (d) rejuvenating

Comprehension

Directions: Carefully read the given passage and answer the questions that follow. You are required to select your answers solely based on the contents of the passage and the opinion of the author 'only.

Passage

People by and large are concerned with and pursue self-interest. They are unlikely to be motivated to use renewable resources in a prudent and sustainable fashion. They are unlikely to be motivated under the following conditions: if their resource catchments are vast, so that degradation of any particular portion affects them very little; or if they have open before them possibilities of substitution as anyone resource element is depleted; or if their control over the resource base is tenuous, so that others may, at

any time, deplete a resource they value, even if they use it in a restrained fashion. Indeed, exhaustive use is highly likely when anyone of these three conditions obtains. It is only when people perceive their resource catchments as limited, possibilities of substitution of exhausted resource elements as not readily feasible, and their own control over the resource base as secure, will they be motivated to use the resources in a prudent fashion. People, rooted in a locality, and retaining control over their resource base are most likely to fulfil all three prerequisites for sustainable resource use; and therefore to behave in ways conducive to the conservation of biodiversity within their localities.

46. Why, according to the Writer can't people be motivated to use a resource prudently?
 1. They feel that others may overuse the resource
 2. It is possible to substitute the resource
 3. Abundance of the resource availability
 Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
47. When do people use resources exhaustively?
 - (a) When the substitution of resource is felicitated by NGOs
 - (b) When the resource is about to expand
 - (c) When the resources use has little impact
 - (d) When they desire desperately for sustainable development
48. The self-interest of people affects the use of renewable resources
 - (a) positively (b) erratically
 - (c) affirmatively (d) indifferently
49. People rooted in a locality
 - (a) cause harm to available resources
 - (b) generate resources
 - (c) believe in conservation and reproduction of resources
 - (d) consume resources freely
50. Which among the following is closest in meaning with the word 'deplete' ?
 - (a) exhaust (b) complete
 - (c) replete (d) desperate

Answer Key

Q No	Answer	Topic's Name	Chapter's Name
1	(a)	Fill in the Blanks	Vocabulary
2	(c)	Fill in the Blanks	Vocabulary
3	(b)	Fill in the Blanks	Vocabulary
4	(a)	Fill in the Blanks	Vocabulary
5	(d)	Fill in the Blanks	Vocabulary
6	(b)	Fill in the Blanks	Vocabulary
7	(a)	Fill in the Blanks	Vocabulary
8	(c)	Fill in the Blanks	Vocabulary
9	(b)	Fill in the Blanks	Vocabulary

10	(d)	Fill in the Blanks	Vocabulary
11	(b)	Spotting Errors	Grammar
12	(d)	Spotting Errors	Grammar
13	(b)	Spotting Errors	Grammar
14	(c)	Spotting Errors	Grammar
15	(b)	Spotting Errors	Grammar
16	(a)	Spotting Errors	Grammar
17	(c)	Spotting Errors	Grammar
18	(d)	Spotting Errors	Grammar
19	(c)	Spotting Errors	Grammar
20	(a)	Spotting Errors	Grammar
21	(c)	Synonyms	Vocabulary
22	(a)	Synonyms	Vocabulary
23	(d)	Synonyms	Vocabulary
24	(b)	Synonyms	Vocabulary
25	(b)	Synonyms	Vocabulary
26	(c)	Synonyms	Vocabulary
27	(c)	Synonyms	Vocabulary
28	(d)	Synonyms	Vocabulary
29	(a)	Synonyms	Vocabulary
30	(b)	Synonyms	Vocabulary
31	(c)	Usage of Paired Words	Vocabulary (Homophones)
32	(b)	Usage of Paired Words	Vocabulary (Homophones)
33	(c)	Usage of Paired Words	Vocabulary (Homophones)
34	(d)	Usage of Paired Words	Vocabulary (Homophones)
35	(b)	Usage of Paired Words	Vocabulary (Homophones)
36	(d)	Usage of Paired Words	Vocabulary (Homophones)
37	(a)	Usage of Paired Words	Vocabulary (Homophones)
38	(c)	Usage of Paired Words	Vocabulary (Homophones)
39	(b)	Usage of Paired Words	Vocabulary (Homophones)
40	(a)	Usage of Paired Words	Vocabulary (Homophones)
41	(a)	Antonyms	Vocabulary
42	(c)	Antonyms	Vocabulary
43	(b)	Antonyms	Vocabulary
44	(d)	Antonyms	Vocabulary
45	(b)	Antonyms	Vocabulary
46	(d)	Comprehension	Reading Passage
47	(c)	Comprehension	Reading Passage
48	(d)	Comprehension	Reading Passage
49	(c)	Comprehension	Reading Passage
50	(a)	Comprehension	Reading Passage

**ANSWERS WITH EXPLANATION**

- Option (a) is correct.
Explanation:
Lashed means to hit with a lot of force, flourished means to grow or develop, occupied means busy and active and dried means preserved by removal or evaporation of moisture.
- Option (c) is correct.
Explanation:
Confronts mean to come face to face with, supports is to give assistance, conflict is a serious disagreement and convince is to persuade someone to do something.
- Option (b) is correct.
Explanation:
To go the distance means to finish a really hard task or fully commit to achieving a goal of some sort thus I won't be able to go the distance is the most appropriate option.
- Option (a) is correct.
Explanation:
Extent is the degree to which something happens or is likely to happen. Context is the circumstance that form the setting for an event, distance is the length of the space between two points and syntax is a structure of statements.
- Option (d) is correct.
Explanation:
Explore means to inquire into or discuss (a subject) in detail. Confuse is to make something more complex, enhance is to intensify or improve further quality and control is to order, limit or rule something.
- Option (b) is correct.
Explanation:
Stabilise is to maintain the stability of something, sterilise is to make sterile, stratify is to form or arrange in strata and establish is to institute (something, such as a law) permanently by enactment or agreement.
- Option (a) is correct.
Explanation:
Threshold is a gate or a door, like a place or point of entering. Position is an act of placing or arranging, condition is a premise upon which the fulfillment of an agreement depends and period is the completion of a cycle, a series of events, or a single action.
- Option (c) is correct.
Explanation:
Exploit is to make use of meanly or unfairly for one's own advantage, spoil is to damage seriously, implore is to make an earnest request and drill is to fix something in the mind or habit pattern of by repetitive instruction.
- Option (b) is correct.
Explanation:
Extinction is the process or condition of being extinct, distinction is the act of perceiving someone or something as being not the same and often treating as separate or different, complication is a complexity or a difficulty and completion is state of being completed.
- Option (d) is correct.
Explanation:
The first law of thermodynamics states that energy can neither be created nor destroyed, only altered in one form to an other form.
- Option (b) is correct.
Explanation:
The error is in option (b) as the correct sentence will be Bread, butter and jam are the common breakfast items that are consumed by many households. The error lies in the fact that these three are mentioned as 'breakfast items', and there is no verb after the subject 'Bread, butter and jam'.
- Option (d) is correct.
Explanation:
There is no error in the sentence. The rule states that even when the subject refers to a plural quantity, the verb will be in singular 'is'.
- Option (b) is correct.
Explanation:
The error is in option (b) as the correct sentence will be three hundred and sixty-five creates up the number of days in a calendar year. This is so because if the subject of the sentence is a number referring to a unified quantity of something, we use a singular verb.

14. Option (c) is correct.
Explanation:
The error is in option (c) as the correct sentence will be, the process of removing wool from the body of an animal is called shearing.
15. Option (b) is correct.
Explanation:
The error is in option (b) as the correct sentence will be, many people came from faraway places to pray at the temple on the auspicious day. The reason is that whenever an infinitive form of verb is there, the verb will be in its base form (pray).
16. Option (a) is correct.
Explanation:
The error is in option (a) as the correct sentence will be, after reading the foreword of the book on environmental issues in India, I decided to meet its author. This is because the definite article is placed before something unique and known, here, the 'foreword of the book on environmental issues in India' is known to us.
17. Option (c) is correct.
Explanation:
The error is in option (c) as the correct sentence will be, the guidance from the mentors and teachers facilitated the smooth conduct of elections for the Students' council. 'In' is used to indicate location or position.
18. Option (d) is correct.
Explanation:
There is no error in the sentence.
19. Option (c) is correct.
Explanation:
The error is in option (c) as the correct sentence will be, if you were to come to Chennai to settle down it would be the best possible decision. There is an error in tense form, the sentence speaks of a hypothetical situation, in these conditionals, we use 'were...would'.
20. Option (a) is correct.
Explanation:
The error is in option (a) as the correct sentence will be, they had promised to deliver the bags before mid- March to enable us to inaugurate the shop. The reason is that whenever an infinitive form of verb is there, the verb will be in its base form (deliver).
21. Option (c) is correct.
Explanation:
Captious means marked by an often ill-natured inclination to stress faults and raise objections, therefore faultfinding is the correct answer.
22. Option (a) is correct.
Explanation:
Ascertain means to find out or learn with certainty, therefore verify is the correct answer.
23. Option (d) is correct.
Explanation:
Commissary is a shop that supplies food and goods, especially to people in the army, therefore canteen is the correct answer.
24. Option (b) is correct.
Explanation:
Dismembered means having had the limbs cut off, therefore making dissected the correct answer. Here splintered is incorrect because it typically refers to something breaking into small, sharp fragments, like wood splintering into tiny pieces.
25. Option (b) is correct.
Explanation:
Bursar is a person who manages the financial affairs of a college or school, therefore accountant is the correct answer.
26. Option (c) is correct.
Explanation:
Insidious means proceeding in a gradual, subtle way, but with very harmful effects, therefore deceitful is the correct answer.
27. Option (c) is correct.
Explanation:
Intrinsic means belonging naturally or inherently, therefore inherent is the correct answer.
28. Option (d) is correct.
Explanation:
Onerous means a task involving a great deal of effort, trouble, or difficulty that makes you tired, therefore wearying is the correct answer.
29. Option (a) is correct.
Explanation:
Potentate means a monarch or a ruler.
30. Option (b) is correct.
Explanation:
Indolence is the act of avoiding an activity or exertion due to laziness.
31. Option (c) is correct.
Explanation:
Principle is a fundamental truth or a moral rule while Principal is used to refer to the head of an institution.
32. Option (b) is correct.
Explanation:
Plane is a flat surface on which a straight line joining any two points on it would wholly lie while Plain refers to simple or basic.
33. Option(c) is correct.
Explanation:
Pail is a bucket while Pale refers to light in colour or shade.
34. Option (d) is correct.
Explanation:
Metal is hard shiny material while Mettle refers to a person's ability to cope well with difficulties.

35. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation:

Hail is pellets of frozen rain which fall in showers from cumulonimbus clouds while Hale means to be strong and healthy.

36. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation:

Conscious is to be aware of and responding to one's surroundings while Conscience refers to a person's moral sense of right and wrong, viewed as acting as a guide to one's behaviour.

37. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation:

Dissent means the holding or expression of opinions at variance with those commonly or officially held; while Descent means an act of moving downwards, dropping, or falling.

38. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

Devise means to plan or invent while Device means a thing made or adapted for a particular purpose, especially a piece of mechanical or electronic equipment.

39. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation:

Discrete means individually separate and distinct while Discreet refers to be careful and prudent in one's speech or actions, especially to keep something confidential.

40. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation:

Eminent means famous and respected within a particular sphere while Imminent means about to happen.

41. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation:

Malleable means capable of being extended or shaped by beating with a hammer or by the pressure of rollers, therefore hard is the correct antonym for the given word.

42. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

Neglect means to give little attention or respect to or disregard something therefore regard is the correct antonym for the given word.

43. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation:

Ostentatious means characterised by pretentious or showy display, therefore modest is the correct antonym for the given word.

44. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation:

Excruciating means extremely painful, therefore mild is the correct antonym.

45. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation:

Refreshing means something that makes you feel less hot or tired, therefore wearying is the correct antonym.

46. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation:

The passage mentions all three points as reasons to why people can't be motivated to use a resource prudently.

47. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

The passage mentions that people use resources exhaustively when the degradation of any particular portion affects them very little.

48. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation:

Indifferently here signifies a way of use of resources by people in an unbothered manner.

49. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation:

The passage mentions how people rooted in a locality believe in conservation and reproduction of resources.

50. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation:

Deplete means to use up the supply or resources of something, of which is synonymous to exhaust, hence the answer.